

New Plymouth Genealogy Society Incorporated Newsletter



Number 15

April 2023

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

2023 Society AGM

The second annual general meeting of our society will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 2 May. The formal notice of meeting is distributed to members with this newsletter.

Nominations are open for committee members.

Our society relies on volunteers to keep things running. There are lots of different ways that you can help. Please talk with any current committee member if you can help or have any questions.

Documents for the AGM (such as annual report and financial statement) will be distributed with the May newsletter.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



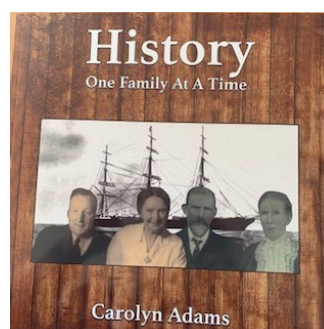
Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 4 Apr 2023

History: One Family at a Time

Publishing your family history research is a goal of many genealogists. Last month we looked at the variety of ways to do this.

This month we are lucky to have Carolyn Adams who will talk about her book *History: One Family At A Time*. For this work, Carolyn was awarded the NZSG Kevin McAnulty award for the best published family history in 2021.

Carolyn lives in Wellington, but much of her family history is in Taranaki. She will talk about the Taranaki research that was done for the book.



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 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

Writing and Publishing your Family History

At our March meeting, we looked at some examples of family history books published by members. Here are some notes on things to consider if you want to document your family history research.

1) Establish your aims – why are you writing this?

Think also about writing your own life story. If memories are not recorded, that knowledge is lost forever.

2) Who are you writing for?

Private circulation or public sale? If it is for relatives, maybe canvas them beforehand to get an idea of the number of copies to print.

3) What to include? Overall plan for the book.

Title - be specific.

Foreword? Preface? Acknowledgements? Genealogy tables?

Where to begin? For me Alexander and Elizabeth, my great-great grandparents, who were early settlers in Auckland. (Seeing things through Elizabeth's eyes.)

Relating people to their time and context. Maps.

Can other people's family histories guide you? Remember – your story is unique.

Bibliography: List the sources consulted. Include a table of contents and index of names. Avoid footnotes, and use end notes if possible.

Include stuff you have come to a brick wall on. Indicate what is fact, hearsay, opinion?

4) Style of writing – use your own voice.

5) Deadline.

Your book will probably never be absolutely complete. New info will keep coming. KNOW WHEN TO STOP! Constrain the task to help clarify your task of research and story gathering. - scope is important to ascertain.

Proof reading! Get somebody outside the family to read and tell you if the writing is clear. What may seem obvious to you, might not be to someone else.

6) Form

Binding? Cover – needs to be attractive. What size page?

Photo book? Check out these websites; [Jamjar](#), [Diamond photos](#), [Snapfish](#), [Memento](#).

7) Illustrations. Photographs. Captions. Dedication. It is worth using good quality paper.

8) Cost and selling price? How many copies?

It costs money to print, but usually cheaper per copy with a larger quantity.

9) ISBN number. You can apply free online from the National Library on their [website](#). Several copies need to be sent to the National Library.

10) Copyright: Be aware of any copyright issues, and get permission for copied work.

11) Publishers: Check out online publishers for your book. Ask for quotes.

[Warehouse Stationery](#) provide a print and bind service, which can be a very low cost option. I was quoted \$3.79 to cover binding and cover. Double sided (black and white) for 20 pages - \$8.00. Single-sided (black and white): \$10 for 40 pages

You can do your own work in A4 using a word processor (like Microsoft Word or LibreOffice), which you can save in pdf format to give to the printer.

Genealogy programs often have publishing options, so look for book and publish options in the menus. Investigate what chart types are available.

Another option is [Publishme](#), a local publisher for small volumes. Free self-publishing guides are available on their website.

Also consider [Ligare](#) (based in Auckland).

The [NZ Society of Authors](#) has online [resources](#) for self-publishing.

There are several good books in our genealogy library including;

Your Family's History - MacGibbon

Writing your Family History - Rosier-Jones

Please speak to other members in our group, if you need help to get started on your book or booklet. I would love to have inspired some of our members to publish something.

Annette Larsen

Should I do a DNA test?

The May meeting is our AGM, on 2 May 2023. Please see the formal notice of meeting sent out to members with this newsletter.

After the AGM, Graeme Jury will discuss whether you should get a DNA test done to help with your genealogy research. He will also cover some of the things to consider when you are thinking about getting a DNA test.

Convenor's Report

It's the end of March already, and the end of daylight-saving time as well. As winter rolls in it is the perfect time to get into your research and make some new discoveries.

We've had a busy month this last month, with beginners' fortnightly lessons steaming ahead. Sharyn and I hosted a day session where people booked 1-hour appointments where they could learn more about their DNA, or ask questions about Ancestry, or anything genealogy related. It was a great success. So much so that we are going to organise another soon, so if you are interested in coming along and getting some answers to your tricky questions, let Sharyn know and she can put you on the list to be included when we hold the session again.

