



**New Zealand Society of  
Genealogists  
NELSON BRANCH  
JUNE 2017  
NEWSLETTER**



Early Settlers - Port  
Nelson

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE GENERAL ELECTION MEETINGS FROM MAY TO OCTOBER WILL BE HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM NEXT TO THE ATTIC AT 67 TRAFALGAR STREET except for July which is a visit to the Mapua Maritime Museum.**

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](mailto:Nelson@genealogy.org.nz)

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

The 2017/2018 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:

Convenor	Bob McFADDEN		03 9700029	<a href="mailto:bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz">bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz</a>
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	Judith FITCHETT		03 548 8819	<a href="mailto:fitchett@ts.co.nz">fitchett@ts.co.nz</a>

Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions

**Congratulations to two of our members - Karen Stade and Julian Shields who have been awarded Queen's Service Medals in the June Birthday Honours.**

Karen for services to historical research and to the community which involved voluntary work with the Whakatū Rotary Club's End Polio Now campaign.

Julian for his dedication to social justice. He set up the Nelson Branch of Habitat for Humanity in 1995 and chaired the Branch from inception to when he stepped down in 2016.

### **Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster**

**Sunday 2 - 4 pm**

June 18 Judith Fitchett

June 25 Sandra Marris

July 2 Barbara Wells

July 9 Pete Gillin

July 16 Bob McFadden

July 23 Sandra Marris

July 30

August 6

August 13

August 20

August 27

September 3

Barbara Wells

Judith Fitchett

Kevin Ryan

Dennis Bush-King

Sandra Marris

Barbara Wells

**Mondays 1pm - 4pm**

Cheryl Carnahan

**Thursday 10am - 4pm**

Cynthia Stratford's Team

### **Programme for 2017**

**Date**

25 June (Sun 2pm)

23 July (Sun 2pm)

27 August (Sun 2pm)

25 Sept (Mon 7.30pm)

30 Oct (Mon 7.30pm)

26/27 Nov

**Speaker and Topic details**

Mike Carnahan - Battle of Messines 7 June 1917 - a lot of Nelson men were killed

Visit to Mapua Maritime Museum - meet at the Mapua Wharf at 2pm

Celia Hawea - Tracing your Whakapapa

TBA

Sandra Marris - Surviving Salt Lake City

Christmas meeting TBA

Please note change to July meeting - our scheduled speaker is now unavailable as she will be overseas

## Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4



## New Acquisitions

Victory School 1949-1999, ref. Bookcase 11, reference, classification NZ.TAS.SCH.VICTORY

The College Girl Guide Company, 1927-1951, Bookcase 02, reference, classification NZ.NLN.SOC

Illustrated Guidebook and Dorset Records from Your Family History Magazine, CD 111a, loan cabinet 01.

The New Zealand Genealogist, April 2017, loan Bookcase 01.

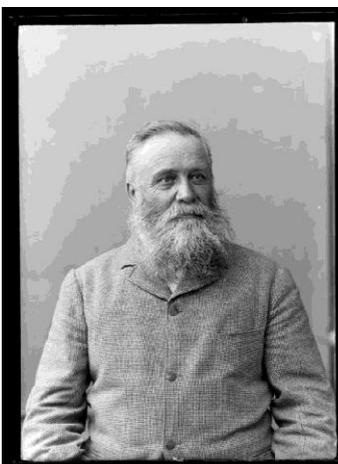
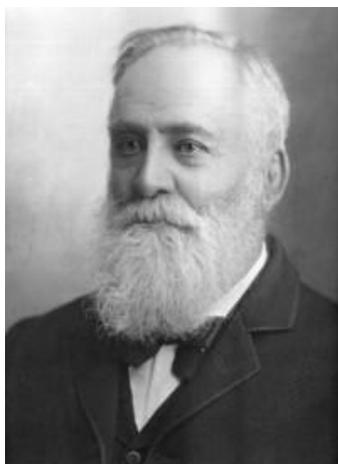
Gen Com News, about computers and genealogy, Dec 2015 - Sept 2016, loan, Bookcase 06.

## 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.

## Can You Help

1. Cheryl has some letters written by WW1 soldiers to Miss Dorothy Moore of Nelson that she would like to return to any descendants. The letters are from Ashley Charles Moore killed in action 1917 age 21, Leslie Ashton Brown buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, and Arthur Neil Selwyn Moore next of kin Mrs E.B.Moore of Greymouth.
2. Plus she has for sale one black ink cartridge for a Canon printer, \$20.00 to Nelson Branch NZSG. Contact Cheryl at [carnahan@kinect.co.nz](mailto:carnahan@kinect.co.nz)
3. J M CROUCHER - Mayor of Richmond - Are these the same man?



