



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 331

March 2019

Branch Library: Open free to members. A small charge to visitors.
Opening Hours: Monday: 10 am to 12:30 pm (closed 11 March: Taranaki Anniversary Day)
Wednesday: 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 12 noon

Getting It Right

NZSG has produced a guide for anyone starting out in genealogy. This is available on the NZSG website.

www.genealogy.org.nz/Getting-it-Right_1715.aspx

This guide includes videos and notes to help you to start on the fascinating story of your family. It is divided into three sections.

- Starting your genealogical journey
- Effective research
- Sharing your research

This resource is free and available to everyone (not just NZSG members) so please share the link with anyone you know who could be interested.



Next meeting: 7:30 pm Tuesday 5 Mar 2019

Writing Your Story

Writing the story that your family history research has discovered is an important part of genealogy work for many people. At our March meeting, David Hill will talk about writing in general and about writing a life story.

David Hill MNZM is a full time author and journalist. He has received writing awards in NZ, Germany, Australia, the UK and USA. His books have been translated into French, German, Danish, Dutch, Chinese, Slovenian, Japanese and Korean. Best known for children's stories, he has also written fiction and non-fiction for adults, as well as columns for *NZ Listener*, *NZ Herald*, *Christchurch Press* and other publications.



Convenor: Bruce Bellini 758 0130
Secretary: Jackie Sewell
Treasurer: Lea Bellini 758 0130

Committee: Lorraine Austin
Jill Jackson
Annette Larsen
Bev Mulqueen
Neville Richards

New Plymouth Branch
c/- Bruce Bellini
98a Queens Road
New Plymouth 4312

Meetings: 7:30 pm, first Tuesday each month at branch rooms, Moturoa Shopping Centre access is off the Whiteley Street car park

Email: newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz

Website: www.genealogynp.com

Last Event: Waireka Cemetery

A big thank you to Len Jury, local historian and our guide for our visit to the small historic cemetery at Waireka, Omata. About 40 people turned up and car pooled on a beautiful summer evening. The cemetery looks out on a stunning view of the sea and surrounding countryside.

Len had taken the trouble to put together an information sheet on some of the occupants of the graves. It is not known, however, how many are in the cemetery as many graves are now unmarked as in the early days wooden crosses were the only marking. The cemetery land was set aside in 1847 and a church built in the grounds in about 1848. It had a thatched roof and fell into disrepair following the Taranaki Wars.

In 1873, £130 was raised for a new church (St John the Evangelist) on the main road at Omata. It was opened in 1875 but was flattened in 1894 by a strong gale and was later rebuilt and still stands today with heritage status.

One of the Waireka graves that took my attention was that of Trooper Antonio Rodriguez De Sardinha from Portugal. He served with the Taranaki Mounted Volunteers led by Captain Mace. Both were awarded the rare NZ Cross for bravery rescuing wounded comrades while under fire in the Taranaki Wars. There were only 23 NZ Crosses awarded. (The Victoria Cross was only awarded to Imperial troops.) In order to read Rodriguez' gravestone erected by the NZ Govt., I had to get between a large bush and the stone. Personally this concerned me. Should not this bush be removed or trimmed down? Also, forgive me for my political correctness here – his stone is headed "The Maori War". Is this a correct heading?

Len mentioned a lot of interesting facts about the early settlers buried in the beautifully kept Waireka cemetery but there are also many modern graves there too. In total there are around 200 gravestones. One of the gravestone quotes that took my fancy was this: "A man is not dead until he is forgotten."

Annette Larsen

Convenor's Report

I would like to formally thank Len Jury for the preparation that he put into last month's walk at the Waireka Cemetery. You can read elsewhere how fine weather, a great turnout and Len's work produced a very successful evening outing.

Two of our current Committee members have indicated that this will be their last year on our Committee, so I would like to ask everyone to give consideration to joining our Committee. It is not an onerous undertaking and if you talk to current members of our Committee, I am sure that they will confirm that we are really a friendly bunch! Please feel free to either phone me (06 7580130) or email me (brucebellini@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like to find out more information.

Great News! Mary Shadbolt, Chairperson of our parent body, the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, has confirmed that she will be attending our 50th Anniversary Celebrations in November.

