



**New  
Zealand  
Society of  
Genealogists**

# BLenheim BRANCH

Newsletter  
No 274  
May 2011



**Branch meetings**  
3rd Tuesday of each  
month - February  
through to November  
at 7.30pm.  
**Venue: Beavertown  
Hall, Brayshaw  
Heritage Park**  
Arthur Baker Place  
(off New Renwick  
Road)  
at 7.30pm

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Website: <http://www.henry.gen.nz/BBNZSG/>  
[http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry\\_Family/BBNZSG.html](http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry_Family/BBNZSG.html)



## TONIGHT'S MEETING

is a Club research night when our more experienced members will be available to assist newer members with their genealogy research using the various tools we have available.

## JUNE MEETING



**Tuesday June 21, 7.30pm.**  
This meeting will be held in the audio theatre at the Marlborough Museum. Marlborough Historical Society members are also being invited.

John Orchard who is the Senior Teacher of the Marlborough Historical Society's Heritage Education Programme will be our speaker. His subject will be "*Immigrant Sailing Ships and the Edwin Fox.*"

This will tie in with the new exhibition due to open at this time at the Museum. John has spoken on several previous occasions.

He feels privileged to have a job involving many of his interests. These include running field trips for the MHS and Historic Places Trust, restoration of historic earth buildings, photographic archives, sea kayaking, archaeology, Marlborough and military history, and building projects.

## JULY MEETING

This will be our ever-popular **SOUP NIGHT** when committee members supply a variety of soups for you to enjoy. All you need to bring is a soup bowl and a spoon.



## From your Convenor May 2011



Dear Members,

### Convenor's Report May 2011

I finally got around to a task that I have been putting off ever since I joined the NZSG - I submitted my "First Family" sheets to the NZSG collection. I found that I had six sheets to fill out and it was a real challenge to do this without making any mistakes or corrections.

However, I managed to complete the task eventually and duly posted them. In the past I have obtained several sheets from this collection which helped my research a lot, so I now feel that I have repaid that debt!

I would encourage all genealogists to add to the NZSG First Families Collection as it is a very useful research source for us all.

Kind regards,

Don Henry  
Convenor

A family tree can wither if nobody tends its roots.





## LIBRARY NOTES

Terry Gardiner,  
Librarian



The other day I was feeling bored with the rain so went and bought myself the latest “NZ Memories” magazine.

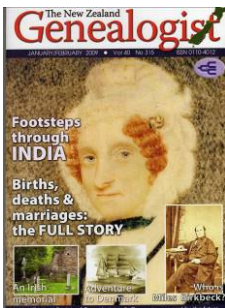
These magazines are easy to read with very interesting articles on various places and people in New Zealand. They give as good background on how your ancestors

lived when they settled in their area.

I am putting this magazine in the Library. We have quite a collection of “NZ Memories” that have articles from all over New Zealand. It is worth while having a browse through the box in which they are kept.

We still have a box of ‘double-up’ books in a box on the floor of the Library. Feel free to ‘help your self’ from this box .

We also have old copies of “NZ Genealogist” . You may need a few old ones to make up a personal set.



### A picture from the past

Inter Island Ferry Rangatira unloading Cars at Waitohi Wharf, Picton in 1962



Photograph Marlborough Historical Society Inc Marlborough Photographs from 1920 -

Copyright Marlborough Museum

A similar photograph to the one mentioned in Book Review on Page 3 -

### This Issue includes—

- Page 1—Convenor’s Report
  - Future Meetings details
- Page 2—Library Notes
  - National Conference
  - Committee and Library Hours
- Page 3—Annual Meeting Report
  - Book Review—”New Zealand Maritime Images—the Golden Years”
- Page 4—Hokitika Museum
  - “Early Genealogy”
  - New Zealand Records on Ancestry From Shantytown

## 2011 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Pack your swag and be ready to join the

**Gold Rush to Otago, Queen’s Birthday Weekend 2011”**



If there are any members attending this Conference could you please advise me.

