



**New Zealand Society of
Genealogists
NELSON BRANCH
MAY 2016 newsletter**



Early Settlers - Port
Nelson

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. except for **June, July and August** which will be on **Sundays** at 2pm.

Door charge **GOLD COIN DONATION**.

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

Our e-mail address is Nelson@genealogy.org.nz Please note this has changed.

Our Branch Library **Ancestors Attic** is at 67 Trafalgar Street.

Next Meeting: Monday 23 May at 7.30 pm. AGM - followed by talk by Paula Bellamy-Haines from the Nelson Museum on caring for your family textiles

The 2015/2016 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:

Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions

Convenor	Bob McFADDEN		03 9700029	bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz
Secretary	Robyn MARSHALL		03 744 3170	Nelson@genealogy.org.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
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	Robyn CLIFF		03 544 1570	cliffie2@xtra.co.nz
	Judith FITCHETT		03 548 8819	fitchett@ts.co.nz

Hi everyone

The AGM will be held on the 23 May and it would be nice to see a good turnout of members. Owing to personal reasons Robyn Cliff will not be standing again for the committee. Thank you Robyn for your help. If you are interested in standing for the committee nomination forms are available at the Attic or through Judith Fitchett.

The annual reports ie. financial, library, research and Convenors, will be e-mailed out to members before the meeting. Please take time to read these and bring any queries with you to the meeting. Due to Charities Commission requirements this year's financial reports have more detail than previously as we now have to include more information about the Branch and its activities and aims.

Paula's talk on Monday night will be "hands on" so she would like members to bring along some family textiles so they can talk about the care of them.

Regards

Barbara

Programme for 2016

Date	Speaker and Topic details
Monday May 23	AGM followed by Paula Bellamy-Haines - Nelson Museum
Sunday June 26 2pm	Family History Software Interactive afternoon
Sunday July 24 2pm	At Nelson Provincial Museum - Lloyds Voyage
Sunday August 21 1.30pm	Golden Bay Repositories - speakers from Golden Bay
Monday September 26	Irish History - Kevin Ryan
Monday October 24	Publishing Family Stories - Dave McManus from Copy Press
Sunday November 27	Mystery tour

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday 2 - 4 pm

May 15	Kevin Ryan	June 12	TBA
May 22	Sandra Marris	June 19	Bob McFadden
May 29	Barbara Wells	June 26	Closed - meeting
June 5	Bob McFadden	July 3	Barbara Wells

Mondays 1am - 4pm

Cheryl Carnahan

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Cynthia Stratford's Team

Sales Table

Please remember the Sales Table at Branch meetings and bring some spare cash just in case there is something on it that you may wish to purchase.

Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4

Recent Acquisitions

4 Family Tree magazines. Oct, Nov, Christmas 2015 and Jan 2016. Loan Bookcase 01.

For sale

Golden Days of Lake County by **FWG Miller** about the history of Lake County and the Boroughs of Queenstown and Arrowtown. 368 pages, good index, photos of early settlers. A treasure trove if you have ancestors in the area. For sale \$20.00. Good condition. Email Cheryl Carnahan, librarian.



All Guts No Glory

The first printing of 100 copies of the book have been sold and we have printed 20 more. There are still some available. Price \$40 plus \$5 P & P if you want it posted. Contact Cheryl Carnahan on 03 544 7684 or e-mail her at carnahan@kinect.co.nz

Website Updates

FindmyPast

- Boer War Records, 1899-1902
- British War Office records relating to the Easter Rising and Irish War of Independence 1916-1921.
- British Royal Navy & Royal Marines service and pension records
- Irish Quaker records
- Dorset parish transcripts further additions
- Kent, Bromley Absent Voters List 1918
- Suffolk Marriage Index
- Queensland Births 1829-1919 and Marriages 1829-1939

Ancestry UK and Ireland

- British Royal Navy pensions
- Surrey, Sutton records
- Proceedings of the Old Bailey and Ordinary's Accounts Index
- Ireland, Calendar of Wills and Administrations, 1858-1920
- Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths from British Consulates, 1810-1968
- British Army and Navy Birth, Marriage and Death Records, 1730-1960
- Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths at Sea, 1844-1890
- Australia, World War II Military Service Records, 1939-1945

- Tasmania, Australia, Deeds of Land Grants, 1804-1935

TheGenealogist

- Essex Parish Registers
- Worcestershire Parish Registers
- Tithe Maps Surrey and Westmorland

RootsIreland

- Westmeath Records updates Early Irish Birth and Death Indexes

The National Archives of Ireland

- Compensation claim files, with regard to claims in the aftermath of the Easter Rising

www.scottishindexes.com

- Scottish paternity and mental health records

DeceasedOnline

- Rastrick, near Brighouse
- Luddenden, west of Halifax
- Elland Cemetery, south of Halifax.

DurhamRecords Online

- Hartlepool St. Hilda monument inscriptions
- Mere Knolls Western Extension burials 1921-1939
- St. John Lee marriages 1813-1837

FIBIS

- Times of India arrival and departure notices 1900

Why Do You Do Genealogy [from a Legacy newsletter March 2016]

Lorine McGinnis Schulze is a Canadian genealogist who has been involved with genealogy and history for more than thirty years. This is an article she wrote recently.

