



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

October 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 postal 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: **October 28th Websites03 FamilySearch**
Gordon McIndoe will take us through the LDS FamilySearch website

The 2013/2014 NZSG Nelson Branch committee: Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions:-

Convener	Vacant		nelsonbranch_nzsg@hotmail.com
Acting Secretary	Kathy BARRETT	03 546 8174	kbarrett09@clear.net.nz
Treasurer/Newsletter	Barbara WELLS	03 540 2741	pb-mthope@xtra.co.nz
Committee -Library	Cheryl CARNAHAN	03 544 7684	carnahan@kinect.co.nz
Projects/Research	Cynthia STRATFORD	03 544 6647	cynth.s@live.com
Acting Chairman (Committee)	John BETHWAITE	03 547 6634	j.bethwaite@xtra.co.nz
	Judith FITCHETT	03 548 8819	fitchett@ts.co.nz
	Robyn CLIFF	03 544 1570	cliffie2@xtra.co.nz
	Bob McFADDEN	03 9700029	bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz

From the Editor

Hello everyone,

Well it is almost the end of the year again. Our next meeting on Labour Day 28th October is the third **Websites** meeting for the year. Gordon McIndoe who is a Branch member, a helper at the Attic and also helps out at the LDS Family History Library in Nayland Road Stoke will be guiding us through the new FamilySearch website. This free website which is the largest online genealogical resource has undergone quite dramatic changes in the last couple of years. Maria Robinson, the Librarian in Charge at Nayland Road has also agreed to attend so we will be able to ask her questions as well as Gordon. Personally I'm looking forward to it as lately I've struggled a bit with the new website. Guess I need a bit more patience and probably also need to read all the help sections.

2013-14 Branch Subscriptions

The renewal forms for the 2013-14 Branch subscriptions and also for the Family Tree Magazine Round Robin were sent out in mid September either by e-mail or by post. If you have not paid they are due by the end of October. If you did not receive the renewal form can you please let me know and I can send you another one. You can pay online direct to our Bank account (details on the renewal form), post us a cheque or pay by cash at the next meeting or drop it into the Attic. Subscriptions are due by the end of October.

Regards
Barbara

Program for 2013

October 28th	Websites03 2013 Gordon McIndoe - Family Search website
November 25th	WW100 - Update on Research Projects Branch members (World War I commemorations)
December 8th	Visit to Nelson College Scriptorium and Pot luck lunch with the Nelson Historical Society

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday Afternoons 2 - 4pm

October 27	Denis Bush-King
November 3	Bob McFadden
November 10	Pete Gillin
November 17	Bob McFadden
November 24	Sandra Marris
December 1	Barbara Wells
December 8	Pete Gillin
December 15	TBA
December 22	Judith Fitchett
December 29	Sandra Marris

Monday Afternoons 1am -4pm

Cheryl Carnahan

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Cynthia Stratford's Team

Christmas Function

Date: Sunday 8 Dec

Time: 12 noon -3pm

Place: Nelson College

Meet up with members of the Nelson Historical Society and enjoy a shared Christmas lunch at New Zealand's oldest state secondary school and visit the Scriptorium. Constructed as a memorial to Old Boys who died in World War I, the Scriptorium has been recently transformed into a gem of a museum, featuring not only college history but also a wealth of military history as experienced by former students. Lunch will be held in the school staffroom before groups are guided not only around the Scriptorium but also the school hall, which is lined with historic photographs. Come to the Scriptorium (at the far right of the main school building, overlooking Waimea Road) and you will be directed to the staffroom.

Bring: a plate of finger food to share for lunch. Refreshments provided. Contact John Bethwaite (03 547 6634) for further information.

Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4

Recent Acquisitions

Your Family's History research and write by John MacGibbon. Loan

Bookcase 05 Classification **NZ.AID**

Angelina by Hindmarsh Gerald Bookcase 02. Loan. Book donated by

Cheryl Carnahan. Classification **NZ.FH.MOLETA**

Potatoes to Pavlova by Coghlan John Bookcase 02. Book donated by John Coghlan. Classification

NZ.FH.COGLAN

Funeral Sheets item 18. Reference. Bookcase 04. Compiled by NZSG Nelson branch.

Notes on the Mytton Family.Reference. Bookcase 02.Classification **NZ.FH.MYTTON**

Family Tree magazines April & May 2013. Loan. Bookcase 01.

NZSG CD Electoral Rolls 1881, 1893, 1896, 1911, 1925 Reference. Cabinet 01.