Mr Croucher (NPM)

J M Croucher - Tasman Kete  
Or William Croucher ?

Mr Croucher - NPM

Mr. J Croucher (NPM)

On Tasman Kete there are 2 photos, same man, different names. The name is Croucher and is in the Richmond Mayors section. There is a photo of William Croucher Mayor Richmond 1901-1906 and the same photo called J M Croucher Mayor Richmond Borough 1903-1906.

Cheryl is interested to know which one he is. J M Croucher had 10 children and was a member of the Richmond Town Board. According to the newspapers on Papers Past J. M. (John Martin) Croucher was elected on about the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1903, (with his first sitting as Mayor in May) taking over from G. Talbot who was Mayor up until that date. Alfred Sheat took over from J. M. Croucher in April 1907. So it would appear that the photo for J. M. Croucher is the most accurate of the two records.

[http://ketetasman.peoplesnetworknz.info/tasman\\_district\\_council\\_archives/images/show/854-j-m-croucher](http://ketetasman.peoplesnetworknz.info/tasman_district_council_archives/images/show/854-j-m-croucher)

Louise Gribbon of Richmond Library couldn't find mention of a William Croucher (in the quick search she did), so wonders if there was a mix up with William Coleman's name and Croucher's.

She's had a look on the Nelson Provincial Museum website to try and work out which mayor it is on the Kete. The Museum has a number of photos of men called 'Mr Croucher' including an earlier photo of the Mr Croucher who appears on the Kete. Unfortunately he is just called 'Mr Croucher' and there is no date, so it doesn't help us very much <https://collection.nelsonmuseum.co.nz/objects/63622>  
However there is another photo of a younger Mr J. Croucher that appears to have been taken twenty years or so earlier in 1881. Is it could be a younger version of the same man?  
Mr. J. Croucher <https://collection.nelsonmuseum.co.nz/objects/8847>  
If you can help please contact Cheryl at [carnahan@kinect.co.nz](mailto:carnahan@kinect.co.nz) as she has been preparing a cemetery tour of the Richmond Cemetery and would like to know.

### 3 top free map websites for genealogy (Family Tree Magazine May 2017)

Maps can provide all sorts of clues to help family historians trace their ancestors' journeys through life. Discover 3 of our favourite free map websites for genealogy.

As you research deeper and deeper into your **family history**, you won't believe how many places our ancestors came from and went to. Just for a start, there's their **birth places**, but also the places they **lived, schooled, married, worked and died**, or those that they emigrated to. Retracing your ancestors' footprints back in time using maps is a wonderful way of learning more about their lives and times. They can provide all sorts of clues to help you trace your ancestors' journeys through life.

Try finding an old map of the **area your family came from**, then compare with a modern map of the area - nowadays [Google Earth](#) and [Google Maps](#) are really useful for this. You'll see how villages, towns and cities have developed, spot changes in boundaries, and perhaps in place names too.

Here are our **3 free top map websites** to help you on your genealogy journey:

#### 1 [A Vision of Britain Through Time](#)

Historic maps for the British Isles from 1805 onwards

#### 2 [National Library of Scotland maps](#)

160,000 maps of Scotland, England, Wales & more to explore

#### 3 [Old Maps Online](#)

Explore more than 400,000 maps from this global-orientated site.

### Changes to birth, death, marriage and civil union fees

On 21 April The Department of Internal Affairs confirmed changes to fees for birth, death, marriage and civil union (BDMCU) products and services. This follows public consultation in late 2016. After consideration of feedback received, Cabinet has approved new fees for BDMCU products and services which will come into effect on 22 May 2017. Current prices were last set in 2003. However, the actual cost to provide these products and services has increased over the last 13 years.

Changes to certificate fees are:

A standard Birth, Marriage or Death certificate will increase from \$26.50 to \$33.00.

Printouts for years 1848-1874 will reduce from \$26.50 to \$25.00.

Post 1874 will increase from \$20.40 to \$25.00.

For a list of further charges see the DIA website.

### Computer Tips & Tricks (from Canterbury Branch newsletter)

There are tools for capturing images on web or documents / Snipping / Image Capture (for capturing text you can use *Copy & Paste*)

- Right click on image > *Save As* > choose where to save to on your computer and what '*file type*'
- *Snipping Tool* - available on *Windows 7* - great to use > choose where to save to on your computer and what '*file type*'
- *Snagit* - (downloadable from web) used for screen capture > choose where to save to on your computer and what '*file type*'
- *PrtScreen* / *Alt + PrtScreen* (keys on your keyboard)
- • screen capture using "*Print Screer*" - takes a picture of the whole screen of your PC
- • & "*Alt Print Screer*" (to copy an image of only the '*active*' window),
- • & pasting results into *Word*, or *Paint*, or other program.
- (*Windows* operating system displays many windows on your screen. The *active* window is the one you are currently working in. Similar to a chest of drawers - there are many drawers, but your hands are only *actively* searching in one drawer at a time.)

