



**New Zealand Society of
Genealogists
NELSON BRANCH
est. 1973
February 2015 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 e-mail address is nelsonbranch_nzsg@hotmail.com

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

Next Meeting: The February meeting has been cancelled due to Nick Smith's Hall being unavailable.

The 2014/2015 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:

Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions

Acting Convenor	John BETHWAITE	03 547 6634	j.bethwaite@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Robyn MARSHALL	03 744 3170	taylor55@xnet.co.nz
Treasurer/Newsletter	Barbara WELLS	03 540 2741	pb-mthope@xtra.co.nz
Librarian	Cheryl CARNAHAN	03 544 7684	carnahan@kinect.co.nz
Projects/Research	Cynthia STRATFORD	03 544 6647	cynth.s@live.com
	Cathy BARRETT	03 546 8174	kbarrett09@clear.net.nz
	Robyn CLIFF	03 544 1570	cliffie2@xtra.co.nz
	Judith FITCHETT	03 548 8819	fitchett@ts.co.nz
	Bob McFADDEN	03 9700029	bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz

From the Editor

Hi everyone

Welcome to 2015. Unfortunately we have had to cancel the February Branch meeting as Nick Smith's hall is not available that night. The committee did try to reschedule for Sunday late afternoon but our speakers from Golden Bay were not available that day as it is the day they hold their own monthly meeting. We will be hosting them at a later date. The Interim program for the year is included but it is likely to be changed but we will keep you posted.

The lease on the Attic is up for renewal and the Nelson City Council has offered us a continuation for another two years at the same rent. They are not prepared to increase the term as at present they are looking at whether or not they keep the building or sell it! Hopefully they will keep it but if they do sell we may be able to come to some arrangement with new owners.

The Scottish Interest Group meets early next month (see notice further on) and everyone is welcome. Even if you are not researching in Scotland you may like to come along as it is a good place to "pick other peoples brains on research" and have a chat and a cup of tea. It is a small group and we normally have internet access through the branch's T-Stick.

I booked into the webinar on online newspapers run by Thomas McEntee and Michelle Patient a fortnight ago and found it very informative and great value for \$9.50US. Michelle dealt with NZ, Australian and UK newspapers and Thomas with US and Canadian newspapers. I have some notes from the two presentations so if anyone is interested let me know and I could show them to you. As I have access to their presentations for 12 months I will be going back to look at them again as it was a bit difficult to take everything in the first time around. Thomas McEntee appears to run quite a few of these online webinars so will be looking out for others. I understand that Michelle is also running something similar herself through Google but you would need to ask Dennis bush-King about that if you are interested.

Regards

Barbara

Interim Programme for 2015 (this will probably be changed over the next few months)

Date	Speaker and Topic details
February 23	CANCELLED TO BE HELD AT A LATER DATE was to have been Golden Bay Genealogy Branch Holdings Speakers Jill Pomeroy and Sally Gaffney
March 23	Triona Williamson NZSG Education Officer
April 27	The Nelson Provincial Museum WW1 - Their Stories our History display. On-site visit at 5pm
May 25	Dawn Chambers, transcriber archives, Wellington.
June 22	Nelson Provincial Museum photo collection preservation and other resources.
July 26	Judith Fitchett - UK trip
August 24	Family History Month: Where did your family land and first settle in NZ? Interactive evening.
September 28	Yo Tye: The Flour Mill Project
October 26	Ron Crosby, Author, The Musket Wars - exploring the wave of conflicts that engulfed New Zealand
November 23	Christmas Meeting at Fairfield House. The Atkinson Family and the Taranaki Refugees.

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday Afternoons 2 - 4 pm

Feb 8	Robyn Cliff
Feb 15	Kevin Ryan
Feb 22	Sandra Marris
March 1	Barbara Wells
March 8	Denis Bush-King
March 15	Pete Gillin
March 22	Sandra Marris
March 29	Barbara Wells

Mondays 1am - 4pm

Cheryl Carnahan

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Cynthia Stratford's Team

Subscriptions 2014 - 2015 Reminder

There are still a few subscriptions outstanding. Reminders were sent out for these a couple of weeks ago. If you haven't paid please can you do it ASAP otherwise you will be deleted from the membership list and this will be the last newsletter you will receive.

Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4

Recent Acquisitions

Colton Burials 1623 - 1812, Baptisms 1685 - 1812, Marriages 1692 - 1812. CD from Your Family History magazine Yorkshire ref. Cabinet 01.

Slates 1848 Directory of Cumberland. CD from Your Family History magazine Cabinet 01.

Huddersfield and District Family History Society booklet April 2013 loan Bookcase 12.

Huddersfield and District Family History Society booklet Oct 2014 loan Bookcase 12.

Journal of the New Zealand Genealogists' Magazine August 2014 loan Bookcase 01.

Death Notices Obituaries & Inquests From Nelson Evening Mail Jul-Dec 1936. Compiled by volunteers at Nelson Provincial Museum. Ref, Bookcase 04.

The Marriage Records of England and Wales. Book by Foster Michael W. Ref. Bookcase 12

Classification UK.AID.BDM.

The New Zealand Medal to Colonials. Book by Stowers Richard. Ref. Bookcase 07. Classification NZ.MIL.

A History of Dentistry in Nelson by Coote Philip, loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH

Kiwi Heroines Nelson-Glenhope Railway 1955, loan, Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH

Seventy Years of Forestry area Golden Downs, by Ward John & Cooper Dan. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH.

Nelson Harness Racing 1889-1991 by Samuel Richard. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH.

100 Years of Rugby by Reed WA. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH.

Still More Grady's People by Grady Don. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.NLN.LH.

1893 Onward - Golden Bay A&P Shows by Hunt Christine. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.TAS.LH.

Centenary of Spring Grove Drill Hall by Springer M. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.TAS.LH.

My Ancestor Was a Migrant by Camp Anthony J. loan Bookcase 05 Classification AID



St Paul's Anglican Church Murchison by Rouse M & Canton C. loan Bookcase 02, Classification NZ.TAS.CH.MURCH.
Donated by Judy Peacock.

Family Tree Magazine, November 2014. loan Bookcase 01.

London Poverty Map 1889 West London loan Bookcase 12. Classification ENG.LND.MAP

Also someone has taken the book Saint Andrews Homes 1887-1987 by Canon WF Wilkens but didn't leave their name or phone. Please returned it to the Attic.

Scottish Interest Group

The next meeting of the Top of the south branch of the Scottish Interest Group will be held at the Attic on Saturday 14th March at 2pm. The topic for discussion is WW1 ancestors and we would like everyone to contribute and have some details of their ancestors. Plenty of time also for discussion if you have any queries on Scottish research that someone else may be able to help with. We will be able to access the Internet and currently several of us have subscriptions with Ancestry and FindMyPast so may be able to help with those "brickwalls". Everyone welcome. Door charge of a gold coin to go towards Attic funds.

My Heritage

Does any member have a My Heritage subscription? If so can they give Sandra Marris a ring on 546 7888 as she would like some help.

Westport Genealogy Group

The Westport Genealogy Group has offered to open their resources for a day for us if a group would like to visit. The list of their holdings (a little bit out of date) is available at the Attic. They have also offered to some accommodation with their members. The Branch has visited there previously but it is some years ago. If you are interested can you please get in touch with either Cynthia Stratford phone 544 6647 or Barbara Wells 5402741.

The Story behind the Gravestone

The Dunedin Family History Group's 2015 publication is to be titled "The Story behind the Gravestone" and is to be published in December 2015. The criteria is that each article will begin with a photo of a headstone which can be taken in any cemetery in any country and will be about the people or person recorded on the headstone. They don't have to be famous - just ordinary people from any time or any place.