NZSG CD New Zealand World War I Service Personnel & Reserves Index. Reference. Cabinet 01.

NZSG CD Oamaru branch. Headstone Transcriptions Oamaru Cemeteries. Reference. Cabinet 01.

Thank you John for the donation of your family history book and congratulations on a job well done. I urge everyone to read John's book which is available on loan at the Attic.



Wanted Nelson Girls College magazines 1982, 1985, 1986 and 1989. If anyone has friends with a daughter who attended the college about this time could they ask if they have a magazine to spare for the Attic. We have almost a full set except for a few in the early 1900s.

Nelson Provincial Museum Research Facility Update

The work at the Library end of the Museum's Research Facility building in IseI Park was completed by the end of April. The objects stored in Library loft were relocated to other areas of the Research Facility. Beams, props and cross bracing have now been installed in store rooms and work areas at the other end of the building. This earthquake strengthening work necessitated large scale relocation and protection of collection objects. These are now being returned to their original location. This relocation has required finding spare storage space and the tracking of each object as it is moved between storage areas - a mammoth task for staff.

Following the installation of steel strengthening elements, staff required to relocate from the eastern end of the building, and occupying space in the Library and other areas of the building, have begun to reinstate their office and work spaces. Staff are also attending to the backlog of collection work, as well as research and reproduction enquiries, and exhibition development. Opus International are now required to sign off on the structural work and NCC on the Building Consent. The Fire Alarm system and emergency lighting have been updated as part of the consent, and with this update to the fire evacuation system new doors will be installed at the eastern end of the building. We do not have an opening date yet but will notify you in advance of this - watch this space.

During the last 8 months, with limited access to the building and the collection, where possible we have been able to assist researchers. This work has occurred generally via email. Work has also continued at the Museum's off-site store on the last of the work required after the flood event of 21 April 2013.

The building is now a stronger version of its previous self; the engineering is visible to the general public at the eastern end where the external props have been installed against the outside of the building. The conditions under which we care for the region's heritage collection remain unchanged however relocating parts of the collection impacts on the amount of work and storage space available for staff, and the collection, as we move forward. Planning the future for this nationally significant collection is a very important task facing Museum staff, the Trust Board, and our stakeholders, including our two local Government bodies.

Peter Millward, CEO Tasman Bays Heritage Trust

BRICKWALLS (from October 2013 Family Tree Magazine)

Brickwalls come in all shapes and sizes and are no respectors of experience. Mary Evans has written an article in the October Family Tree magazine which I've outlined here as I thought it was well worth while. It mainly relates to the UK .

1. **First things first** - Review all the information you have, check it carefully and then see if there are any resources (online or printed) available now that may not have been earlier.
2. **Seeking a birth** - look for siblings especially those with unusual names. In England registration did not become compulsory until 1875 so try parish registers after 1837 as well as before then.
3. **Seeking a marriage** - if you know the groom's name and approximate date and place of marriage but not the wife's name some websites that have the national indexes will show all the names registered on that page. It may be just two couples which can narrow down the possibilities to be followed up in censuses. Beware of a previous marriage or of wives reverting to maiden names if the couple split up.
4. **Seeking a death** - the husband may have simply abandoned his family so even if the census shows the wife as a widow it may just be to preserve respectability. Look for a later death date. Consider possible emigration. Look for court cases, prisoners and transportation. Also look for wills. Look for deaths registered in nearby big towns and also for burials in surrounding districts.
5. **Problems with Parish registers** - may only include father's names so look for other siblings. Later entries may contain more information about parents. Be aware that sometimes several children were baptized together so may cover several years. Note all the entries for the surname you are researching in a

particular area both in the parish you are interested in and in surrounding parishes. Using censuses from 1841 to try to reconstitute the families.

6. **Find alternative sources** - not all parish registers have survived but the Bishop's Transcripts may well have. You can order the LDS films for BT's and read them at Nayland Road or online through NZSG. Sometimes they have slightly different information than the original parish registers.
7. **Invisible on the census** - ages are notoriously unreliable in censuses so use a fairly wide year of birth range in an online search. Places of birth can also change from census to census. Be aware of diminutives and second names. Look for other family members in another area and search each person in the family individually. Searching on just a surname or even just a first name, if you can narrow down a year and a place of birth can often produce a result. For a small place try just using a place of residence or birth and look for mistranscriptions.
8. With any brickwall **keep an open mind** and **think laterally**. Above all keep trying.

