

# New Plymouth Genealogy Society Incorporated

# Newsletter



Number 22

November 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

## Christmas Raffle

The popular Christmas hamper raffle is being run again this year. Members are asked to donate non-perishable items for the raffle. Proceeds will be used to fund society activities.

Please bring along donated items to the rooms.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at society meetings.



Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday 7 Nov 2023

## Genealogy Software

With genealogy, we end up with lots of different data, records, photographs, and other stuff. A good system is needed to manage all of this, and computer software can help. But there are so many different options available, including online and locally stored systems.

At our November meeting, we will be looking at the options for storing and managing your genealogy data. This will look at the various features and advantages, and help you work out which is best for you.



**Convenor:** Gail Tanner 027 376 0630  
**Secretary:** Jackie Sewell  
**Treasurer:** Sharyn Guthrie  
**Committee:** Lorraine Austin  
Lea Bellini  
Karen Crowe  
Jeff Grange  
Peter Hewett  
Graeme Jury

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](mailto:newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.genealogynp.com](http://www.genealogynp.com)

---

## FreeBMD

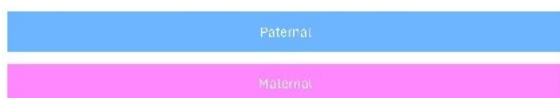
The FreeBMD project is transcribing the civil registration index of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales. The transcribing is being done by volunteers and is available on the internet for free. [FreeBMD](#) is a part of the [Free UK Genealogy](#) project, associated with [FreeCen](#) (for census records) and [FreeReg](#) (for parish registers).

At our October meeting, Gail showed us what is available on the FreeBMD website, and how you can use it for your UK research.



---

## DNA Interest Group



The next DNA session will be at 1:30pm on Sunday 19 November, at our society rooms.

The topic will be 'Back to the Beginning with Chromosomes'. This will be aimed at beginners and those wanting a refresh on understanding inheritance and how DNA matching works. Bring your laptop, tablet or login details and any questions you want answered. If you would like help of any kind please let me know, I'm always willing to spend some time with you on another day to help. Email me at [sharyndna@gmail.com](mailto:sharyndna@gmail.com).

Sharyn Guthrie

---

## Convenor's Report

It's now November and the year is running away on us very fast. This Tuesday meeting, we are having a collaborative effort of three of your committee members talking about different genealogy computer programmes that you download and keep on your computer, rather than just the online biggies like Ancestry or My Heritage. There are a number to choose from in this category of programmes, but we are showing you Family Tree Maker, Gramps and Legacy. Come along and have a look.

Last month we looked at the FreeUK Websites of FreeBMD, FreeReg and FreeCen. Hopefully everyone has now begun using these great resources.

Next month is December once again, and on our meeting night we will be having a fun quiz and supper. We are also running our great Christmas raffle again, so bring along some items to go into the raffle and let's make it as fabulous a prize as last years was. And buy your raffle tickets. You have to be in to win. Don't forget that we also close the library over Christmas and New Year, so look out in this newsletter for the days we will be open again.

Our first meeting next year is our annual cemetery visit. We are planning to visit the Waitara Cemetery. As the meeting date is Waitangi Day and it is a public holiday we have decided to make it a day trip, rather than going in the evening. Look out for the details elsewhere in this newsletter.

The other news that affects our society is the that Incorporated Societies Act 2022 is now officially in force. What this means for us as a society, is an update of our rules/ constitution, and having to reregister as an incorporated society. We have until 5 April 2026 to have this completed, but I am currently working on getting our rules updated now, so we have plenty of time. The updated constitution will be put forward for approval at the next AGM. Another change is that anyone going on to the committee has to sign a consent form, and our new member registrations also have to be signed as an agreement to become a member.

I hope to see you all the meeting on Tuesday night.