Submissions can be in any form i.e. hardcopy, e-mail attachment or on a CD and in any Windows compatible format. They can be as short or as long as you like though due to space there is a limit of 20,000 words. At approximately 750 words per page it gives you a maximum of 26 pages plus photos and graphics. Any questions contact dfhg@xtra.co.nz or write to DFHG 28 Milburn Street Dunedin. The DFHG webpage at www.dunedinfamilyhistory.co.nz/ is worth a visit and all their newsletters are online. You can also sign up to get their newsletters e-mailed to you.

Over the last few years the DFHG has published a number of books. I have contributed five articles on some of my Scottish and English great-grandparents to three of these books and found it a great way of getting that information down on paper. - Editor

Website Updates (from IHAG newsletter)

FamilySearch

Newfoundland census 1921, 1935 and 1945

FindmyPast

Kindertransport refugee programme records from TNA

British Army Bond of Sacrifice: Officers Died in the Great War 1914-1916

Derbyshire, Derby Railway Servants' Orphanage Registers,

1875-1912 Essex Parish Registers

London, Docklands and East End Marriages, 1558-1859

Mid Norfolk Monumental Inscriptions, 1471-2012

Nottinghamshire baptisms 1538 -1980

Nottinghamshire marriages 1528-1929

Nottinghamshire burials 1539-1905

Warwickshire Parish Registers

Irish Poverty Loan Records, 1821-1874

Clare Electoral Registers 1858-1989

Tasmania birth, marriage and deaths

Ireland Marriages 1619-1898

Ireland 1911 Census Search

Ancestry

Scotland and Northern Ireland, Death Index, 1989-2013

England and Wales, Death Index, 2007-2013 from funeral directors' records and obituary notices.

British Army Register of Soldier's Effects 1901-1929

Linz, Austria, Miscellaneous City Records, 1485-1894

Ghana, Census, 1984

Gelderland Province, Netherlands, Civil Registration, 1811-1950

Iceland Census 1870, 1880 and 1890

U.S., Newspaper Extractions from the Northeast, 1704-1930

U.S., Published Quaker Family Histories, 1845-1920

Registers of Patients at Naval Hospitals, 1812 - 1934

Alabama, Passenger Lists, 1904-1962

Arizona, Naturalization Records, 1912-1972

California, Naturalization Records, 1940-1991 Colorado, Passenger and Crew Manifests, 1959-1960

Idaho, County Birth and Death Records, 1907-1920

Indiana, Passenger and Crew Manifests, 1957-1960

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Welsh Society of Philadelphia Charity to Immigrants, 1798-1883

Washington, County Records, 1856-2009

South Africa, Birth and Baptism Records, 1700s-1900s

South Africa, Voter Indexes, 1719-1996

South Africa, City and Area Directories, 1813-1962

South Africa, Methodist Parish Registers, 1822-1996

New South Wales, Australia, Land Records, 1856-1859

New Zealand, Bankruptcy Notices, 1893-1904

DurhamOnline

Bishopwearmouth Cemetery burials 1910-1914

Durham St. Cuthbert Roman Catholic baptisms 1841-1885 & marriages 1841-1884

The Genealogist

WWI Casualty lists

RootsIreland

County Carlow Roman Catholic Registers

Ireland Genealogy Projects Archives

Cavan Headstones Croghan,

Presbyterian Church Cemetery St Augustine's,

Swanlinbar, Church of Ireland graveyard

Dublin Genealogy Archives - Headstones Deansgrange Cem. St. Patrick's Section, pt

20 Deansgrange Cem. St. Brigids Section, pt 10 Limerick Headstones Cappagh Graveyard (near Askeaton)

Anglican Record Project.

Kiltarnan Church of Ireland

British Newspaper Archive

Aberdeen People's Journal - 1889 - 1890, 1893 Aberdeen Weekly Journal - 1914

Advocate: or, Irish Industrial Journal - 1848 - 1849, 1851 - 1852, 1855 Aldershot Military Gazette - 1860

Allnut's Irish Land Schedule - 1860 Athlone Sentinel - 1835, 1855 Bedfordshire Times and Independent - 1927

Belfast Mercantile Register and Weekly Advertiser - 1843, 1846, 1860-70

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle - 1830-1833, 1835 - 1837, 1839-1847, 1849 - 1850, 1852-7

