



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 358

September 2021

Unite against COVID-19

Stay at home – be kind

New Zealand Government

Branch events are cancelled at alert level 3
Branch rooms are closed

LEVEL 3 New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 3.

Covid-19

Here we go again, New Zealand is in lockdown to prevent spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. This has been successful in the past, and resulted in much lower death rates compared with many other countries.

Keep up to date with information on the pandemic, such as at these links.

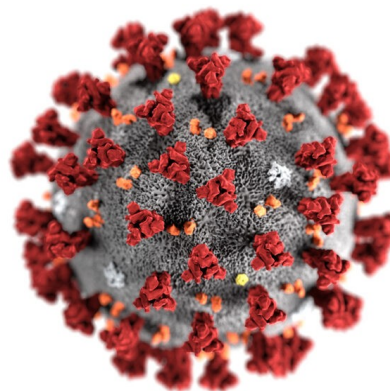
- covid19.govt.nz
- [Ministry of Health](https://www.health.govt.nz/)
- [Radio NZ](https://www.radio.co.nz/)
- [the Spinoff](https://www.thespinnoff.co.nz/)

Next meeting: <to be advised>

Branch Activities

All branch meetings are cancelled and the branch rooms are closed at alert levels 3 and 4.

Any updates will be advised to branch members via email and our website.



Convenor: Gail Tanner 027 376 0630
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Sharyn Guthrie

Committee: Lorraine Austin
 Lea Bellini
 Karen Crowe
 Graeme Jury
 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
Website: www.genealogynp.com

Last month: Dating Old Photos

Before the Covid lockdown, we had a live, in-person branch meeting! Sharyn Guthrie explained some things to look for when dating old photographs.

She explained the types of old photos, dating back into the 19th century. These include Daguerotype, Ambrotype, Carte de Viste, cabinet cards and others.

There are many books, articles and guides about dating old photographs. There is a good article in the June 2021 edition of Family Tree magazine about dating photographs.



Here are the references that Sharyn referred to in her talk.

Books

- *Tracing Your Ancestors Through Family Photographs*, Jayne SHRIMPTON (English)
- *Dating Family Photos 1850 – 1920*, Lenore FROST (Australian)
- *Cheat Sheet – Dating Old Photos*, Maureen TAYLOR (USA)
- Family Tree Magazine

Websites

- [Early NZ Photographers](http://canterburyphotography.blogspot.com/)
canterburyphotography.blogspot.com/
- [Science+Media Museum](http://blog.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/tag/date-a-photograph/)
blog.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/tag/date-a-photograph/
- [Photographers of Great Britain & Ireland](http://www.cartedevisite.co.uk)
www.cartedevisite.co.uk
- [Dating old photographs booklet](http://www.thephotoalchemist.biz/services)
www.thephotoalchemist.biz/services
- [Thought Company – dating photos](http://www.thoughtco.com/identifying-and-dating-cabinet-card-1422271)
www.thoughtco.com/identifying-and-dating-cabinet-card-1422271
- [YouTube FindMyPast – Dating Old Photographs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQOGmkiyQwc)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQOGmkiyQwc

Convenor's Report

Well, here we are again in Lockdown 3, so unfortunately there will be no meeting on Tuesday.

It is a pity as we had invited Graham Harris along to talk about some of the old and historic buildings he'd had a hand in demolishing and some of the things they'd found while doing this. I will be rebooking him for a later date, as I'm told he is an interesting and entertaining speaker.

The rather shocking news that some members may not be aware of is that the New Zealand Society of Genealogists has advised that it is in financial trouble. If you are not a member of the NZSG, (as opposed to being a member of our branch), this shouldn't trouble you too much. However, as a branch of the NZSG we have been warned that if they happened to be bankrupted, there could be a claim on our branch assets (New Plymouth Branch and every other branch in the country). This is something that is untenable to the committee, as our members (that's you, folks) have worked hard for many years accumulating the resources that we have in our possession. Not to mention the money that we have been able to raise and keep for a rainy day.

So, we have been discussing what we can do to protect our assets. I have been in contact with other branch convenors and interested parties, making for some interesting conversations. Everyone is upset that this has come out of the blue with little or no warning.

Though we are a branch of the NZSG, all this really means in the day to day running of things is that we are allowed to include NZSG in our name, and we use their rules and procedures to run the branch. We do not pay anything to them, though a fee on the non NZSG members of our branch has been mooted, though not accepted kindly by the branches.

