

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Incorporated Newsletter



Number 10

October 2022

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.

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

Taranaki Heritage Month

1 October to 5 November 2022

This is Taranaki's first heritage month, focused on understanding and discussing our heritage. With a wide range of talks and field trips, events are intended to facilitate conversation and to explore the shared and divergent understandings of Taranaki's complex and fascinating past. Events involve some of Taranaki's leading archeologists and historians, and all three of the region's museums.

Check out the [programme of events](#). Registration is required/ encouraged for some events.



Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 4 Oct 2022

Websites for Overseas Research

The internet is very helpful for genealogists. There are [thousands](#) and [thousands](#) of websites to choose from, providing many different types of information, and covering a wide range of geographic locations. But these online resources are not all created equal. So which ones are the most useful, and what information can we get from which websites?

Come along to our October meeting when Gail Tanner will provide tips on the best sites to use.



Convenor: Gail Tanner 027 376 0630
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Sharyn Guthrie
Committee: Lorraine Austin
Lea Bellini
Karen Crowe
Graeme Jury
Peter Keegan
Annette Larsen

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Inc
c/- Gail Tanner
122 Wairau Road
New Plymouth 4314
Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month
at society rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre
access is off the Whiteley Street car park
Email: newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com
Website: www.genealogynp.com

September Meeting – Finding William

At our September meeting, Paul Ashton related the findings of some of his research. In his research, Paul has many ancestors named William, sometimes with father and son of the same name. His research led to Edward Julian, who died in 1913. Paul noted that his daughter died on exactly the same day. Further searching uncovered that both were killed and their house burned down. It turns out that this was a high profile incident at the time, reported as the [Kaimata Tragedy](#).

Paul explained how he used many different sources of information. [PapersPast](#) is great, and also there are archives, museum records and physically visiting the site to help understanding. Paul's talk took us through his tale of exploration, discovering the story of this tragedy, and the aftermath for the survivors.

HAWERA & NORMANBY STAR 14 AUGUST 1913.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY

AT KAIMATA, NEAR INGLEWOOD.

FOUR PEOPLE MISSING.

THE MYSTERY OF A NIGHT.

BY TELEGRAPH—PRESS ASSOCIATION.

INGLEWOOD, Aug. 14.

An awful tragedy occurred at Kaimata during last night.

DNA Interest Group

Next meeting is on Sunday 16 October at 13:30 hrs at our rooms in Moturoa.

The topic for this meeting is Going Back to Basics. Let's start again for the new people, and refresh for those who are on the way to understanding how your DNA results may help you with your research.

Come along with any questions, ask for help or guidance from those of us at the meeting. Bring your laptop, tablet or login and we just may be able to help you work out another part of your genealogy research.



Sharyn Guthrie

Convenor's Report

Spring has sprung and so the rain arrives. The only thing I can say to that is it's just what we need in the garden – not.

My husband and I have been isolating with Covid for the last week. We'd been so proud of ourselves for not getting it, and then out of the blue, I get a runny nose and then all hell breaks loose. Anyway, apart from disrupting our normal committee meeting, I've enjoyed being at home, with the great excuse that I can't leave the house. Thank goodness for online grocery shopping.

But full recovery beckons, so back to business. I've held the first Genealogy Basics Class which went well. It's a great way to meet other members, and an enjoyable morning learning something new. At this stage it is held monthly, and though you've missed the first class, you are more than welcome to join the next one. Just let me know, so I can get you set up. Next year, I am contemplating running these classes every second week, as a month is a long time to wait between classes.

At the meeting this month I'm giving a presentation about overseas websites, that are useful for genealogists. This is a bit of a follow on from the one I did a while ago on NZ websites. So hopefully, you'll learn some new sites to access and make use of for your family history.

I can't believe there is only three more meetings this year. Who's begun their Christmas shopping already? Not me! Over the Christmas break, I am planning to do some changing around in the rooms, so next year we will have more room, and all be able to see what's happening better.

Oh, and I've finally got the new sign up! I hope you've all seen it. It looks great.

Hopefully see you all on Tuesday night.

Gail Tanner
Society Convenor



Taranaki Heritage Month 2022

This is the first heritage month for Taranaki. A wide range of events are included such as a Pukekura Park tour, historic walks through New Plymouth and Hāwera, discussions on exploring inherited parks, and walks through the Pātea Cemetery. Some of our leading local historians and archeologists are involved, including Rob Green, Ron Lambert, David Bruce and many more.