Gail Tanner  
Society Convenor

---

## Library News

It has been a while since we uploaded the library catalogue to our society webpage. Now that we have finished cataloguing the donations from the old Waitara group plus other donations (see the [October newsletter](#)), we have updated it. It is suggested to take a look at the library catalogue. You will find this on our website under the drop down menu for research, or click [here](#).

The library catalogue is available as a downloadable PDF file, primarily for our members' use. This catalogue is sorted into alphabetical order of book title within the various major subject areas used in the library. Use the find facility in your pdf reader to find the publications or topic that you are looking for.

If you find something of interest to you, come down to our genealogy rooms and have a look. Some books can be borrowed, others need to be looked at in the rooms.

Happy hunting.

Lea Bellini

---

## Next month: Christmas Quiz

For our last meeting of the year, we will be having a fun genealogy quiz and Christmas supper. There will also be the official draw of the Christmas hamper raffle.

Join us at 7:30pm on Tuesday 5 December at the society rooms.

---

## 2024 Programme

The society committee is putting together our meeting plan for next year. If you have any topics you would like to suggest or request, please contact any committee member, or send an email to [newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com).



---

## Christmas / New Year

As usual, our library roster will be taking a break over the summer holiday period.

Last day for 2023                      Saturday 16 December

First day for 2024                      Monday 15 January

If you want to get access to the rooms during this time, please contact us and we will arrange a time when a volunteer is available. Send an email to [newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com).

---

## Waitara Cemetery 2024

As usual, our first meeting of the year will be a visit to a local cemetery. This time it is Waitara!



In 2024, the first Tuesday in February happens to be Waitangi Day. Since this is a public holiday, we are planning an afternoon visit. Come along to hear some local history, and about some of the notable people buried in this cemetery.

Our website has transcriptions of the headstones of the [Waitara cemetery](#). Photos of these headstones are available at our rooms or via email (for a donation).

---

## FREE, STAVELY, MINIFIE Families

Do you have relatives in the FREE, STAVELY or MINIFIE families?

The Waitara genealogy group recently shut down, and people have been working on finding new homes for historical records that they held. These include a set of photographs and documents for these families.

If these families are relevant to your research, or if you know someone who would be an appropriate custodian for these documents, please let us know. You can send us an email at [newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:newplymouthgenealogy@gmail.com)

---

## Library Roster: November

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

Sat 4 Nov Karen Crowe  
Mon 6 Nov Charles Le Breton  
Sat 11 Nov Graeme Jury  
Mon 13 Nov Lorraine Austin  
Sat 18 Nov Lea Bellini  
Mon 20 Nov Annette Larsen  
Sat 25 Nov Peter Hewett  
Mon 27 Nov Jill Jackson  
Sat 2 Dec Karen Crowe  
Mon 4 Dec Lorraine Austin

---

## RootsTech 2024

RootsTech is the largest genealogy expo in the world, and is available free online. You can also attend in person at Salt Lake City in USA.

Dates: 29 February to 2 March 2024

RootsTech has presentations by world leading genealogy experts and exhibitions by all the big genealogy organisations (like FamilySearch, Ancestry, FindMyPast, MyHeritage, and many more).

Register now at [www.rootstech.org](http://www.rootstech.org).



---

## Facebook

Another successful Facebook month for new members with our numbers increasing from 194 to 205 members. Please post any queries or add posts about your family to share. This is for our members plus others interested in Taranaki genealogy to view.



New Plymouth Genealogy Society

Sharyn Guthrie

---

## Internet Connection

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



Primo has supported us with internet connectivity since 2017. Please consider Primo for your internet service. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit their website:

[primo.nz](http://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](http://covid19.govt.nz).

---

## Library News

Magazines received;

Family Tree (Nov)



Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Feilding, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Matamata, Mosgiel, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Papakura, Porirua, Riccarton, Rotorua, South Canterbury, Southland, South Waikato, Wairarapa, 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](mailto:peter.hewett@gmail.com).