I've had an exciting month as well, with my half brother contacting me, and wanting to meet. I flew to Whangarei and spent a fabulous weekend getting to know him and his family. I've known about him for some time, but had always thought he didn't want to be contacted so left him alone. I was over the moon when I got a message from his granddaughter, asking if I'd like to meet him. At 83 he's a bit older than me, but that didn't prevent the close connection. I hope to get up to see him again soon.

The May meeting is our Annual General Meeting, so please come along and support our group. If you are interested in getting more involved, please contact me or any committee member to register your interest. You won't be coerced into being Convenor, or Treasurer as we are both standing again. Jackie, our Secretary, would like to stand down this year, so if you are interested in being more involved, it isn't a hard job – minute taking, typing up and sending out the minutes to the committee members. Our committee meetings are held on the Tuesday night before the normal meeting.

The meeting this Tuesday, we have Carolyn Adams, talking to us about her book *History, One Family at a time*. She won the NZSG Kevin McAnulty Award for the best published family history in 2021. This is quite an achievement. Though she hails from Wellington, much of her family history is in Taranaki. It should be an interesting talk.

I hope you can all make it.

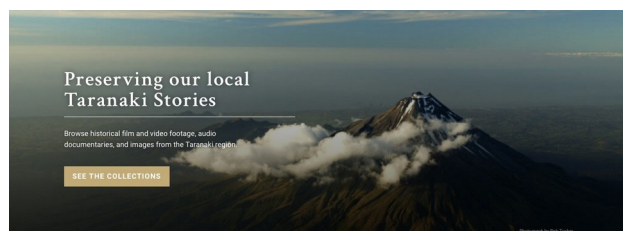
Gail Tanner
Society Convenor

Taranaki Media Archive

The [Taranaki Media Archive](#) recently launched its website. This is a collection of historical video, audio and images from the Taranaki region, available online.

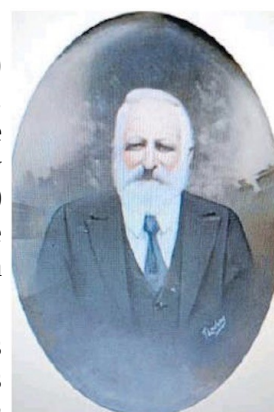
It began as the Audio History Trust in 2008, which distributed historical audio recordings on CD. The collection has grown, and CDs are no longer a common media format. So the trust was reformed and has moved online.

The trust welcomes new members, contributors and sponsors.



Esau and Sarah Marsh

Esau Marsh (1838 – 1929) and Sarah (nee Stockman, 1849 – 1929) had a large family around what is now Motunui, with over 130 grandchildren. So they have lots of descendants in Taranaki!



Are you researching this family? Peter Hewett is compiling a tree with as many of their immediate descendants as we can find. At the rooms, there is a big chart of the tree with Esau and Sarah, their children and grandchildren. There is also a book of births, deaths and marriages.

There is lots of missing and conflicting information, so any input or corrections are welcome. Please contact Peter Hewett, or [send an email](#).

DNA for Genealogy

Sunday 16 April, 1:30pm

This month, Sharyn Guthrie will focus on shared matches and colour dots in Ancestry & MyHeritage. Be sure to bring along your laptop (or at least the login details to your online DNA account).

It is highly recommended that you watch this video by Diahn Southard: [Shared matches - the only DNA tool you need](#).

Library Roster: April

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

Sat 1 Apr Karen Crowe
Mon 3 Apr Lorraine Austin
Sat 8 Apr Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 10 Apr closed – Easter Monday
Sat 15 Apr Lea Bellini
Mon 17 Apr Annette Larsen
Sat 22 Apr Graeme Jury
Mon 24 Apr Jill Jackson
Sat 29 Apr Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 1 May Lorraine Austin
Sat 6 May Karen Crowe

Are you researching these families?

Robyn Black from Nelson NZSG is planning to visit New Plymouth from 3 to 5 April to research her families from this area. She would love to catch up with any cousins and relatives if possible.

Robyn's names are from New Plymouth and are descendants of William Black and Jane Veale who arrived on the Amelia Thompson. The names are Humphries, Blanchett, Dingle, Nutt, Attrill and, of course, Black.

Margaret Mundy (also from Nelson) was intending to come here, but isn't able to make it. Her names are:

Anderson of Stratford/ Whangamomoma
Neustroski of Stratford,
Paterson of Tarata
Thompson of New Plymouth
Weston of New Plymouth

If you are researching any of these families, please contact Robyn or Margaret via their email addresses.

Robyn: robyn.black@xtra.co.nz

Margaret: mundym7@gmail.com

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 (flu, 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

Magazines received;

Who Do You Think You Are
(March, April)



Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Feilding, Hawera, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papakura, Porirua, South Waikato, Stratford, Wairarapa, Wellington

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.