As I would appreciate a report for the June newsletter

— Alan

*I’m always late. My ancestors arrived on the JUNEflower.*

### Blenheim Branch Committee

**Convener:** Don Henry  
**Secretary:** Katrina Harris  
**Treasurer:** Stuart Kennington  
**Committee:**  
**Librarian:** Terry Gardiner  
**Newsletter Editor:** Alan Harris  
**Door & Raffles:** Sue Gill



### Branch Library & Rooms

Beavertown Hall, Brayshaw Heritage Park  
Arthur Baker Place (off New Renwick Road, Blenheim)

### Hours

Except for December & January our facilities at Beavertown are open to the public as below:

Day of month	Time period	Duty member	phone
1st Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
1st Sunday	2 to 4pm	Don Henry	5791987
2nd Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
2nd Wednesday	9 - 11.30 am	Ilona Alloway	5784658
3rd Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222
3rd Thursday	2 to 4pm	Christine Koppert	5783408
3rd Sunday	2 to 4pm	Don Henry	5791987
4th Tuesday	3 to 5pm	Terry Gardiner	5785222

**The Library may be available by appointment outside these hours.**

### Inquiries to:

**Terry Gardiner** Librarian phone 578 5222  
**Lauri Ashwell** phone 578 8385 during daytime.



## BLenheim BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

The following Office Bearers were

elected—

Convener—Don Henry

Secretary—Katrina Harris

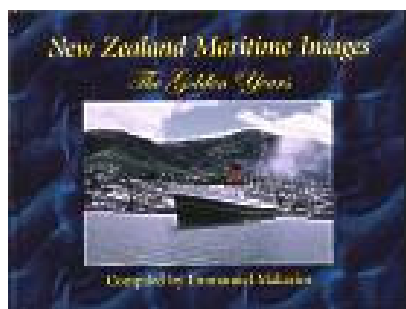
Treasurer—Stuart Kennington

Librarian—Terry Gardiner

Committee—Alan Harris (Newsletter Editor)

Peter Peterson did not stand for re-election and was thanked by the Convener for his services to the Committee. (Peter will continue to be our tea maker)

The incoming committee has been given the power to co-opt additional Committee members.



### Book review

#### NEW ZEALAND MARITIME IMAGES – THE GOLDEN YEARS

By EMMANUEL MAKARIOS

This book encapsulates an era that portrays the importance of coastal shipping. Mainly photographic the images are self explanatory.

**A photo of Picton wharf taken in 1959 shows the passengers and visitors strolling along the wharf. There is a car being loaded using the ship's derrick that is about to hoisted up and onto the deck. A scene that has now vastly changed.**

The book has photos of many coastal traders that called into ports all around NZ carrying cargoes of cheese, coal, general goods, cement, etc. There are pictures of some fishing vessels and their home ports.

(The author has also written an earlier book – Nets, Lines and Pots – that covers the fishing trade in detail.)

The history of the scow, pilot boats, tugs, ferry, and cargo liners is often included. And of course there are photos of the many passenger liners that brought emigrants to this country in those years.

The author has been both a merchant seaman and curator at Wellington Maritime Museum which accounts for the comprehensive nature of this book. Great read and plenty of photographs of the 1950s to 1970s.

(From the Feilding Branch Newsletter May 2011)

See also Page 2

# HOKITIKA MUSEUM

*Westland's Tales & Treasures*



*The Hokitika Museum is located in the Carnegie Building, on the corner of Tancred and Hamilton Streets, Hokitika.*

### Westland's Museum has a new name!

The museum in Hokitika (previously known as the West Coast Historical Museum) is re-inventing itself and will now be known as the Hokitika Museum with the tagline of Westland's Tales & Treasures.

The new name tells visitors exactly where the museum is. While the tagline makes reference to the museum's storytelling role, its great collection of historical material and the fact that we cover the entire Westland district.

The name change signals the journey the museum is on to invigorate its visitor experience and to maintain its position as the West Coast's leading museum.

### Exhibition on now:

#### Treaty 2 U

The Hokitika Museum is thrilled to have Treaty 2 U, a touring exhibition created by Te Papa, Archives New Zealand and Alexander Turnbull Library which explores the story of the Treaty of Waitangi. The exhibition is in three parts; before the treaty, the treaty itself (with replicas of the treaty papers) and the treaty today. Treaty 2 U is a top quality exhibition which has great educational resources and interactive content and gets excellent feedback. Treaty 2 U is on until May 22 and has free entry.

#### WHITEBAIT!

The Hokitika Museum's next major project is the exhibition WHITEBAIT!

