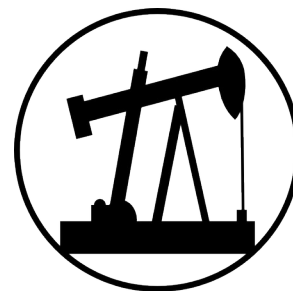




# NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 353

April 2021

Unite  
against  
COVID-19

Reduce risk – keep safe

New Zealand Government

Branch events have resumed at alert level 1  
Branch rooms are open: Monday and Saturday

LEVEL 1

New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 1.

## 2021 Branch AGM

The branch AGM will be on Tuesday 4 May. The formal notice of meeting will be distributed to branch members with this newsletter.

Nominations are open for committee members.

The branch relies on volunteers to keep things running. We just need a few more people to join the committee. Please talk with any current committee member if you can help or have any questions.

Documents for the AGM (such as financial report and minutes of the 2020 AGM) will be distributed with the May newsletter.

# AGM

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 6 April 2021

## Websites

The internet is a tremendous resource for genealogy research. There are lots of websites with heaps of information. But which sites are actually useful, and which ones can we rely on?

This month, we will be looking at the best websites to use for genealogy, including some that are free and some that you might not have heard of before.



**Convenor:** Gail Tanner 027 376 0630  
**Secretary:** Jackie Sewell  
**Treasurer:** Sharyn Guthrie  
**Committee:** Bruce Bellini  
Lea Bellini  
Karen Crowe  
Annette Larsen

New Plymouth Branch  
c/- Gail Tanner  
122 Wairau Road  
New Plymouth 4314  
**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](mailto:newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz)  
**Website:** [www.genealogynp.com](http://www.genealogynp.com)

## Last month: DNA Interest Group

The March branch meeting had to be called off, but the Covid alert level was back to level 1 in time for the DNA interest group on Sunday 21 March.

The March DNA interest group answered some questions related to family trees for DNA, how to tell whether a match is paternal or maternal, and explained a little more about shared matches. Following this we studied Carol COWLING's new Ancestry DNA matches and Carol sorted them out using the Leeds Chart method.

Match Names	cM's	Rel	Tree	Cluster 1 - GGP CROFT/STOKES	Cluster 2 - GGP GARDNER/ELY	Cluster 3 - GGP MARTIN/MCKAY	Cluster 4 - GGP GARDNER/ELY	Cluster 5 - GGP GARDNER/ELY	Cluster 6 - GGP GLEN/GIRVAN	Cluster 7 - GGP MCKAY/CAMPBELL
Miriam	753	1C1B	None							
Carol	737	2C	Link/RP		GARDNER/ELY					
Harold	731	2C	None				GARDNER/ELY			
Krissy	721	2C	Link		GARDNER/ELY			GARDNER/ELY		
Ian	300	2C	457/CA	CROFT/STOKES						
Paul	297	3C	224/CA		GARDNER/ELY					
Sharon	167	2C	None					GARDNER/ELY		
Sharrt	161	3C	371/CA	CROFT/STOKES		MARTIN/MCKAY				
Lawrence	167	3C	191/CA							
Aion	166	3C	78			MCKAY/CAMPBELL				MCKAY/CAMPBELL
Brian	149	3C	318/CA							
Joseph	148	3C	274/CA		GARDNER/ELY			GARDNER/ELY		
Robert	149	3C	313/CA							
Estine	143	3C	None			MARTIN/RALPH				
Amy	133	3C	283/CA			MARTIN/RALPH				

The next meeting will be on Anzac Day, 25 April at 13:30hrs. This has been moved to the fourth Sunday of the month (not the third) owing to the Home and Lifestyle Expo.

If you are coming to the interest group meetings please bring along your laptop (preferably), or tablet if you have one, or login details if not. The idea of the group is to help you with your results, explain a little about some aspect of DNA and enjoy mixing with others also learning about DNA.