Biggleswade Chronicle - 1919, 1921 - 1927, 1937 1944 - 1946, 1948, 1950 - 1951, 1953 - 1954

Bristol Times and Mirror 1840 - 1841, 1847 - 1853, 1863 - 1865 Burnley Express - 1942, 1954 Bury and Norwich Post -

1852 Cavan Observer - 1858 - 1859, 1861, 1863 - 1864 Chelsea News and General Advertiser 1865 - 1870

Clonmel Herald - 1832, 1837 Connaught Watchman - 1851 - 1852, 1859 - 1860 County Courts Chronicle - 1850

Coventry Herald - 1913, 1915 Derbyshire Courier - 1921 - 1922

Dorset County Chronicle 1830 - 1842, 1844 - 1851, 1853, 1855 - 1858, 1860 - 1861 Downshire Protestant - 1857

Drogheda Journal, or Meath & Louth Advertiser - 1823 - 1827 Dublin Evening Mail - 1843 - 1844

Dublin Evening Packet and Correspondent - 1836, 1844 - 1845, 1851 - 1855, 1858, 1860, 1862 Dublin Medical Press -

1860, 1862 - 1863 Dublin Mercantile Advertiser, and Weekly Price Current - 1823 - 1837, 1842, 1845 - 1846, 1851 -

1854, 1857 - 1860, 1865 Dublin Morning Register - 1835, 1837 - 1838 Dublin Observer 1832

Dublin Weekly Herald 1838-1942 Dublin Weekly Register - 1833, 1835 - 1838, 1841, 1847 - 1850

Enniskillen Chronicle and Erne Packet - 1827, 1839, 1849 - 1859, 1861 - 1870

Farmer's Gazette and Journal of Practical Horticulture - 1850 - 1855, 1861 - 1865

Folkestone, Hythe, Sandgate & Cheriton Herald - 1892, 1899-1900, 1902, 1929, 1932, 1934

Galway Mercury, and Connaught Weekly Advertiser - 1844 - 1849, 1852 - 1855, 1857 - 1860 Galway Patriot - 1836 -

1839 Gloucester Journal - 1808 Grantham Journal 1942 - 1943, 1946 - 1949, 1951

Hampshire Chronicle 1851 - 1853, 1861, 1864 Hastings and St Leonards Observer - 1905 - 1906

Hibernian Journal; or, Chronicle of Liberty - 1795 Inverness Courier - 1818 - 1823, 1827 - 1834, 1836 -

1843, 1864, 1866 Irish Racing Book and Sheet Calendar - 1827 - 1833, 1835 - 1837, 1840 - 1841

Journal of the Chemico-Agricultural Society of Ulster and Record of Agriculture and Industry - 1849, 1852 -

1854, 1856 - 1865, 1867

Kerry Examiner and Munster General Observer - 1840 - 1848, 1854 Leicester Chronicle - 1910

Limerick and Clare Examiner - 1846 - 1847, 1849 - 1855 Limerick Reporter - 1841 - 1849 Lincolnshire Echo - 1899 -

1900, 1910, 1912 - 1913, 1915, 1918, 1920 - 1921, 1923, 1925 - 1926, 1944 - 1945 Middlesex Chronicle - 1915, 1917

