



New Zealand Society of Genealogists NELSON BRANCH MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER



**Early Settlers - Port
Nelson**

Our monthly meetings are back at Smith's Hall, corner Waimea & Quarantine Roads Annesbrook. Meetings are normally held 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**.

NB The Attic will not be open on those Sunday afternoons.

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

Our Branch Library **Ancestors Attic** is at the Trafalgar Street Hall, 67 Trafalgar Street, Nelson.

The 2017/2018 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:

Convenor	Bob McFADDEN		03 9700029	bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz
Secretary	Robyn MARSHALL		-	nelson@genealogy.org.nz
Treasurer	Kevin RYAN		0277106519	kpvr@yahoo.co.nz
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	barkatnz@gmail.com
	Judith FITCHETT		03 548 8819	fitchett@ts.co.nz

Please contact any of the committee if you have any questions & suggestions

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday 2 - 4 pm

May 20	Bob McFadden	July 8	Pete Gillin
May 27	Sandra Marris	July 15	Tom Broad
June 3	CLOSED	July 22	CLOSED (Meeting)
June 10	Pete Gillin	July 29	Barbara Wells
June 17	Dennis Bush-King	August 5	TBA
June 24	CLOSED (Meeting)	August 12	Pete Gillin
July 1	Barbara Wells	August 19	Bob cFadden

Mondays 1pm - 4pm

Cheryl Carnahan

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Cynthia Stratford's Team

Programme for 2018

Speaker and Topic details

28 May (Mon 7.30pm)	AGM followed by Mike Johnston - Researching the Nelson goldfields
24 June (Sun 2pm)	Helen Pannett from the Nelson Provincial Museum - Oral History
22 Jul (Sun 2pm)	Annette Walker History of the Early Ports of Tasman & Golden Bays
26 Aug (Sun 2pm)	Triona Williamson - Grandad
24 Sept (Mon 7.30pm)	Unusual certificates
29 Oct (Mon 7.30pm)	Walking with James Hogg - Bruce Gilkinson
25 Nov (Sun)	Christmas meeting to be advised

AGM

The AGM will be held at the beginning of the May meeting. If any one is interested in standing for the Committee can they please contact Judith Fitchett for a nomination form. Branch reports will be sent out the week before the meeting.

Researching the Nelson Goldfields - May meeting

Dr Mike Johnston is a Nelson geologist, born and educated in the city. After graduating from Victoria University of Wellington, he was in 1967 appointed to the NZ Geological Survey and, from 1970, was District Geologist in Nelson. He is the author or co-author of 13 geological maps that collectively encompass much of the "Top of the South". Mike has written histories of the Nelson Mineral Belt and the Dun Mountain Railway as well as a two volume history of gold mining in Marlborough. Other historical publications include a biography of the colonial geologist Edward Heydelbach Davis and he has co-authored a book on Dr Ferdinand von Hochstetter, the "Father of New Zealand Geology". He is currently writing a history of the goldfields from Golden Bay to the Matakītaki. Mike is a past president of the Nelson Historical Society and the Geological Society of New Zealand, as well as a life member of both organisations. He is married to Alison and they have two sons.

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

Irish Roots Magazines No 92 to 103 loan Bkcase 12

NZ.NLN.SHP Nelson 1841-1910 book Raggett P D Square Rigged

Sailing Ships Visiting Nelson 0-473-09066-X 2002 ref Bkcase 06

Donated by Jean Coulthard

NZ.NLN.PHONE Nelson & Tasman 1952 book Telephone Directory Nelson & District ref Bkcase 01

donated by Gillian Ruthven.