Bruce Bellini
Branch Convenor



Waireka Cemetery visit, 5 February 2019

Legacy Users Group

The next meeting will be on Sunday 7 April 2019 at the Branch Rooms from 1.30pm. These sessions are hosted by Marilyn Armitstead and are aimed at helping you to better use the Legacy genealogy software.

The 2019 meetings are planned for 9 June, 11 August and 6 October. Please contact Marilyn Armitstead for further information or if you have any questions. Phone: 757 2599 or email g.armitstead@xtra.co.nz



National Library: Reading Room Services

The National Library in Wellington will recommence the Saturday Reading room services from 2 March. Both the ground floor and reading rooms will be open from 9am to 1pm on Saturdays. FamilySearch volunteers will start at 10am, but could be there from 9am.

There will be no deliveries to the reading room though, so all requests for items held in the basement will need to be placed before 4 pm on the Friday prior. This can be done on line for those who are registered.

The FamilySearch service desk is still operating, just Tuesday to Friday from 10 am - 4 pm.

Family History Expo: 1 – 6 April 2019

The Hawera Genealogy Group are holding a week long Family History Expo from 1 to 6 April 2019 at the Hawera Community Centre, which will be open between 9am and 3pm each day. It will comprise a variety of events culminating in a family and local history expo with representation from all of Taranaki.

During the week, there will be cemetery walks, presentations in local libraries and museums. In the Community Hall on Saturday, there will be a Women's Suffragette Display, talks or presentations, photos, memorabilia, family histories, a display of machinery on the forecourt, and anything to do with family and local history of Taranaki. The South Taranaki District Council is proposing a display on Aunt Daisy around this time.

Our New Plymouth Branch will be represented promoting our Branch with our TBI and research information from our library, so come along and see what is there to help with your research.

Obituary

The branch wishes to advise of the passing of member Joy Hughes on 6 February 2019. Joy had been a member of our branch since 2000 but lived in Auckland all of that time.



The beginning of our branch isn't the only important thing that happened in 1969.



The first test flight of the Boeing 747 jumbo jet was in February 1969. The first passenger flight of a 747 was in December 1969. The 747 was the largest passenger aircraft for 37 years.



The Maui gas field was discovered 35 km off the coast of Taranaki. It was the largest oil and gas reservoir in New Zealand, and commenced production in 1979.

First steel produced from iron sand by NZ Steel at Glenbrook in 1969.



Library Roster: March

Monday 10 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday 12 noon to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

Sat 2 Karen Crowe
Mon 4 Charles Le Breton
Wed 6 Pat Croad
Sat 9 Neville Richards
Mon 11 closed: Taranaki Anniversary Day
Wed 13 Ailsa McCrone
Sat 16 Bruce & Lea Bellini
Mon 18 Lorraine Austin
Wed 20 Charles Le Breton
Sat 23 Elly Harrison
Mon 25 Peter Winter
Wed 27 Jill Jackson
Sat 30 Pat Croad

Internet Connection

The internet connection for our branch rooms is generously sponsored by Primowireless.



Please consider Primowireless for your ISP. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit the website:

primowireless.co.nz

Computer Group Meeting

The next branch genealogy computer group meeting will be held on Sunday 24 March 2019. This will cover latest news about genealogy and computers, and answer any questions you may have.



Empty Printer Cartridges

Please bring your empty printer cartridges in to the branch rooms. These can be either ink jet or laser cartridges, but **we can only use HP or Canon types of cartridges.**

These will be recycled to generate some income for the branch.



Library Loans

Our branch library has lots of books, magazines and other resources that are very useful for family history research. Many of these are available for loan, but please note:

- write your phone number and loan date on the card when taking out a loan item
- no more than 3 books or magazines at once
- please bring back books and magazines so that others can read them.

Library News

Magazines received;

Genealogist (Feb)

Family Tree (March)

Who do you think you are (March)

Newsletters received;

Balclutha, Canterbury, Feilding, Gore, Hawke's Bay, Hutt Valley, Nelson, Papamoa, Porirua, Riccarton, Southland, South Waikato

If you would like an email copy of newsletters from another branch, please contact Peter Hewett. Many of the newsletters are also available from the NZSG website.

www.genealogy.org.nz/branches--area-contacts_55



Newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Peter Hewett at peter.hewett@gmail.com.

