



**New Zealand Society of
Genealogists
NELSON BRANCH**
est. 1973

March 2013 newsletter



Early Settlers - Port Nelson
Photo courtesy of The Nelson Mail

Our monthly meetings are at Smith's Hall, corner Waimea & Quarantine Roads Annesbrook on the **4th Monday** of the month **February to November** at **7.30pm**. Door charge **GOLD COIN DONATION**.

Our address is NZSG Nelson Branch,
P O Box 1879,
NELSON 7140

Our Branch Library **Ancestors Attic** is at 67 Trafalgar Street opposite Trailways

Our next Branch meeting: 25th March Genealogy Research in India - Julian Shield

Special Meeting: Tuesday 2 April 2pm at St Marys Parish Centre - NZSG First Families Collection

The 2012/2013 NZSG Nelson Branch committee: Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions:-

Convener	Pete GILLIN	Phone: 03 548 8195	nelsonbranch_nzsg@hotmail.com
Secretary	Vacant		
Treasurer/Newsletter	Barbara WELLS	03 540 2741	pb-mthope@xtra.co.nz
Committee -Library	Cheryl CARNAHAN	03 544 7684	carnahan@kinect.co.nz
Projects	Cynthia STRATFORD	03 544 6647	cyncas@ts.co.nz
	John BETHWAITE	03 547 6634	j.bethwaite@xtra.co.nz
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From the convenor,

Hello everyone,

Those of you who have watched "Packed to the Rafters" recently will know what I am referring to when I say "Pete's having a Julie Rafter moment!" i.e. a column to write and not a single thought comes to mind. Wife Ailsa taking the Dave Rafter role says "write what you know". OK, so what's happening? Sunday was St. Patrick's Day, the day in celebration of Ireland's great Patron Saint, the day when those of us with just a little genealogical connection with Ireland overflow with enthusiasm for all things Irish. Hopefully we will save a little time on the day to reflect on the conditions and circumstance our ancestors experienced that led them to seek a better future in lands far removed from the country of their birth. For the vast majority, the passage out of Ireland was foreseen as one-way; the individuals and families were leaving and they would never return. Typically, we are told, massive wakes were held in the coastal towns on the nights before emigrant ships sailed from Irish ports. The family members leaving were seen as dead to those staying in Ireland; each knew they would never see each other again. Large population movements continue, even in this the 21st Century. Ireland is again a case-study, not for population loss this time, but as a destination for those from Eastern Europe seeking brighter opportunities for themselves. Is that a touch of Irish irony. Our March Meeting is coming up on Monday 25 - see you all there to hear Julian Shield talk to us on Genealogy Research in India. Thank you all for the great turnout for our February Meeting when Karen Stade spoke about her Farquhar Family research. See you on the 25th!

Regards

Pete.

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday Afternoons 2 - 4pm

Mar 24	Sandra M /Dennis BK	May 12	Pete Gillin
Mar 31	Barbara Wells	May19	Dennis Bush-King
April 7	Judith Fitchett	May26	Sandra Marris
April 14	Bob McF/Pete Gillin	June 2	Barbara Wells
April 21	Sandra Marris	June 9	
April 28	Barbara Wells	June 16	Pete Gillin
May 5	Kevin Ryan	June 30	Sandra Marris

Monday Afternoons 1 -4pm

Cheryl Carnahan

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Cynthia Stratford's Team

Program for 2013

March 25th	Genealogy Research in India - Julian Shield
April 22nd	Jenny Robin Jones "Founder or Flourish"
May 27th	AGM - Websites 01 2013 Branch members
June 24th	Francis Day on the Importance of keeping Family Records
July 22nd	Websites 02 2013 Branch Members
August 26th	Nelson Branches 40 th Anniversary - Speaker Michelle Patient NZSG President
September 23rd	David Burrowes on Adoption Records
October 28th	Websites03 2013 Branch Members
November 25th	WW100 - Update on Research Projects Branch members (World War I commemorations)

Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4

Recent Acquisitions

One copy of 1961 Photo News. Bookcase 01. Donated by Judy Hodges.

Historic Map CD of UK 1856-1920 showing counties and principal cities.

Cabinet 01. Donated by Gordon McIndoe.

East & West Otago cemeteries CD cabinet 01.



Jenny Robin Jones tickets available at the Attic. \$5.00 members, others \$8.00.