If you would like to read the article in full I have scanned it so e-mail me and I can send you a copy or alternatively the FT magazine will be available at the Attic after it has been around the people on the round robin early next year - Editor.

Top of the South Scottish Interest Group

The next meeting of the Scottish Interest Group will be held at the Attic on **Saturday 9th November** at 2pm. Discussion on research sources in Ireland and how it relates to Scotland. A lot of people of Scottish ancestry discover that some of their ancestors moved to Scotland from Ireland. There was a lot of movement of people between the two countries. Gold coin donation to go to Attic funds. Everyone welcome and if you have a research problem maybe someone will be able to help.

Ancestry Websites

As I'm thinking of taking out a month's subscription to Ancestry last week I did a comparison of the charges for the various Ancestry sites which produced some interesting results. They were for the World Heritage package.

Ancestry.com.au	\$A49.95	\$NZ56.49
Ancestry.co.uk	£19.99	\$NZ37.88
Ancestry Canada	\$Can29.95	\$NZ34.41
Ancestry.com (USA)	\$US34.99	\$NZ41.51

These prices would of course vary depending on the exchange rate but it was interesting to see the differences. I knew that the UK was cheaper than Australia and the USA but it was interesting to see that Canada was the cheapest. Needless to say I'm going with Canada especially as I have some Canadian research to do. Thought it was worth passing on. - Editor

Website Updates

FindMyPast

New Royal Household Staff records

Victoria Passenger Lists 1846-1899

The Belfast Morning News, The Belfast Newsletter, The Cork Examiner, The Dublin Evening Mail, The Freeman's Journal and The Sligo Champion

Society of Genealogists

Irish will abstracts

BritishOrigins

Devon Wills Project 1312-1891

British Newspaper Archive

Berwickshire News and General Advertiser (1952)

Southern Reporter (1926 - 1927)

Alnwick Mercury (1889, 1912)

Burnley Gazette (1876)

Luton News and Bedfordshire Chronicle (1950)

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer. (1868)

Ancestry

Birmingham, England, Marriages and Banns, 1754-1937
Birmingham, England, Baptisms, 1813-1912
Birmingham, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812
Birmingham, England, Burials, 1813-1964
Birmingham, England, Calendar of Prisoners, 1880-1891 and 1906-1913
Harborne, Birmingham, England, Confirmations, 1915-1931
Massachusetts Vital Records
Canada, St. Lawrence Steamboat Company Passenger Lists, 1819-1838
Switzerland, Fribourg, Census, 1839, 1842, 1845, 1850, 1860, 1870

FamilySearch.org

Derbyshire Parish Registers 1538-1910
Wales, Court and Miscellaneous Records, 1542-1911
Germany, Prussia, Pomerania, Labes, Church Records, 1647-1764
Italy, Mantova, Civil Registration (Comune), 1714-1910
Italy, Mantova, Jewish Records, 1770-1899
Italy, Mantova, Censuses (Comune), 1750-1900
Italy, Napoli, Civil Registration (State Archive), 1809-1865, collection.
Mexico, Aguascalientes, Civil Registration, 1859-1961
Switzerland, Fribourg, Census, 1831
Switzerland, Fribourg, Census, 1836
U.S., Indiana, Naturalization Records and Indexes, 1848-1992

TheGenealogists.co.uk

Criminal Registers, Prisoners Pardoned, Criminal Lunatics and criminal charges for England and Wales.
IR1 Apprentices and Masters
Kelly's 1931 Berkshire Directory
Wright & Co.'s Bristol 1895 Directory
Kelly's 1897 Bristol Directory
Kelly's 1925 Bristol Directory
Kelly's 1933 Bristol Directory
Kelly's 1928 Bromley, Bickley, Chislehurst & Orpington Directory
Kelly's 1864 Buckinghamshire Directory
Kelly's 1928 Buckinghamshire Directory
Barrett's 1937 Burnley Directory
Cambridge 1879 Post Office Directory
Kelly's 1923 Channel Islands Directory
Billing's 1857 Devonshire Directory & Gazetteer

DurhamOnline

Sunderland: Flag Lane Chapel Primitive Methodist baptisms 1823-1837
Sunderland Old Meeting House/Cornmarket Chapel baptisms 1802-1837
Monkwearmouth Scotch Church (Presbyterian) baptisms 1778-1837
Newcastle St. Nicholas baptisms 1813-1855, burials 1813-1853

rootsireland.ie

Baptism records of St Joseph's, Belfast 1900 to 1929

Wexford County Archives

Minute Books of Wexford County Council 1899-1997 are digitised and are being uploaded