Please note that registration is required or encouraged for some events. See [the website](#) for details.

- Thursday 6 Oct, 6pm, Panel Discussion at the Plymouth International, with Andrew Coleman, Brett Graham, Deb Ngarewa-Packer, Jay Ruka, Meng Foon, and Puna Wano-Bryant.
- Sunday 9 Oct, 10am, Puketarata fieldtrip with David Bruce and Ken Horner. Bus from Puke Ariki is available (registration required).
- Monday 10 Oct, 10am, historic walk through New Plymouth, from Puke Ariki. Numbers are limited.
- Tuesday 11 Oct, 10am, Puke Ariki back of house tour.
- Wednesday 12 Oct, 10:30am, historic Hawera walk.
- Friday 14 Oct, 4:30pm, our inherited parks heritage, NPDC council chamber.
- Sunday 16 Oct, 10am, Patea Cemetery and the battle at Te Ngaio
- Tuesday 18 Oct, 6pm, Taranaki's country halls, with Nigel Prickett
- Wednesday 19 Oct, 10am, Pukekura park tour with Alan Metcalfe
- Wednesday 19 Oct, 1pm, Puke Ariki raranga (weaving) workshop
- Friday 21 Oct, 6:30pm, the Forgotten Coast
- Saturday 22 Oct, 10am, Tawhiti Museum

- Sunday 23 Oct, 1pm, historic Ohawe Beach and military cemetery
- Monday 24 Oct, 10:15am, historic Lepperton
- Sunday 25 Oct, 10am, mystery bus tour of north Taranaki with Rob Lambert
- Wednesday 26 Oct, 10am, digitising our past, Puke Ariki
- Wednesday 26 Oct, 1pm, Pukekura park tour with Alan Metcalfe
- Friday 28 Oct, Te Putake O Te Riri, National Day of Commemoration at Orakau near Kihikihi
- Saturday 29 Oct, 10:30am, Polish descendants remember, Sacred Heart Church, Inglewood
- Sunday 30 Oct, 1pm, Chinese in Taranaki, Pioneer Village, Stratford
- Monday 31 Oct, 10am, walk in the footsteps, stories of the First Taranaki War with Hoani Eriwata
- Saturday 5 Nov, 3pm, Parihaka Day

See the [programme of events](#) for details of the events and for the link for registration. Registration is required for some events.

Library news

We have now catalogued and shelved the recent donation by Carolene Norgate-Crandall. This is a history of Oliver Spurdle, Maria Litherland and the Wilson, Sutton and Brunt families. The book is to be found in the Family History section of the library and is not available for loan. Thank you Carolene for providing a copy of this book for our library.

We also have received some books and library supplies from Sharyn Guthrie on behalf of her brother the late Terry Stowers. We are in the process of sorting these. Thank you Sharyn. We have also received donations of A4 envelopes and clear file sleeves and other supplies. Thank you to those who have donated these items.

We continue to work in the library when we can, on Tuesday mornings to repair books, catalogue new accessions process magazines as they are received and generally tidy up.

Lea Bellini

Library Roster: October

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

Sat 1 Oct Karen Crowe
Mon 3 Oct Charles Le Breton
Sat 8 Oct Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 10 Oct Lorraine Austin
Sat 15 Oct Lea Bellini
Mon 17 Oct Jill Jackson
Sat 22 Oct Gail Tanner
Mon 24 Oct Marilyn Armitstead
Sat 29 Oct Graeme Jury
Mon 31 Oct Jill Jackson
Sat 5 Nov Karen Crowe
Mon 7 Nov Charles Le Breton

Facebook Group



Keep an eye out on the Facebook group for helpful information to help you with your genealogy. It's a good place to ask questions or for help on researching an aspect of your family history.

Our New Plymouth Genealogy Society Facebook group has 132 members, some are from our own group but many are those with Taranaki research who live around the world.

Sharyn Guthrie

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

Covid-19 Protection Framework

Covid-19 is still about and causing illness. Please follow the rules and keep everyone healthy.

- Stay home if you have any symptoms (dry cough, short of breath, loss of smell, etc).
- You can wear a face mask at the society rooms.



There is more information at covid19.govt.nz.

Library News

Newsletters received;

Ashburton, Canterbury, Feilding, Hawera, Hawke's Bay, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papakura, Porirua, Riccarton, South Waikato, Stratford, Wellington, Whanganui

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another genealogy society or branch, please contact Peter Hewett.



Newsletter

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