Websites worth looking at

<http://www.parishregister.com/default.asp>

ParishRegister.com is the Family History Web Site of Docklands Ancestors Ltd. for those tracing their Docklands, East End and Thames Watermen & Lightermen Ancestors. This website is run by family historians for family historians. They specialize in transcribing London's parish registers and their aim is to transcribe them all. Their other passion is the river Thames, London's Docks and in particular the Company of Watermen and Lightermen. They have collected much of interest, to inform and delight, on these pages. They have a free monthly newsletter you can subscribe to. If anyone has London ancestors this website is very good. Searching is reasonably cheap as well. - Cheryl Carnahan

<http://www.lostcousins.com>

LostCousins is a family history website that matches you with others researching the same ancestors.

You enter the relatives on your family tree who were recorded in selected US, Canadian, British, or Irish Censuses - then click the **Search** button. They also have a free newsletter that is worth reading and can be e-mailed to you or you can read it on their website. - Sandra Marris

<http://www.literatureandlatte.com/scrivener.php> (recommended by Karen Stade in her talk)

Writing a novel, research paper, script or any long-form text involves more than hammering away at the keys until you're done. Collecting research, ordering fragmented ideas, shuffling index cards in search of that elusive structure—most writing software is fired up only after much of the hard work is over. Enter **Scrivener**: a word processor and project management tool that stays with you from that first, unformed idea all the way through to the final draft. Outline and structure your ideas, take notes, view research alongside your writing and compose

the constituent pieces of your text in isolation or in context. Scrivener won't tell you how to write—it just makes all the tools you have scattered around your desk available in one application. Free 30 day trial.

Website Updates (from IHAG March newsletters)

- **The National Archives** have added Podcasts:
 - [Reckless, Rash and Repentant: Convicts Petitions for Mercy 1819-1858](#)
 - [The Will Forgeries: a forgotten sensation](#)
 - [Hunting for Spies in The National Archives](#)
 - [What happened before today's mutual Credit Unions? An introduction to Friends of Labour Loan Societies 1850s-1930s](#)
- **FindMyPast:**
 - Has added 6 million pages of British Newspapers 1700-1950 from the British Library
 - Has released gravestone inscriptions for eight Irish counties 1618-2005 on FindMyPast.ie
 - Has opened Australian records including
 - Catholic baptisms 1840-1863 in South Australia (a loophole meant parents didn't need to register civilly)
 - 1841 South Australia census
 - Crown Land Sales in Queensland 1842-1861 and 1860-1911 and Return of Crown Lands 1854
 - Has added English and Welsh criminal records 1770-1934 from TNA
 - Has added 3 million Westminster parish records 1538-1945 which will of course include MPs as well as ordinary folk - more will follow this first phase, including militia records, workhouse books and wills.
 - Has promised Yorkshire baptisms, marriages and burials from 1538-20th Century, i.e. images and transcripts
 - Has added to its Boer War collection with King's and Queen's South Africa medal rolls and the Talana clasp
- **TheGenealogist** has added
 - Casualty Lists 1917-18 with the rest of the War and its aftermath to come.
 - Naturalisation and Denization Records 1609-1960
 - War Memorial Records - transcripts with images and Google Maps reference, further linked to the Imperial War Museum's Memorial Archive reference to the monument
- **Ancestry** has:
 - Promised Lord Morpeth's Roll to come out this month - names and some addresses of Irish citizens
 - Offered its DNA service to US citizens who are not members of its site
- **Scotlandsplaces** have added two tax rolls from 1785-1798, Cart and Carriage tax, and Dog tax 1797-1798. It seems to us these would cover most residents of the period, but several other tax rolls are already online
- **WorldVitalRecords** is now offering DNA testing via [Family Tree DNA](#)
- **DeceasedOnline** has added Manor Park Cemetery in East London (1931-2010) - this includes many victims of the Bethnal Green Tube Station disaster, the 70th anniversary of which was on the 3rd March
- **Libraries and Archives Canada** has released a podcast on [Home Children](#) and a new version of the Canada Census 1911 that is searchable by name
- **National Library of Scotland** has added [gazetteers](#) for some of 1803-1901 and [broadside](#)s from 1610-1950
- **MyHeritage** has added Militia Attestations Index, Royal Garrison Artillery 1872-1915 to its record matching database
- **FamilySearch.org** has released
 - the [Cheshire Register of Electors](#) 1842-1900
 - Isle of [Man Deaths & Burials](#) 1844-1911 (sadly not total coverage)
 - Transcripts of the 1871 and 1891 Canada censuses
 - An update (images) to its Northumberland Misc 1570-2005
 - Its [Family Tree](#) database for you to enter your relationships and connect with others - you can also print pedigrees and reports
- **FIBIS** has recently updated the Times of India to 1923 and Allen's Indian Mail to 1865
- **MilitaryArchives** have finalised the [Irish Army Census of 1922](#)