Yorkshire Huddersfield journal Huddersfield & DFHS Huddersfield and District Family History Society Jan-18 loan Bkcase 12

Donated by Cheryl Carnahan



Website Updates (from IGHS May newsletter)

FamilySearch

- Ireland, Petty Sessions Court Registers, 1828-1912
- France, Brittany, Church and Civil Records, 1521-1896
- France, Dordogne, Church and Civil Registration, 1540-1896
- Germany, Bavaria, Diocese of Augsburg, Catholic Church Records, 1615-1930
- Germany, Baden, Archdiocese of Freiburg im Breisgau, Catholic Church Records, 1678-1930
- Germany, Rhineland, Diocese of Trier, Catholic Church Records, 1704-1957
- Italy, Terni, Narni, Civil Registration (Comune), 1861-1921
- Quebec, Quebec Federation of Genealogical Societies, Family Origins, 1621-1865
- USA, Georgia, Houston County, Marriage Records, 1832-2015
- Georgia, Fulton County Records from the Atlanta History Center, 1827-1955
- USA, Oklahoma, School Records, 1895-1936

FindMyPast

- British Army Office widows Pensions forms 1755-1908
- England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1920
- Gloucestershire, Bigland's Monumental Inscriptions
- Northumberland, Early Deeds Relating to Newcastle Upon Tyne, 1100-1600; Parish Registers of Alnham, Ceadnell, Chatton & Ilderton, 1688-1812; Parish Registers of Edlingham, 1658-1812; Parish Registers of Halton, 1654-1812 and Parish Registers of Ingram, 1682-1812.
- Nottinghamshire parish registers from the parishes of Gedling and Warsop, Archdeaconry Court Marriage Licences and Parish Register Transcripts from the Peculiar of Southwell, the history of the county and its highways and byways.
- Rutland Registers of North Luffenham, 1565-1832
- Somerset Will Abstracts

- Somerset Dwelly's Parish Records; Bishop's Transcripts from Wells Diocesan Registry, Parish Registers from Chipstable, Raddington, Kittisford, Pitcombe and Wilton, Wells Cathedral Monumental Inscriptions and Heraldry
- Surrey Feet of Fines 1558-1760
- West Surrey Baptisms
- Prerogative Court of Canterbury Administrations 1660-1700
- Scots-Irish In North America Histories
- Ireland, Alphabetical Indexes To The Townlands and Parishes 1851-1911
- Irish Tontines Annuitants 1766-1789
- Waterford Registers & Records
- American Fenian Brotherhood 1864-1897
- New York Catholic registers
- New Hampshire, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records 1636-1947
- New Jersey, County Naturalization Records 1749-1986
- New Jersey Death Index 1901-1903 Image Browse
- New Jersey Marriage Index 1901-1914 Image Browse
- New York, Buffalo Death Index 1852-1944
- New South Wales, Railway Employment Records
- New South Wales, Deceased Estate Files 1880-1923

Ancestry

- Ireland, Index to the Prerogative Court of Ireland Wills, 1536-1810
- Poland, Modliborzyce Ghetto Register Books, 1939-1944
- U.S., Evangelical Free Church of America, Swedish American Church Records, 1800-1946
- U.S., Evangelical Covenant Church, Swedish American Church Records, 1868-1970
- Casino, New South Wales, Australia, Hospital Admissions and Burial Records, 1913-1997
- New Zealand, World War I Service Records, 1914-1920

RootsIreland

- Limerick records

TheGenealogist

- Roll of honour for both WW1 and WW2 for Shetland
- Plaques and monuments in Bedford, Bolton, Lancashire, London, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Warwickshire and even further afield.
- WW2 memorial from Calgary that names 227 aircrew from Australia and New Zealand who died while training in Canada.
- WW1 and WW2 war memorials from New York
- Boer War memorials

MyHeritage

- Denmark Church Records, 1813-1919

2018 is the 125th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage or the Right to Vote in NZ.

(contributed by Judith Fitchett)

In early colonial New Zealand, as in other European societies, women were excluded from any involvement in politics. Most people - men and women - accepted the idea that women were naturally suited for domestic affairs, such as keeping house and raising children. Only men were fitted for public life and the rough-and-tumble world of politics.

In the later 19th century, some women began to challenge this narrow view of the world. New opportunities were opening up for women and girls (especially those from wealthy or middle-class families) in secondary and university education, medicine, and in church and charitable work. Attention soon turned to women's legal and political rights.