Sharyn Guthrie



## Next month: 4 May

The next branch meeting is on Tuesday 4 May 2021. After the AGM, Alan Metcalf will talk about the history of Pukekura Park. The park is in the centre of New Plymouth, with an interesting history involving many prominent locals.

## Convenor's Report

Wow, it's Easter already and Day Light Saving is at an end for another 6 months. Now we can all hunker down and spend the long winter hours researching, writing or just chilling without guilt!

As you will probably have noticed I've mentioned this before, but the AGM is coming up on 4 May. We have at least one person retiring from the committee, so are actively looking for at least one replacement. My aim is to increase the size of the committee back to nine so that means another couple of people we need to find. Please consider standing for the committee. It really isn't onerous and we do have fun at the committee meetings. I promise you wouldn't be given a job you weren't keen on doing.

This meeting on 6 April, I am presenting a talk on websites that are great for genealogy and family history research. You may already have heard of some of them, and use a lot of them, but if you learn of just one new one that ends up helping you along in your research, then it is worth coming to have a listen. There will be a handout listing the website addresses of those that I will have covered.

The new DNA Interest Group is proving very successful, with more people coming along than was originally expected. Everyone leaves happy and having learnt something new. A big thank you goes to Sharyn Guthrie for setting up and running the meetings, and for imparting her extensive knowledge of DNA based research and the best ways to implement it. Sharyn is also happy to do one on one outside of the meetings when time permits.

And don't forget the weekend of 17/18 April we will have our stand at the Home Show up at the TSB Stadium – come and visit us.

Happy hunting (Easter egg, or long lost relative.)

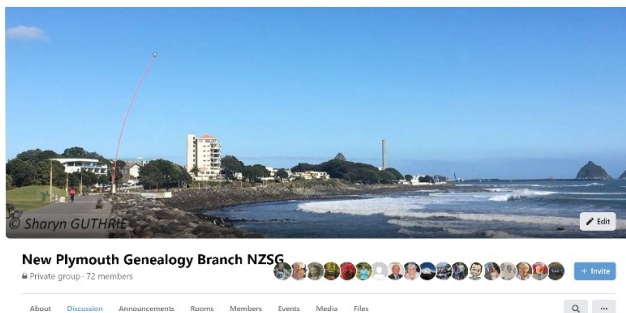
Gail Tanner  
Branch Convenor

## Did you know ...

... that our branch receives the *Family Tree* and the *Who Do You Think You Are* magazines, and that you can borrow these from the library?



## Our Facebook Page



Remember we now have a presence on Facebook. It's a good place to catch up with some genealogy news and to ask any questions you may have related to your family history. There are many helpful and knowledgeable people on there who would be happy to help you.

This is a Private Group so if you want to join, use the 'Join' icon. Please do not use the 'Invite' tab, even though it looks very colourful and easy to use!! This is a Facebook feature we cannot disable and it bypasses the questions we like to ask to make sure we prevent any scammers.

There are currently 72 members from all around the world who are interested or involved with Taranaki families.

[www.facebook.com/groups/949196718907560](http://www.facebook.com/groups/949196718907560)

## Genealogy at the Home Expo

Dates: 16, 17, 18 April 2021

Where: TSB Stadium



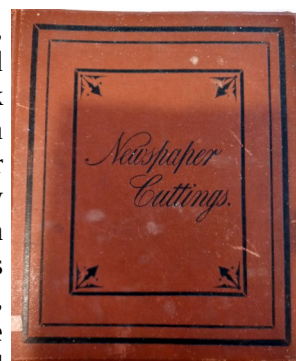
This year, our branch is hosting a table so we can raise our profile and hopefully gain some new members. This is a large Expo where many thousands of people come to view the different exhibits.

We hope to speak to various people as they pass or stop at our stand about family history and give out our flyer. If you are able to come and help for a couple of hours on any day, please contact Sharyn or Gail and let them know so we can make up a roster to help us. We both plan to attend all day each day though will need some breaks.