- **Kent Messenger Group** will be placing its archives online for free (on 22nd). These searchable records will include South Eastern Gazette 1852-1912
- In case anyone missed it, the **University College London** released a database of slave owners who were compensated when Britain ended its trade - the records of the Slave Compensation Commission. Donations of relevant papers as well as corrections are requested.
- **FreeBMD**, a great free website, will now be searchable through **Mocavo**, the genealogy search engine.

Nelson Heritage Week

Heritage Week 2013 celebrations start on Saturday 13 April. It promises another week of great history-related activities, talks and events. Look out for full printed programmes in the Nelson and Tasman Leader on 11 April, or pick one up from Nelson Libraries. Please tell your friends and colleagues.

See programme online at <http://www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz/heritage-week-2013/>.

In the meantime here's a sneak preview of two events involving society member, history researcher and writer Karen Stade.

On **Sunday 14 April**, an Italian Harvest fundraiser is being held at Club Italia, 31 Trafalgar Street, 6-9pm. This event is in support of a history of Nelson's Italian community Karen Stade is researching and writing in partnership with Karen Price. Tickets can be bought for \$20 from Romanos at 31 Trafalgar Street. Your ticket includes pizza and Italian music, and a cash bar is available. The two Karens will briefly discuss the book during the evening. If you've ever wanted to see inside Club Italia, now's your opportunity.

On **Wednesday 17 April**, Karen Stade will be giving an illustrated talk about the Church Steps at the Women's Club above Harry's Bar (formerly Chez Eelco), 12.30-1.30pm. "Daffodils, Dukes and Dramas and the Church Steps" will canvas and lavishly illustrate the history of the steps, which are the topic of a history book she'll be launching in September this year. September 21 marks the centenary of the granite Cawthron Steps, which replaced earlier wooden steps built in 1858.

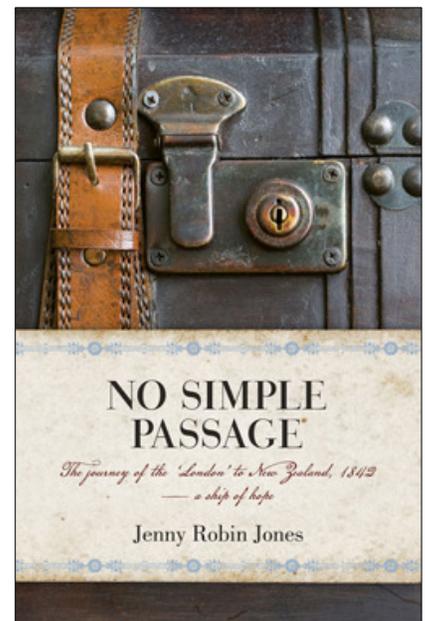
The question was?

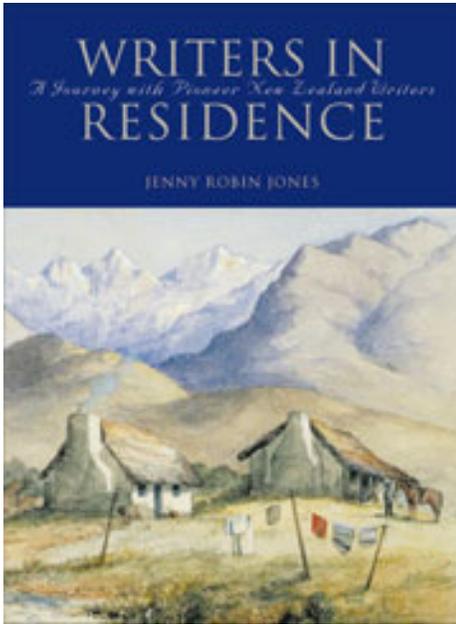
Is it possible to trace someone's family going forward? Not their ancestors, but their descendant's? Its called the "bounceback" technique. You go back in time to trace the path of someone's family to the present day.