Skilfully led by Kate Sheppard, WCTU campaigners and others organised a series of huge petitions to the NZ Parliament: in 1891 more than 9000 signatures were gathered, in 1892 almost 20,000, and finally on 28 July 1893 nearly 32,000 were obtained - almost a quarter of the adult European female population of New Zealand. 546 individual sheets were glued together and equalled 270 metres. In September 1893 NZ became the first country in the world in which all women gained the right to vote.

I'd like to encourage NZSG, Nelson Branch members to contribute biographies to the 1893 Women's Suffrage petition which has been re-digitised and is available online. There are great guidelines on where to find information. Many of you will know these already but links to the websites are all set up on the guidelines and you may find inspiration to continue for your own research.

The team at He Tohu and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage are asking for biographies of 200-300 words containing information such as full names, place of birth, family, death job etc. They would also like to know about her character and any organisations she was part of or events she experienced. If you don't have a family member on the petition there is encouragement to write a biography for any woman that interests you. **For inspiration you could read some already submitted biographies. (They are in bold) It would also be great if you could send our newsletter editor Barbara a copy to include in the newsletter.**

Please feel free if you need any further information to email me at fitchett@ts.co.nz - Judith Fitchett

(You can [search a database of the 1893 signatures here.](#))

Or another link is <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/politics/womens-suffrage/petition>

Here are two biographies - the first one is from Judith and the second one is one I wrote about my great grandmother. It would be great if members could as Judith suggests send in copies of any they submit to this project for publication in our own Branch newsletter - Barbara Wells.

Biography of my gt gt grandmother Agnes HENDERSON nee GOWANS for the Suffrage Petition by Judith Fitchett (297 words!)

Agnes was born on 24 Aug 1841, at Cadder, Lanarkshire, Scotland. She was the only daughter of William and Margaret (nee Robertson/Robison) GOWANS. She had 5 brothers but all died in infancy or as young men. Her father was a gardener and Agnes grew up in Scotland, England and Wales where her father worked in the gardens of "Big Houses"

At 18 years old she immigrated to NZ on the Alpine arriving at Port Chalmers on 12 Sep 1859, with her parents and 2 brothers. On 9 July 1861 she was married by the Rev Dr Thomas Burns to James HENDERSON, a gardener then a farmer. Their families had known each other in Warwickshire, England. Agnes and James settled with her parents at Waikouaiti on a farm called Lamb Hill. Agnes had 17 children. The youngest was 3 years old when James left for San Francisco where he died on 2 October 1888. There is some speculation he was on his way to Argentina to look at improving his cattle stock.

Agnes moved into Dunedin where she lived the rest of her days at 117 Forth St and where she signed the 1893 petition for Women's Suffrage. Members of the family lived with her at different times and photos show affectionate images with her daughters and grandchildren. With such a large family there were many tragedies with a daughter dying of measles, a son electrocuted, a son drowned in Australia and a son dying after the Boer War in South Africa.

She died on 8 Nov 1912 in Dunedin aged 71 years, the loved mother of her surviving 11 children. She is buried with 4 generations of her family in the Southern Cemetery, Dunedin.

Biography of my gt grandmother Alice Bennett for the Suffragette Petition by Barbara Wells

Alice Bennett was born on 5 May 1848 in Westminster, London the second child of Metropolitan policeman Charles Bennett and his wife Charlotte Rice. She married "the boy next door" Thomas Joseph Jackson on 4 June 1868. Alice and Thomas had three children - Thomas Bennett, Alice Charlotte and Katherine.

In December 1873 Thomas Jackson died in St. George's Hospital at the age of 27 of 'extreme fever' and Alice and the three children moved in with her parents.

Alice, determined to become independent, trained as a nurse and midwife at the Queen Charlotte Lying-In Hospital before going to work in the local area as a Midwife.

In 1882 Alice Jackson was recommended to the Agent General in London by the British Ladies Emigration Society, for a post as Matron on the NZ Government emigrant ships. She was the first trained Matron on NZ's emigration ships.