'A friend asked an interesting question. "Why do you do genealogy?" The answer should be simple. One would think it would be something along the lines of: **"I do genealogy because I want to know who my ancestors were."** But guess what? Like most questions in life, the answer is not that simple. There is a myriad of reasons why we delve into genealogy research. Wanting to find out who our ancestors were is just the tip of the genealogy iceberg.

The reasons I currently "do genealogy" are not the same reasons I had twenty or thirty years ago. When I began my genealogy quest it was because my father had repeatedly expressed curiosity about our Irish origins. He died when I was 14 years old, and after his death I vowed to find out about our Irish McGinnis ancestors. So my answer to that question, had it been asked those many years ago, would have been, **"I do genealogy because I want to remember and honour my father."** It was a specific reason, very narrow in scope, but it sparked a broader interest in history.

In fact, that is not my main reason anymore, and hasn't been for a long time. I've grown. Genealogy has been a journey, and as on any journey, my needs and desires and goals along the way have changed. For example, I'm extremely curious. Some would say nosy. I think most of us who love genealogy would make great detectives. My personality is such that I can't let a mystery lie without digging into it. I need to find answers. So my current answer to the original question of why I do genealogy is now much more complex. **"I do genealogy for many reasons. One is my curiosity about my ancestors - who were they, what were they like, what experiences did they live through. My love of history is part of the reason I do genealogy. My desire to solve mysteries is a huge part of my passion for genealogy. And I do genealogy because I want my children and grandchildren to know and recognize the individuals over the centuries whose lives helped make us who we are today."**

Genealogy isn't a pursuit well suited for those who require instant gratification. It's a long-term process and to those who are not like-minded it seems an incomprehensible pursuit. I've spent more hours scrolling

through microfilm searching for that one entry with an ancestor's name, then I care to remember. Many people would consider those wasted hours. I don't. Some of my family are not the least bit interested in our ancestors. Some are interested to a degree. Tell them stories of the more interesting or outrageous ancestors such as our daredevil Peer ancestor who walked Niagara Falls on a tightrope and they listen. Tell them about great great grandpa, the farmer in England, and their eyes glaze over. I once had a friend say to me "But why do you care? They're all dead!" I care because they made me who I am. Without them I would not be here. They are part of me, part of my genetic makeup. They also deserve to be remembered, and to continue to be part of our lives. Our children and grandchildren need to hear about those ancestors. They need to speak of them to their children, and to carry on the stories they hear from me. Some of my relatives are not interested in my treasured photos of our ancestors. To me those are the icing on the cake! Photos make my ancestor come alive. One of my relatives told me she wasn't interested in seeing a photo of our 2nd greatgrandfather. Why wasn't she interested? Because, she said "Why do I care what he looked like? I never knew him." That absolute lack of curiosity is incomprehensible to me, just as my desire to know more is incomprehensible to her. A photo allows us to know our ancestors. With a photo in my hand I can study a face then ponder over whether or not greatgrandma's nose is just like my granddaughter's. I can visualize the ancestors in those photos living their daily lives, just as we do today. With a photo I feel a connection I can't quite feel with only a name and a date. I've been asked when my research will be done.

Many family members want to know why I am still looking when I know the names of ancestors back several generations. Non-genealogists rarely understand that genealogists want to find as many details and as much information about each ancestor as they possibly can.

Even though my answer to the original question is complex and multi-faceted, I can sum my reasons up in one sentence: Without the past there is no present, nor can we build a future. How would you answer my friend's question, "Why do you do genealogy?"

Google Translate

Recently one of our members sent me an 1872 marriage entry from an Irish Catholic parish which had all its' column headings written in Latin and asked if I could help decipher it. I found that the above website made translation a 'piece of cake'. You typed in the words on one side and the English translation immediately came up on the other. <https://translate.google.co.nz/>
Google's free service instantly translates words, phrases, and web pages between English and over 100 other languages.

Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHRs)

<http://www.atojs.natlib.govt.nz>

I have recently been using this website to trace the employment records of someone who was a teacher mainly in the Nelson area between 1889 and 1927. It gives yearly lists of schools and the teachers that were teaching there, their classification and annual salary. The website is similar to Papers Past and very easy to search. I was only looking at the Education area as you can narrow your search down to that Department and then by date and name or phrase but I'm sure that there is information and lists of employees from many other Government Departments.

AtoJs Online contains a collection of digitised volumes of the Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives and the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives. The collection currently covers the years 1854 to 1950.

There are two main ways to find information in AtoJs Online: searching and browsing. Searching lets you enter a query term and retrieves reports that contain that term. Browsing lets you look at all the reports, starting with a session, a volume or a section. All the reports on the site can be searched and browsed.

Getting started

The Getting started page gives an overview of how to use AtoJs Online.

[Go to the Getting started page](#)

About the Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives

The Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHR), sometimes known as "the A to Js", are a collection of government-related reports published every year from 1858. The reports cover many subjects, documenting the work of government departments and a wide range of other activities carried out by, or of interest to, the government of the day.

AtoJs Online also includes the three volumes of the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives (1854-1856), which preceded the AJHRs.

A Bit of Light Relief