To read a worn headstone. Try shaving foam spray on and then using a squeegee wipe over the lettering. Wait for the letters to emerge, wash away with lots of water to remove any chemical damage occurring. I found if you have a coloured photo and can't read it put it under the new warm white light bulb, it shows up really well. - Contributed by Jenny Coad

"No Simple Passage" - The journey of the "London" to New Zealand, 1842- a ship of hope. By Jenny Robin Jones. Published in 2011 by Random House NZ.

This remarkable book was given to me by a friend in Christmas 2011 as she just knew that it would appeal to me and how true that was. I found it difficult to turn out the light each night until I had turned the last page. Jenny's inspiration was researching the emigration of her gt gt grandparent's voyage to NZ and with access to the journal of ship's surgeon Dr William Mackie Turnbull and diaries kept by Charles Empson and James Kelham she has written an imaginative and vivid tale of the voyage. Being fond of researching myself I am in awe of the detail she has discovered. The references to notes and the bibliography are worthy of further investigation and an indication of the wealth of information lurking in NZ Archives and private family papers. As a nurse I'm amazed at the diagnosis and treatments and potions that are used by Dr Turnbull. Jenny has given a background to the life in Britain and followed the fortunes of many of the 258 emigrants in their new land. Your branch committee will be delighted to welcome her as our guest speaker on April 22 when she will present "Founder or Flourish" and what the choice meant for immigrants in 1842. - Judith Fitchett





Writers In Residence - A Journey with Pioneer New Zealand Writers

By Jenny Robin Jones Published by Auckland University Press 2004

This is Jenny Robin Jones's first book. It is about twenty nineteenth-century New Zealand writers and presents in human terms what it meant to be a writer in a strange new land. Unexpected people took to the pen; travellers recorded their adventures; soldiers, judges, civil servants burst into print. The twenty writers are John Nicholas, Samuel Marsden, Thomas Kendall, Joel Polack, William Colenso, Edward Jerningham Wakefield, F E Maning, John Logan Campbell, Alfred Domett, Samuel Butler, Lady Barker, John Barr, Thomas Bracken, Alexander Bathgate and Vincent Pyke, William Jackson Barry, Edward Tregear, William Pember Reeves, Jessie Mackay and Blanche Baughan.

Some of these people I had never heard of but quite a lot were familiar names. While the book must have required considerable research, it has taken these talented, entertaining and courageous characters out of the exclusive possession of the scholars by recreating them as ordinary

people excited by their experiences and surprised to find themselves making history. I found it a very interesting book to read and would certainly recommend it as a source of "social history" of New Zealand during the 19th and early 20th Centuries - Barbara Wells)

NZSG First Families Collection Special Meeting

Joyce Mattson who is responsible for this NZSG Collection will be in Nelson in early April. We have arranged for her to speak to members of the Nelson Branch on **Tuesday 2 April at 2pm at St. Marys Parish Centre Manuka Street Nelson**. Joyce has a power point presentation which takes around 45 minutes.

First Families is a collection of information about families where the family immigrated to New Zealand before and including 1901 and where partners were married in New Zealand before and including 1901.

It is an index, which has been compiled from family record sheets that have been contributed by both members of the NZSG and non-members. Each family record sheet includes the names of three generations and their spouses (where these are known). The record is based on the first couple of any family unit living in New Zealand before and including 1901 and it can include their children. It can also include their parents who may not have come to New Zealand, thus bridging the gap between New Zealand and the country of origin. Information from the NZSG Record Collections is available to NZSG members only.

This should be very interesting and at least one of our members has recently made contact with a relative through this source and been given a lot of information she didn't have before.

2013 AGM

The 2013 AGM will be held on 27th May. Please give consideration to standing for the Committee as we need more people willing to help keep the Nelson Branch running. Pete Gillin our current Convener has served three years and has indicated he is standing down this year. As he has also been acting as Secretary this last year we will need at least two more people on the Committee.

From the Editor

Hi everyone

Hope you find something of interest in this newsletter. Thank you to all those who sent in contributions. Please keep them coming. I've been asked for ideas on family history filing systems ie. How to file all that paper you accumulate. Perhaps you could let me have your ideas on this for a future newsletter.

Regards

Barbara