Alice's first voyage was on the sailing ship 'Crusader' leaving Plymouth in December 1882 and arriving in Lyttelton on 22 March 1883. She was paid £25 and £30 if she returned to England for the purpose of obtaining another appointment as Matron.

Her second trip on the 'SS Victory' left Plymouth in late October 1883 arriving in Dunedin on 23 December. Also on board was Alice's son Thomas. Alice returned to London leaving Thomas behind in NZ. Her third voyage on the 'Aorangi', left Plymouth on 29 March 1884 arriving in Lyttelton on 11 May.

On 14 June 1884 Alice Jackson married Alexander Reid at St. Michael's Church in Lyttelton. A widower with nine children he was the harbour pilot in Sumner & Lyttelton. Six months later Alice's two daughters left London on board the 'Aorangi' arriving in Lyttelton on 31 January 1885.

In May 1886 Alexander Reid died of cancer and Alice and her children moved to Christchurch where she ran a nursing home attached to a Doctor's surgery.

In 1891 the family moved to Napier where Alice continued her nursing. The following advertisement appeared in the Hawke's Bay newspapers between August and December of that year.

Mrs. A Reid

*Midwife (Certificate from Queen's Charlotte Hospital, London),
Experienced Nurse, Medical and Surgical Nurse.
Private Home Hospital, Tennyson Street, Napier.*

Alice's daughter Alice Charlotte married Swetton McGregor and moved to Kakanui in North Otago and raised a family of nine. Thomas went to West Australia where he died unmarried, in 1896 aged 27.

Katharine married John William Lincoln in 1904. They had five children.

In June 1896 Alice married again to widower John Dawson. John Dawson, his wife Ruth and three children arrived in Napier in 1879 on board the "May Queen" under the Vogel Immigration Scheme. Five more children were born in New Zealand before Ruth died on 1 November 1889 from consumption.

On 14 June 1920 Alice died at the age of 72 on 14 June 1920 and is buried in the Hastings cemetery.

Sources

Immigration Records Series IM Archives NZ Wellington

Papers Past

UK Census records 1851-1891

UK BDMs

NZ Passenger Lists Archives NZ

London Metropolitan Police Records PRO London

McGregor family records

Dawson family records

Genealogy Newsletters

There are a lot of genealogy newsletters published (usually monthly) that are available just by subscribing with your email address.

I receive several and usually find articles of interest in them all. Here are some that you may worthwhile investigating if you don't already get them.

Lost Cousins <https://www.lostcousins.com/> usually published 2 to 3 times a month. It is always upto date with genealogy offers and news.

Legacy Tree <https://www.legacytree.com> a commercial family history tracing firm in the USA. They have interesting newsletters that you can subscribe to free of charge.

Famnet <http://www.famnet.org.nz/FamNet/Community.aspx?Group=FamNet> a NZ based group. You can get their newsletters free but you can also subscribe to the group and put your tree online.

Family Tree Magazine <https://www.family-tree.co.uk/> They have a very good newsletter that also has very good up to date information. Their monthly magazines are available at the Attic to borrow. The Branch has a subscription to the magazine which is distributed by Round Robin. The magazines then go to the Attic. If you are interested in joining the Round Robin it costs just \$12 per year and you get the magazine to read for a week.

If any member has other interesting newsletters they receive let me know and I can include details in the next newsletter. - Barbara Wells

How Long Does It Take to Build a Family Tree? (from the Legacy Tree newsletter)

With the popularity of TV shows such as "Who Do You Think You Are?" and "Finding Your Roots," a common question we receive as professional genealogists is "How long does it take to build a family tree?" You might have watched one of the many shows popular shows on TV where celebrities and individuals alike have learned their family history goes back many generations and hundreds of years in the short time frame of an hour. Surely this must be simple, right? They make it look so easy!