- Picture / Image Editing - you may only want to use part of picture (crop or cut) off part of the picture, touch up or alter appearance
- Picture format - jpg, tif, bmp, png (= 'file type')
- Programs to edit or change images - Paint, Picture Manager, Irfanview, Picassa, Photo Elements, PhotoShop
- Editing & Cropping images using *Picture Toolbar (including in Word)*
- When using pictures in documents and *PowerPoint*, best to use
- *Insert Picture* in preference to *Copy & Paste*. *This handles the images better and results in smaller documents.* - Fiona Brooker
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## National Awards to the Nelson Provincial Museum and the Suter Art Gallery

The **Nelson Provincial Museum** was a winner in the Social History category at the ServiceIQ Museum Awards. The Museum's win was announced at a gala event in Palmerston North at the Museums Aotearoa Conference, attended by directors and staff from museums and galleries from around New Zealand.

Nelson Provincial Museum faced stiff competition - and much larger organisations - in its winning category. The three other finalists were Auckland Museum, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, and the Air Force Museum of New Zealand. Nevertheless, Nelson Provincial Museum took out the award for 'Exhibition Excellence - Social History' for its popular and innovative exhibition *Murder at Maungatapu - Crime and Retribution*.

The line up of judges for this category was comprised of eminent people in their field and included Eloise Wallace (Director, Tairāwhiti Museum); Claire Regnault (Senior Curator NZ Heritage, Te Papa); Philip Howe (Director, South Canterbury Museum) and renowned national historian and author Jock Phillips.

The judges said:

"Driven by staff enthusiasm and a broad range of talents within the team, the approach to bringing a specific story to life was compelling and innovative. This exhibition focused on a very specific event utilising images, re-contextualising objects and information resources held by the Museum. Reaching a younger audience with a range of access points including local history, local artists, theatrical display, digital media and a fascination with murder and CSI type investigation. A relatively low budget exhibition that created an informative and engaging space, with a great use of digital technology enabling today's visitors to gain a vivid impression of the crime and the contemporary sensationalism that it created."

Although *Murder at Maungatapu* has finished its run, visitors can still experience it online with a virtual tour created by local digital innovators Relive360. [Click here to see the virtual tour.](#)

Nelson Provincial Museum was also honoured to be a finalist in two other categories. First, Most Innovative Use of Te Reo Māori for our tri-lingual exhibition celebrating Chinese New Year and New Zealand's first Chinese immigrant Appo Hocton, *Good Luck for the Year of the Rooster Nga mihi nui mo tenei tau o the Tamaheihei*. Second, for Exhibition Excellence in *Taonga Māori for Mai I Hawaiki - Te Ahi Ka Roa*. This beautiful exhibition tells the story of Ngāti Rārua and Te Ātiawa and the great migrations these iwi made, travelling with related and allied tribes down the west coast of Te Ika a Māui (The Fish of Māui - the North Island) and to Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka a Māui (The Prow of the Waka of Maui - the top of the South). Congratulations are also due to our colleagues at the **Suter Art Gallery Te Aratoi o Whakatū**, who won **Museum Project Excellence Award** for their outstanding building redevelopment. The Nelson Tasman region certainly punches above its weight in talent and creativity.

Ngā mihi

Lucinda Blackley-Jimson

Chief Executive

## **Website Updates** (from IGHS June newsletter)

### **FamilySearch**

- Essex, Bishop's Transcripts, 1779-1892
- Northumberland, Non-conformist Records, 1708-1982
- Northumberland, Parish Registers, 1538-1950

### **FindMyPast**

- Devon, Parish Registers Browse
- Essex Baptism Index 1538-1917
- Nottinghamshire Parish Register transcripts
- Surrey institutional records 1788-1939
  
- City Of York Apprentices and Freemen 1272-1930
- City Of York Calendars of Prisoners 1739-1851
- City Of York Hearth & Window Tax 1665-1778
- City Of York Militia & Muster Rolls 1509-1829
- City of York Deeds Registers 1718-1866
- Vermont, Enrolled Militia Records 1861-1867