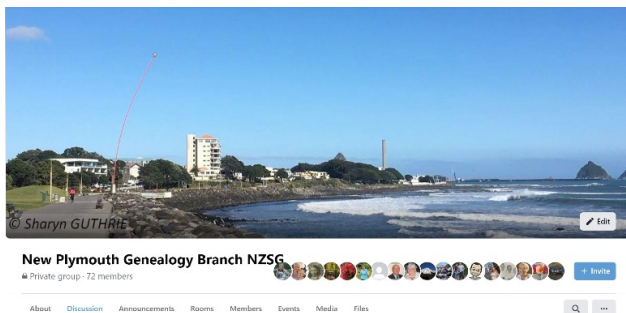
One avenue that is open to us is to disaffiliate from the NZSG and become a stand alone entity. This will mean an Extraordinary General Meeting so that branch members can vote on it. The basic premise of the branch would remain the same. We could become an Incorporated Society in our own right, while maintaining our charitable status. The branch would still be run along the lines it is now. The only thing members would notice is a change of name.

If you have any concerns about the NZSG or anything that I've mentioned, please contact me or any member of the committee.

Gail Tanner
Branch Convenor



Facebook: NP Genealogy Branch Group



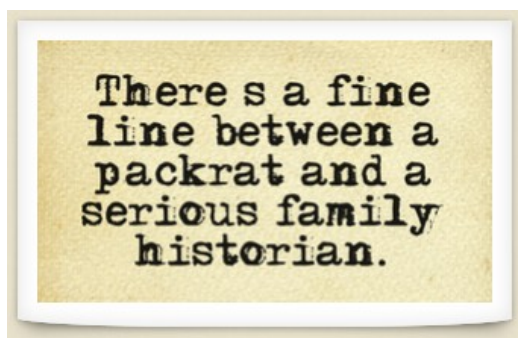
We now have 88 members in our Facebook group which is a good place to get interesting information. Facebook has many Genealogy groups and I belong to several.

There is a great group called 'Taranaki Families – Genealogy and DNA' which has many people from around the world members who share family history information or ask questions or show photos that they are trying to identify. Currently Jan BEDFORD has a post related to photos from her family that maybe from the BEDFORD/WOOD/PLAYLE side or ARMSTRONG/FOREMAN/PERRY families. Wish they were my relatives – maybe some of them are yours! There are also many groups from areas of the world that people have research in e.g. I belong to a County Tyrone group, Kent, Somerset, Isle of Lewis and many others.

If you would like to know more or would like some help in seeing how it all works, get in touch. I'd be happy to help.

Sharyn

www.facebook.com/groups/949196718907560



DNA Interest Group

I'm looking forward to Level 1 when we can get back to holding our interest group meetings again. Meanwhile if you would like some help at all, get in touch with me. I can do a Zoom meeting with you, and we can look on your computer screen for me to help you with your DNA research. Alternatively I can talk to you over the phone or by email.

Meanwhile one of the best ways to help yourself with your DNA is to add to your family tree building downwards to your cousins, second cousins etc and their children as it is often them who are having the DNA tests!

Sharyn



Taranaki Biographical Index

The Taranaki Biographical Index (also known as [TBI](#)) is an index of a vast range of historical records and documents, mostly relating to the New Plymouth and Taranaki area.

Graeme Jury has taken over as custodian of the TBI. The data has been migrated to a modern SQL database. Graeme is working on developing some software to work with the TBI and to help people working on transcriptions and indexing.

Preparing transcriptions and indices are one of the ways that our branch compiles and preserves local history. This also makes the information easier to find for anyone doing family history research.

We always have space for more people to help with these projects. All you need is some time and a computer. Plenty of assistance, guidance and support is provided. If you would like to help with any of these projects, or just learn some more, please contact our branch projects coordinator, Lorraine Austin (or just talk to any committee member).



Library Roster: September

The branch rooms are closed until further notice. They will remain closed under alert levels 3 and 4. This roster will apply when we are at level 2 and 1.

Sat 11	Gail Tanner
Mon 13	Lorraine Austin
Sat 18	Karen Crowe
Mon 20	Annette Larsen
Sat 25	Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 27	Jill Jackson
Sat 2 Oct	Karen Crowe

Covid Alert Levels 2 and 3

Please observe the COVID-19 rules at the alert level applying at the time. The branch rooms aren't open at level 3. When we are at level 2, please follow the applicable rules.

- Stay home if you have any symptoms (dry cough, short of breath, loss of smell, etc).
- Wash your hands and any surfaces you touch.
- Wear a face mask when at the branch rooms.
- Use the COVID-19 app with the QR code and record your name in the attendance book.
- Keep at least 1m distance from anyone else at the rooms.
- Bring your own pen, paper, laptop, etc.



There is more information on Covid alert levels at the [level 3](#) and [level 2](#).

Internet Connection

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



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

primo.nz

Library News

Magazines received;

Who Do You Think You Are (July)



Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Dunedin, Feilding, Gore, Hawera, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papamoa, Porirua, Riccarton, South Canterbury, Southland, Wairarapa, Wellington

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.