Motherwell Times - 1889 Newcastle Chronicle - 1771, 1774 - 1775, 1779 - 1780, 1831, 1855, 1865
 Newry Examiner and Louth Advertiser - 1836 - 1838, 1840, 1842 Norfolk Chronicle - 1830 Northampton Mercury -
 1905 Oban Times, and Argyllshire Advertiser - 1868 - 1870
 Oxford Chronicle and Reading Gazette 1845, 1848 - 1852, 1859
 Oxford University and City Herald 1819, 1821 - 1822, 1828, 1846, 1849 - 1852, 1856, 1859, 1862 Rochdale Observer -
 1917 - 1918 Roscommon Journal, and Western Impartial Reporter - 1829 - 1843, 1845 - 1847, 1849 1864
 Salisbury and Winchester Journal 1769, 1780 - 1782, 1784, 1865 Sheffield Independent - 1906, 1908 - 1909
 Shetland Times - 1874 - 1877, 1879 - 1884, 1886 - 1907 Sligo Champion - 1840 - 1845, 1853, 1856, 1858-1859, 1865
 Sporting Life 1859, 1865 - 1870 Staffordshire Advertiser 1842, 1844, 1846, 1850 - 1855, 1857 - 1858, 1860 - 1870
 Statesman and Dublin Christian Record - 1844 - 1846 Taunton Courier, and Western Advertiser - 1814, 1817, 1825 -
 1827, 1831 - 1832 Tipperary Free Press - 1826 - 1832, 1836, 1846, 1851, 1858, 1860 - 1864 Tralee Chronicle -
 1851, 1853 - 1855, 1861 - 1862, 1864 - 1866, 1870
 Ulster General Advertiser, Herald of Business and General Information - 1849, 1859, 1861
 Walsall Observer, and South Staffordshire Chronicle - 1914 - 1918 Waterford Chronicle - 1827, 1829 - 1835, 1837 -
 1838, 1840 - 1843, 1848, 1851 - 1863, 1868 - 1870 Waterford Mail - 1827, 1842, 1853, 1857 Wells Journal -
 1905, 1907 - 1910, 1913 - 1917, 1919 - 1920, 1922 - 1926, 1928 - 1930, 1932 - 1948, 1950 Westmeath Journal - 1823
 Wexford Conservative - 1843 Wexford Independent - 1830, 1837, 1857, 1860 Wiltshire Independent - 1855
 Windsor and Eton Express - 1812, 1832, 1835, 1837, 1844 - 1846, 1849, 1852 - 1853, 1855 - 1858, 1860 - 1862
 Worcester Herald - 1842 - 1845 Worcestershire Chronicle - 1842 - 1843 Wrexham Advertiser - 1862, 1865

DNA Testing for Family History© [Gail Riddell](#) 2014



As these next two articles are quite long I've put the links to them instead of including them in full. If you are unable to access them I can e-mail them to you separately. There are still two more articles to come in the next two months. The Famnet newsletters are very interesting and you can sign up to receive them without registering as part of Famnet.

Part 9 Understanding Your Direct Maternal Mitochondrial Results

http://www.famnet.org.nz/newsletters/FamNet/December_2014/Newsletter.htm

Part 10 Understanding your autosomal results

http://www.famnet.org.nz/newsletters/FamNet/January_2015/Newsletter.htm

MASTERCLASS: finding birth certificates (from Lost Cousins newsletter)

It's very frustrating when you can't find an ancestor's birth certificate - but often the 'brick wall' only exists in our imagination. Let's look at some of the key reasons why a certificate can't be found....

- **The forename you know your ancestor by may not be the one on the birth certificate:** sometimes the name(s) given at the time of baptism would differ from the name(s) given to the registrar of births; sometimes a middle name was preferred, perhaps to avoid confusion with another family member, often the father. Although it was possible to amend a birth registry entry to reflect a change of name at baptism, most people seem not to have bothered.
- **Middle names come and go:** at the beginning of the 19th century it was rare to have a middle name, but by the beginning of the 20th century it was unusual not to have one. Some people invented middle names, some people dropped middle names they didn't like, and sometimes people simply forgot what was on the birth certificate.
- **The surname on the certificate may not be the one you expect:** if the parents weren't married at the time of the birth then usually (but not always) the birth will be recorded under the mother's maiden name (the exception is where the mother was using the father's surname and failed to disclose to the registrar that they weren't married). *Also bear in mind the possibility that the surname you know your ancestor by was his stepfather's name - this could apply whether or not the child was born outside marriage.*
- **You're looking for the wrong father:** often the best clue you have to the identity of your ancestor's father is the information on his or her marriage certificate. Unfortunately marriage certificates are often incorrect - the father's name and/or occupation may well be wrong. This is particularly likely if your ancestor never knew his or her father, whether as a result of early death or illegitimacy. Not many people admit to being illegitimate on their wedding day - and in Victorian Britain illegitimacy was frowned upon, so single mothers often made up stories to tell their children (as well as the neighbours). *Whether or not the birth was legitimate young children often took the name of the man their mother later married, so always bear in mind the possibility that the father whose name is shown on the marriage certificate is actually a step-father.*
- **You may be looking in the wrong place:** a child's birthplace is likely to be shown correctly when he or she is living at home (few mothers are going to forget where they were when they gave birth!), but could well be incorrect after leaving home. Many people simply didn't know where they were born, and assumed it was the place they remembered growing up. *The most accurate birthplace is the one given by the father or (especially) the mother of the person whose birth you're trying to track down; the least accurate is likely to be the one in the first census after they leave home.*

