



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 339

November 2019

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

50 Years !

We are celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our branch on 23 November 2019.

There will be some presentations during the Saturday afternoon at our branch rooms. Keynote speakers are Mary Shadbolt (NZSG Chair) and Jan Gow QSM.

From 9:30 am to 3pm on Saturday, there will be presentations and events at the branch rooms. The celebratory dinner is on Saturday evening. Further details are on our website:

genealogynp.com/50years.html

On Sunday 24 November, there will be presentations about genealogy and computers at the branch rooms.

50
YEARS
1969-2019

Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 5 Nov 2019

Researching WW1

Many families have old stories that have been told and retold over the years – but are they true? Gail Tanner had two such stories told to her many times about relatives that fought in WW1, and decided to confirm these odd sounding “facts”.

There’s no smoke without fire as they say, so she did some research, starting with their World War One personnel files – full of tiny gems of info, that together tell a larger story.

Come along to our November meeting, listen and learn how to decipher and expand on the information that you can glean from these fabulous snapshots of your ancestors lives. You might solve your own family puzzle.



Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Gail Tanner
Committee: Lorraine Austin
Lea Bellini
Graham Cowling
Jill Jackson
Annette Larsen
Neville Richards

New Plymouth Branch
c/- Bruce Bellini
98a Queens Road
New Plymouth 4312

Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month at branch rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre access is off the Whiteley Street car park
Email: newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz
Website: www.genealogynp.com

Last Event: Salutory Punishment

Last month Jacq Dwyer, President of the Patea Historic Society, spoke to our group about the Historic Society's work in Patea and about Ian Church's book, *Salutory Punishment*. (A copy of this book has been purchased for our branch library.) The book has been published posthumously by the Patea Historical Society volunteers as Ian Church died in 2015. Kelvin Day helped with the work to publish this important book.

The book was published this year in time for the 150th anniversary in November of the arrival of Maori prisoners to Dunedin during the Taranaki land wars. 74 men from the Pakakohi Maori were charged with treason and sentenced to hard labour. They were released after about 3 years, but weren't allowed home for another year. Eighteen of these men died there during the exile, three of them dying of TB. The Pakakohi were involved in fighting over disputed land purchases between 1860 and 1865.

The book also tells the story of Parihaka prisoners (137 men) who were sent to Dunedin a decade later (1879-1881). They received the same prison sentence for ploughing their confiscated land as a sign of passive resistance.

The Patea Historical Society started in 1967. (Check out their website and Face Book.) The existing purpose-built museum, "Aotea Utanganui, Museum of South Taranaki" was completed in 2011 and belongs to the South Taranaki District Council, having been handed over in 2001. Between 2008 and 2011 extensive renovations were done. The original building, built in 1869, was donated by Mr Baker, and the central section of the museum is the oldest colonial building in South Taranaki. Photos from the Carlyle Studios are found in the museum.

Jacq spoke with pride of the Linde refrigerator compressor. A Patea Freezing works display which was five years in the making was opened to the public in 2005. The opening was the culmination of work by volunteers of the Patea Historic Society.

The display evokes memories of the freezing works at Patea and the role it played as a major South Taranaki employer before it closed in 1982. It was a cannery in its early days. The display, in the former ANZ Bank building, includes two refrigeration machines used at the

works and which are historically significant. The Linde Company produced the first practical ammonia compressor in about 1878 and the green machine is believed to be the original machine installed in Patea in 1904. It is representative of the first ammonia compressors made in the world.

Another project undertaken by the Patea Historic Soc. is the collaboration with the National Library of NZ to digitalise the first 66 years of the *Patea Mail*. These newspaper pages have been put on Paperspast. The volunteers have also reprinted an earlier book written by Ian Church, *Heartland of Aotea*. This is about pre-European pa sites in Taranaki.

Another project is the setting up of plaques around town to mark historic sites. The Society also marks anniversaries of battle sites around South Taranaki.

My congratulations to Jacq Dwyer and all those volunteers in South Taranaki who have worked, and still work, to preserve the history of South Taranaki. The museum at Patea is well worth a visit.

Annette Larsen



Next Event: 3 December 2019

The final branch meeting is planned for Tuesday 3 December. This will be a genealogy / history video and special end of year supper.