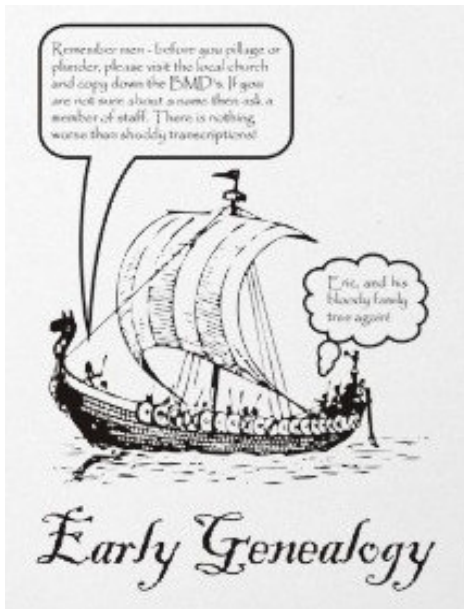
The story of New Zealand's favourite fish which will see the museum's gallery transformed into a must-see experience about whitebait and its importance to the Coast.



This will be a chance for locals and visitors to explore the world of whitebait and the unique culture that has developed around it through stories, photos, videos and recipes. The exhibition will be on during the 2011 whitebait season.

From Westland Genealogy Group Newsletter March/April 2011

*This coming exhibition sounds most interesting—we should be letting our local whitebaiting friends know about it—Editor*



## Family History Month

NZSG is running an essay competition with cash prizes—details available on the website. A nominal fee will be charged. The subject of the essay is a true story related by a relative, of

### NEW ZEALAND RECORDS ON ANCESTRY

You will be pleased to know that on the ancestry website, you can now search the largest online collection of New Zealand family history records. These records include a period from the mid 1800s right through to the later part of the 19th century.

*These records include:*

- \* Canterbury, New Zealand Provincial Rolls, — 1868 — 1974
- \* New Zealand Electoral Records, 1853 — 1874
- \* New Zealand Jury Lists, 1842 — 1862
- \* New Zealand Maori Land Claims, 1858—1980
- \* New Zealand Maori Voter and Electoral Rolls, 1908 and 1919
- \* New Zealand Naturalisations, 1843 — 1981
- \* New Zealand City and Area Directories — 1866 —1955

The material contained in this section was amassed over a 20 year period by the late Anne Bromell. Anne travelled extensively around New Zealand with her microfilm camera filming records where she found them. The website for this is: [www.ancestry.com.au](http://www.ancestry.com.au)



#### Cartoon text: **Viking Captain:**

*'Remember men—before you pillage or plunder, please visit the local church and copy down the BMD's. If you are not sure about a name then ask a member of staff. There is nothing worse than shoddy transcriptions!'*

#### **Viking sailor:**

*"Eric, and his darned family tree again!"*

Text from Motueka Branch April Newsletter.

Illustrations from the Internet

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**CONGRATULATIONS to the Motueka Branch** who celebrated their 21st Birthday with a special meeting on May 7. The Guest Speaker was Joseph Gillard, who was formerly Research Officer for the NZSG.

### From Shantytown

#### New Developments at Shantytown

The new holographic theatre experience is now open to the public, come and view the eight minute film *'Dead Men Tell No Tales'* which is a tale of Thomas Broham and the terrible murder of George Dobson. The theatre is highly decorated and you will be seated on the ex Reefton theatre seats – it's an experience not to be missed and entry is included in the gate prices.

The Bank of New Zealand is again open to the public, after been closed down for over three years as staff used it for offices. The front entry of the building is now open so you get to view the counter and some olden day items used at the bank. It has also received an external paint job and thank you to the Greymouth BNZ staff, who volunteered their time for the day and it was painted in BNZ colours, blue, white and gold.



#### New Developments at Shantytown cont'd...

*Story and photograph from Internet*

The gold claim is getting redeveloped - there will be life sized cut-out characters from the 1880s spotted around the bush and featured in their stores and shantys. These characters will have a recorded speech and tell you of their hardships and life on the goldfields.

Rueben Waite's general store is now open for business which is located at Shantytown's front entry and it is full of New Zealand made souvenirs. The prices are low cost compared to many souvenir shops in the country.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for weekly updates and all West Coasters from Karamea to Haast have the opportunity to purchase a VIP Pass – which is valid for 2 years free entry into Shantytown. This is a great opportunity to join for visiting friends and family and for a fun day out.