- **You may be looking in the wrong period:** ages on censuses are often wrong, as are the ages shown on marriage certificates - especially if there is an age gap between the parties, or one or both is below the age of consent (21). Sometimes people didn't know how old they were, or knew which year they were born, but bungled the subtraction; ages on death certificates can be little more than guesses, or may be based on an incorrect age shown on the deceased's marriage certificate. Remember too that births could be registered up to 42 days afterwards without penalty, so many will be recorded in the following quarter - and they could be registered up to 365 days afterwards on payment of a fine. *Often where the marriage certificate shows 'of full age' it's often an indication that in reality they were under 21!*
- **The birth was not registered at all:** this is the least likely situation, but it did happen occasionally - most often in the first few years of registration, though it wasn't until 1875 that there was a penalty for failing to register a birth.
- **The GRO indexes are wrong:** this is also quite rare, but did happen occasionally despite the checks that were carried out.

How can you overcome these problems? First and foremost keep an open mind - be prepared to accept that any or all of the information you already have may be wrong. This is particularly likely if you have been unable to find your relative at home with their parents on any of the censuses.

Obtain all the information that you can from censuses, certificates, baptism entries and other sources (such as Army records). Sometimes it will be worth buying certificates for all of the children - one member told me recently that she only found her ancestor's real surname on one of the birth certificates for his eight children - but start with their baptisms, as this is a much cheaper option (though, of course, the information won't necessarily be the same). The less information you can find, the more likely it is that the little you already have is incorrect or misleading in some way. For example, if you can't find your ancestor on ANY censuses prior to his marriage, you can be pretty certain that the information on the marriage certificate and later censuses is wrong in some material way.

Don't assume that just because something appears in an official document, it must be right. Censuses and BMD records often include errors.

Consider how and why the information you have might be wrong by working your way through the list above - then come up with a strategy to deal with each possibility. Sometimes it's as easy as ordering the birth certificate for a sibling to find out the mother's maiden name; often discovering when the parents married is a vital clue.

If you can't find your ancestor on the census with his or her parents then you should be particularly suspicious of the information you have - it's very likely that some element is wrong, and it is quite conceivable that it is ALL wrong. Middle names that could also be surnames often indicate illegitimacy - it was usually the only way to get the father's name on the birth certificate. *Unusual middle names can provide clues.* Make use of local BMD indexes (start at <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk>), and don't forget to look for your ancestor's baptism - sometimes we forget that parents continued to have their children baptised after Civil Registration began. Consider the possibility that one or both of the parents died when your ancestor was young - perhaps there will be evidence in workhouse records. Have you looked for wills? Could the witnesses to your ancestor's marriage be relatives?

GOOD NEWS: law change means BMD certificate breakthrough

The Society of Genealogists has reported that the Government has accepted an amendment to the Deregulation Bill currently going before the House of Lords that allows for the publication of information from Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in England and Wales to be issued otherwise than in the form of a certified copy. You can read the SoG announcement on their website.

This is something that family historians have been seeking for many years: first recommended by a Royal Commission almost a century ago, legislation was put forward in 1983 by Lord Teviot, but failed to be implemented because the Government chose to call a General Election. We must hope that this year's General Election - it takes place on Thursday 7th May - does not once again scupper these plans.