### **Ancestry UK and Ireland**

- Wiltshire Parish Registers
- Ireland, School Masters and Mistresses, 1826
- Ireland, Poor Law Union Removals From England, 1859-1860

New York City, Marriage Indexes, 1907-1995

### **Ireland Genealogy Projects Archives**

- Fermanagh Marriages: Church Hill Wesleyan Methodist 1879-1934
- Monaghan Clones, Baptisms 1722-25 and marriages 1723-4, 1733, 1758-67, 1792-1805, 1808-12

### **RootsIreland**

- Non Catholic Marriages 1845-1955 parishes of Ardrahan, Athenry, Eyrecourt, Gort, Kilcolgan, Killinane, Kilconickney, Kinvara, Loughrea, Portumna, Tynagh and Woodford.
- East Galway records

### **TheGenealogist**

- BT271920 and 1929

### **MyHeritage**

Have announced a new and improved version of its DNA service. The new upgrade is called the Ethnicity Estimate. It provides MyHeritage DNA customers with a percentage-based estimate of their ethnic origins covering 42 ethnic regions. MyHeritage is also offering a free matching service for anyone who has had a DNA analysis from a different DNA company.

## NON-CONFORMIST RECORDS (from FFHS newsletter)

If you can't find an English or Welsh ancestor in the parish records, then it's worth considering if they were non-conformists. Until 1534, the Catholic Church was the established church in England and Wales. Then, in response to his ex-communication from the Catholic Church after divorcing Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII appointed himself 'Supreme Head of the Church of England', riding on a wave of Protestantism sweeping Europe after the protests of Martin Luther (pictured) against Catholic practices earlier in the century.

From the time the Church of England became the established church, non-conformists became those Christians who did not follow the Church of England. Christian non-conformists include groups such as Catholics, Quakers, Baptists, Methodists, Huguenots and Mormons. Jews are sometimes considered non-conformists from a family-history perspective, as they do not appear in parish records (though unlike the other groups mentioned above, they are not Christian). The Jewish population was expelled from Britain in 1290 and the population remained close to zero until they began to return in the 1650s.

By the 18th century the population had risen to some 30,000.

In the past, non-conformists were known as 'dissenters' and 'puritans'. Catholics were called 'papists or recusants'. Non-conformists made up a relatively small part of the population, due to the ongoing persecution they faced and Catholic services were illegal until the Catholic Relief Act of 1778. However in some parts of England and Wales non-conformism was much more prevalent, with Catholicism hanging on in the North of England and the Methodists and Baptists making huge in-roads into Wales. In the [1851 Ecclesiastic Census](#), over 80% of Welsh people were non-conformist. In Scotland, Presbyterianism became so prevalent that it became the official Church of Scotland in 1690. Non-conformists there include the Episcopalians, Methodists, Quakers and Congregationalists.

The 17th century saw the number of non-conformist groups begin to grow further. Fortunes changed when Charles II was restored to the throne after the demise of Cromwell and passed the Act of Uniformism in 1662. This made all priests adhere to the doctrine of the Church of England and forced dissenting priests into the shadows. However, in 1689 The Toleration Act gave non-conformists more freedom. They could meet more openly in meeting houses and chapels, and it is from that time that they began to set up their own burial grounds. They required a licence to register their meeting locations and these can be useful records to consult today.

What impact does non-conformism have on finding records? It may be that a non-conformist family would have used the parish church, in spite of their beliefs. This was because baptism or marriage in their own chapel or meeting house was often not recognised by the State, so they had to undertake these ceremonies in the local church in order to have an official record and avoid breaking the law. So you may find them in the parish registers, particularly after Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1773 when only Quakers and Jews were allowed to marry in their own ceremonies. Prior that 'clandestine' or 'irregular' marriages were tolerated by the State. In the case of burials, non-conformist sects often did not have a burial ground of their own and so would bury their dead in the parish churchyard - if they were allowed to do so. When looking for baptisms, bear in mind that if your ancestors were Baptists, they did not believe in infant baptism and would only baptise adults. Quakers did not believe in baptism at all.

While some non-conformists ended up in the parish registers, many did not, so we need to look elsewhere to try and find them. Tracking down records can be difficult - if not impossible. Sects and chapels

came and went, and some non-conformist sects kept records, but many did not. The Quakers kept particularly good records, often giving information on other family members. Methodists kept baptism registers from 1779. Other groups did not always feel the need to record events or, particularly in the case of the persecuted Catholics, might be frightened that the records would be discovered. Therefore Catholic records from 1559 to 1778 are incomplete. Alternative sources may refer to Catholic ancestors, though, such as criminal and tax records, as they were fined for practicing Catholicism and also taxed more heavily. From 1742, non-conformists were allowed to register baptisms in the General Register of Births of Children of Protestant Dissenters at Dr William's Library in London. It has records of about 50,000 births. From 1837, when civil registration began, non-conformist and Jewish ancestors can be traced using birth, death and marriage certificates, just like anyone else. They may also have been recorded on the 1841-1911 census returns, which are indexed at [FamilySearch](#).