The branch rooms will be closed over the Christmas / New Year period.

Last day for 2019 Saturday 14 December

First day for 2020 Monday 13 January



Convenor's Report

Well, our 50th birthday celebrations are almost here after a long time of planning and organising. We can accept a few late registrations for the dinner at the Autolodge on Saturday 23rd November. Please contact me on brucebellini@gmail.com or phone 7580130 if you are interested and wish to attend. For the day sessions, registration is not required. Just turn up on the day - \$10.00 Saturday and \$5.00 Sunday afternoon.

Last Tuesday, I had need to make a flying trip to Waverley and back. Following Jacq Dwyer's talk last meeting, I stopped and peered through the windows of the old ANZ bank and saw the Patea Freezing Works display. Very impressive. In all the time it has been there I never thought to look at it. I had previously been to the museum and the wonderful display of cars in the Star garage museum in the past. Sadly Jim Baird passed away in August. His collection still seems to be there, I wonder what will happen to it?

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor

Computer Group Meeting

This month, the genealogy computer group meeting is about DNA for genealogy.



At 1:30pm on Sunday 17 November, Sharyn Guthrie will give us a practical guide to genealogy research using DNA.

INCH & WOOD Families

Are you researching these families:

- Paul & Tabitha INCH (*William Bryan*)
- Henry Henson WOOD (married Philippa INCH, daughter of the above)
- James HART

An NZSG member from Wellington, attending the 50th anniversary in November, would really appreciate meeting up with anyone researching these families. Please contact Lea Bellini or email newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz.

A Tribute to Mike Merrick



It is with sadness our Branch reports the death of one of our valued members, Mike Merrick, who died recently aged 57. We pay tribute to his memory, acknowledging all the valuable work he did for our Branch over a number of years.

Mike was on our branch committee from Nov 2007 to May 2009. At this point, he moved on to a new project – helping the Hospice team with patients' biographies.

When Mike did things, he did them well and often came up with great ideas which were then taken on board and executed. One of these ideas was the successful *This is Your Past* series for the Midweek in 2008. This was a research project where two families were selected and their families researched. It helped raise the public profile of our branch and was instrumental in gaining us new members.

Over the years, he did some indexing projects behind the scenes, took on library duties and gave some well organised and interesting talks. More recently, Mike arranged with New Plymouth Boys' High and New Plymouth Girls' High for boarders to help clean the headstones at the Inglewood cemetery.

This year Mike received a well-earned Queen's Service Medal for his community volunteering over nearly 30 years.

Rest in peace, Mike.

You will be missed.

Annette Larsen
on behalf of the 2019 Branch committee



Library Roster: November

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Sat 2 Karen Crowe
Mon 4 Charles Le Breton
Wed 6 Ailsa McCrone
Sat 9 Marilyn Armitstead
Mon 11 Annette Larsen
Wed 13 Sharyn Guthrie
Sat 16 Bruce & Lea Bellini
Mon 18 Lorraine Austin
Wed 20 Fay Eaton
Sat 23 50th anniversary
Mon 25 Annette Larsen
Wed 27 Jill Jackson
Sat 30 Neville Richards

Internet Connection

The internet connection for our branch rooms is generously sponsored by Primowireless.



Please consider Primowireless for your ISP. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit the website:

primowireless.co.nz

Empty Printer Cartridges

Please bring your empty printer cartridges in to the branch rooms. These can be either ink jet or laser cartridges, but **we can only use HP or Canon types of cartridges.**

These will be recycled to generate some income for the branch.



Epson Printer Cartridges

Do you have an Epson printer model C67, C87, CX3700, CX4100, CX4700 or CX5700F? A branch member has some spare, unused cartridges, available free to a good home.

T0634 yellow

T0632 cyan

T0633 magenta



For further information, please contact any committee member.

Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Nov)

Genealogist (Oct)

Who Do You Think You Are (Oct)

Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Dunedin, Feilding, Gore, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Riccarton, Southland, South Waikato, Wairarapa, Whanganui

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another branch, please contact Peter Hewett. Many of the newsletters are also available from the NZSG website.

www.genealogy.org.nz/branches--area-contacts_55

Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at peter.hewett@gmail.com.