Let's Build a Family Tree! Expectations vs. Reality

So now you are sitting down with a paper and pencil and writing down all you know. First you write down your parents' names. You've got this! Then you remember your Grandpa Joe – you can't forget him. But your grandmother...you have no idea what her name was. After all, you just called her Nana. You know your mom came from Texas because you remember that you visited there on your summer vacations every summer. But where did you dad come from? His parents died before you were born, and except for an occasional story or picture that might have come up through the years, you know almost nothing about them. Next you start adding in the aunts, uncles, and cousins whose names you know. Then you realize this has already taken you almost an hour, and you've just barely scratched the surface!

So how did they go back several generations on that TV show in what seems like an hour's worth of time? In reality, those 60-minute episodes generally include hundreds or even thousands of hours of genealogy research done by a team of professionals before the show is even filmed. The sources or documents that they 'find' on the show are just a few of the numerous documents found ahead of time to prove each fact. Supporting documents are rarely shown because they're not as exciting or interesting, but trust us when we tell you - they exist! For each record or document you see on the show, there are probably at least 5-10 others you don't see.

Patience and Perseverance: The Keys to Build a Family Tree

Extending your family tree is kind of like detective work. You have to uncover all possible clues to make sure you have accurate information, and sometimes some of those clues seem to lead nowhere before you finally make your big break-through. Keep in mind that if they showed all the dead-ends and circumstantial evidence on TV, it would be a really long and probably boring show to watch. Instead, they're only showing you those "finale" moments where the exciting and interesting information was found. It makes for a lot better show that way!


In reality, creating your family tree happens only as fast as the documentation that supports it can be found. This will largely depend on the time period being researched, the geographic area of research, how far back you are trying to go and how in-depth you want your information to be. Many records are now available online in one of the various databases such as MyHeritage, Ancestry, or FamilySearch, and more and more records come online each and every day. But many, many more records are still sitting in an archive, library, or church basement still waiting to be found. Thousands of images of documents, church records, or newspaper articles have been digitally saved and can be found on a roll of microfilm or fiche at your local library or at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but most of these records are not yet indexed and must be looked at one page at a time or one document at a time.

Locating Records to Build a Family Tree

Availability of records varies from country to country, and usually even based on smaller jurisdictions within that country. The time period you're looking at also affects what records there will be. Even if a record was created, it may or may not be available for many reasons, with the most common being whether the records have stood the test of time. Some documents simply don't exist anymore. Time, war, natural disasters, fire, or any number of other circumstances may have destroyed the document you need. Often these missing records create road blocks or "brick walls" that block your path when extending one generation to the next. However, sometimes the record you need may not have been available ten years ago, but was recently indexed and added to an online database, so now you can find your answer. If you hit a brick wall, don't give up! It is always good to check again every so often to see if you can hurdle your brick wall and move on to the next generation.

In short, there is no solid answer to "How long does it take to build a family tree?" because you are never truly finished. Genealogy work can be a life-long process as you trace each line of your family tree as back as far as records allow. Some lines will always be easier to trace than others, and some lines may even turn out to be impossible to extend. But don't let that discourage you from starting! If you prioritize what you want to learn first, and then as you accomplish each goal (or hit a brick wall!), set a new one, you will find that the progress you can make is substantial, even if it is slow. Those lines that run into problems and take forever to solve are the ones that can bring you the most satisfaction when the answer is finally found. It is the thrill of the hunt that keeps most genealogists going (and often up late into the night). The reward comes with every new record found, each new story learned, and every fact confirmed!

Well we all knew that already but it is interesting to see it in print!!!



The Strangers in The Box
Author: Pam Harazin

Come, look with me inside this drawer
In this box I've often seen
At the pictures, black and white
Faces proud, still and serene.

I wish I knew the people
These strangers in the box
Their names and all their memories
Are lost among the socks.

I wonder what their lives were like,
How did they spend their days?
What about their special times?
I'll never know their ways.

If only someone would have taken time,
To tell who, what, and when,
Those faces of my heritage
Would come to life again.

Could this become the fate
Of the pictures we take today?
The faces and the memories
Someday to be tossed away.

Make time to save your pictures
Seize the opportunity when it knocks
Or someday you and yours could be
The strangers in the box.

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