Where can you find records? The National Archives has a [guide to to non-conformists](#), which gives a good introduction to what is available at TNA, plus a further reading list. Their records include registers, recusant rolls, oath or affirmation rolls, and establishment of institution deeds. The [FamilySearch wiki](#) also has a guide to non-conformist records which is an excellent starting point.

Tracking down other records can be difficult as they are scattered and not all non-conformist records have been deposited at archives. One online index that is available is the Official Non-Conformist and Non-Parochial BMDs Service ([BMDRegisters](#)) database, where you can search for records of birth, baptism, marriage, death and burial taken from non-parish sources. It includes some of the records available at The National Archives (TNA), though not all at present. The relevant TNA non-conformist RG4-8 series indexes are also available online at [FamilySearch](#). According to FamilySearch, these indexes include, 'records from the Royal Hospital in Greenwich; the Dr Williams' Library; the Presbyterian, Independent and Baptist registry; the Wesleyan Methodist Metropolitan Registry; the registers of the Society of Friends (Quakers); the Roman Catholic Church; the Fleet Prison; the King's Bench Prison; the Mint; the May Fair Chapel; and the General Register Office for non-parochial registers (births, marriages, and deaths) surrendered in 1857. Many of these sources come from the greater London area, but the records also cover England, depending on the source.'

It's a good idea to look at the catalogues of local record offices who may have archived material from chapels and meeting houses. They also may be able to tell you which chapels were in existence at which time. They often hold archives from quarter sessions, where Justices of the Peace addressed matters ranging from criminal offences to poor relief and your non-conformist may make an appearance there, for example if they were Catholics fined for illegal activities. [Genuki](#) may list chapels and meeting houses for a particular parish. The [local family history society](#) could also advise. Another tack you can take is to contact the relevant historical society for the non-conformist group. There are many in existence and some are given on the [FamilySearch wiki](#).

Findmypast recently announced that it is creating a comprehensive [collection](#) of Roman Catholic sacramental registers for the United States, Britain and Ireland. When complete, this collection will contain over 100 million records spanning 300 years of Catholic history. To date, Findmypast has released records for the British Archdioceses of Westminster and Birmingham from 1657 onwards. This builds on last year's publication of more than 10 million Irish Catholic parish registers. Images of original documents will be completely free to view in many cases. Fully searchable transcripts will be included. So that is one to watch

if you have Catholic ancestry. Findmypast also has a [collection](#) of Irish Quaker records.

The [Catholic Family History Society](#) plans to launch a new index to the 'Names and Details of over 250,000 Catholics and their Friends in England 1680-1840'. The Society will launch this major new database with a paper delivered by Br Rory G Higgins FSC of Australia at a seminar in London in October. Where available there are details of age, of occupation and of location.

The [Genealogist](#) has an agreement with TNA to publish non-conformist records from its collection. They have compiled the records from various unpublished registries, including the birth records from Dr William's Library in London. There are a number of specialist societies that can help you trace ancestors that don't appear in the parish records. If you are tracing Catholic ancestry then do get in touch with the [Catholic Family History Society](#), which is an FFHS member. CFHS has published many [indexes](#) and will launch a new database in 2017 above). The society also runs a [queries and advice service](#). [Membership](#) costs £15 a year (£20 for those overseas) and entitles you to attend any of the meetings organised by the Catholic FHS (though a small entrance fee is usually charged), receive copies of 'Catholic Ancestor', have your research interests listed and generally join in the activities of the Society. Another organisation is the [Catholic Record Society](#), which was founded in 1904 and has a [publications list](#) on its website. The society is holding a [conference](#) in July in Cambridge.

If you have Quaker ancestry then contact the [Quaker Family History Society](#). Its website gives a good overview of records and where to find them. Membership costs £12 to those in the UK and members receive three journals a year and can attend the society's meetings. There is more about researching Quaker ancestry on the [FFHS website](#).

The [Jewish Genealogical society of Great Britain](#) is another FFHS member organisation, which is now based at the Society of Genealogists in Goswell Road, London. It has a wide variety of resources available to help trace Jewish ancestry. [Membership](#) costs from £35 and includes copies of the journal and newsletter, plus free entry to members' meetings and the Members' Corner of the website.