Sharyn Guthrie

## Library News

In the February newsletter, I mentioned that we had found an old red scrap book which seemed to relate to a Tilson Smith. We asked for help in locating the family of Emily & Ralph Drayton Colson. Unfortunately this did not elicit any response, so after our holiday in the



South Island, I continued searching. From the Puke Ariki website I found the names of Ralph's two children, Gladys & Eric. Eric married Gertrude Greatbatch (Historical BDM index). From school records I came across a name that would appear to be a son of Eric. Let's call him John (not his name). His second name was Drayton. I then found "John's" death notice on line which named his children. I searched our TBI for these children and found a newspaper clipping in the envelope collection for one of them – let's call him "Jim". This article detailed "Jim's" involvement in motorsports, and his move to the Bay of Plenty. Using the white pages on line, I found what I hoped was "Jim's" phone number and address.

With my fingers crossed, I wrote to "Jim" and within a few days received an e-mail from him. Yes, he was delighted to get my letter and yes he was related to Tilson Smith's sister, Emily. He is very interested in family history and has a son to pass the scrapbook on to. We will send the book to him very soon and we are happy that to reunite a family with it's treasures.

On another note, I found that as the research officer for the branch I had a folder which was not in our library. This was only discovered when adding the research officer's books to the library catalogue (Athenaeum). We have now scanned this folder and printed it out. It is on the library shelf and is called Taranaki Memorials and Monuments. In the 1970s and 1980s, a team of our branch members and other helpers roamed North Taranaki transcribing names and information from various memorials, plaques and monuments. These are mainly honouring soldiers who died in WW1 and WW2 but also include school honours boards, duxes, headmasters, councillors, mayors, etc. We already have a folder of photographs of a lot of these memorials and so it goes hand in hand with that book. The intention is to add these names to the TBI but that may take a while.

It's amazing what our library has tucked away.

Lea Bellini



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## Library Roster: April

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

Sat 3 Gail Tanner  
Mon 5 CLOSED  
Sat 10 Karen Crowe  
Mon 12 Charles Le Breton  
Sat 17 Bruce & Lea Bellini  
Mon 19 Annette Larsen  
Sat 24 Gail Tanner  
Mon 26 Jill Jackson

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## Covid Alert Level 1

Please observe the COVID-19 rules at the branch rooms.

- Please don't come to the rooms if you have any symptoms (dry cough, short of breath, fever, loss of smell or taste, recent overseas travel).
- Wash your hands and any surfaces you touch.
- Bring your own pen, paper, laptop, etc.
- Use the COVID-19 app with the QR code.
- Record your name in the attendance book.



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## The Wilson Collection

NZ genealogist Diane Wilson has published her enormous collection of indices on her website. This is a free collection, compiled over 40 years from a variety of different sources.

[wilsoncollection.co.nz](http://wilsoncollection.co.nz)

The indices include NZ burial & cremation records, WW1 records, electoral rolls, marriage records and many more.

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## Internet Connection

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

Based right here in Taranaki, Primo provides internet connections and ISP services for residential and business customers. As well as the usual fibre and ADSL connections, Primo also provides broadband internet over a wireless link for customers who are not in an area served by the other types of internet. This is just great for people who live outside the main centres.



Please consider Primo for your internet service. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit their website:

[primo.nz](http://primo.nz)

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## Library News

Magazines received;

Irish Roots (3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2020)

Family Tree Maker (April)

Who Do You Think You Are (Jan, Mar)



Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Dunedin, Hutt Valley, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Riccarton, South Canterbury, South Waikato, Wairarapa, Wellington, Whanganui, Wairarapa

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](http://www.genealogy.org.nz/branches--area-contacts_55)

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## Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at [peter.hewett@gmail.com](mailto:peter.hewett@gmail.com).

