



NZSG New Plymouth Branch Newsletter



Number 352

UPDATED

March 2021

**Unite
against
COVID-19**

Reduce risk – keep safe

Branch events cancelled until alert level 1

Branch rooms are open: Monday and Saturday

New Zealand Government

LEVEL 2 New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 2.

COVID Level 2

Please observe the COVID-19 rules at the branch rooms.

- Please don't come to the rooms if you have any symptoms (dry cough, short of breath, fever, recent overseas travel).
- Wash your hands and any surfaces you touch.
- Maintain 1m distance from anyone else at the rooms.
- Bring your own pen, paper, laptop, etc.
- Use the COVID-19 app with the QR code.
- Ensure your name is recorded in the attendance book.

Our branch rooms are open on Saturday 10am to noon, and Monday 10am to 12:30pm.



Next meeting: when we are back at level 1

Old Photographs

- POSTPONED -

The branch meeting scheduled for Tuesday 2 March has been postponed until we are at Covid alert level 1.



Convenor:	Gail Tanner	027 376 0630
Secretary:	Jackie Sewell	
Treasurer:	Sharyn Guthrie	
Committee:	Bruce Bellini	
	Lea Bellini	
	Karen Crowe	
	Annette Larsen	

New Plymouth Branch
c/- Gail Tanner
122 Wairau Road
New Plymouth 4314

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 month: Te Henui Cemetery

Our first branch event for 2021 was a visit to the Te Henui cemetery. This cemetery opened in 1861, and is the original public cemetery for New Plymouth. This makes it is an important resource for anyone researching the New Plymouth settlement of the 19th century.

Stuart Scarle, Cemetery & Crematorium Officer for NPDC, hosted our visit. He provided a guided tour of the cemetery, pointing out the different areas and explaining some of its history.



Next month: 6 April

The next branch meeting is on Tuesday 6 April 2021. This will look at website that can help you with your research, including some that are free and some that you might not have heard of.

DNA Interest Group

The next DNA session is on Sunday 21 March, at 13:30hrs at our branch rooms. These are planned to be monthly on the third Sunday of the month.

These meetings are aimed at helping you understand your DNA results and how to use your DNA matches to advance your family history.

If you come, please bring along your laptop (preferably), or tablet if you have one, if not please bring your login details to the DNA website/s that you have results at.

Could you also please send me an email – sharynjguthrie@gmail.com to let me know if you are planning on coming or possibly coming.

Sharyn Guthrie



Convenor's Report

What a busy start to the year we've had.

The visit to Te Henui Cemetery was well worth it. The weather was extraordinarily beautiful and the cemetery was a picture. Special thanks to Stuart Scarle for his hosting and commentating.

Could you date this photo by his clothes and hairstyle? For this week's meeting, Sharyn is going to show us how to date your old photographs. Come along and see if we can help with your own photos. It should be interesting and adds another bow to your arsenal of fleshing out the family tree.



April you have to put up with me again, but hopefully I will inform you of some websites that will be helpful to your research.

May is our AGM. Please come along and have your say. We are looking for more committee members and would welcome any newcomers. We're having a change of subject for the meeting. Instead of old occupations, we now have Alan Metcalfe coming to give us a talk on the history Pukekura Park and the people involved. He's a very interesting speaker, and very knowledgeable about our park.

We have had the first meeting of the DNA Interest group. It was very successful with more people than expected turning up, so thank you to those who are participating. Sharyn is a very knowledgeable host and is willing to answer any questions. These meeting will be on the third Sunday each month.

After the AGM, the committee will be looking at having afternoon branch meetings. We are keen to trial them for 6 months, to see if this helps people get to our meetings. We know there are a lot of members who don't enjoy driving at night (me included) so Sunday afternoon meetings might just be the ticket.

On that note, if there is anyone who wishes to come to the evening meetings and needs a ride, contact myself and I will arrange for someone to pick you up and deliver you back home again.

And don't forget in April we are hosting a stand at the Home Show. If anyone would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Sharyn or myself. Even an hour or two will help fill the gaps.

See you Tuesday night.

Gail Tanner
Branch Convenor



COVID Alert Level 1

Please observe the COVID-19 rules at the branch rooms.

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- Wash your hands and any surfaces you touch.
- Bring your own pen, paper, laptop, etc.
- Use the COVID-19 app with the QR code.
- Record your name in the attendance book.



Akaroa 180 Year Anniversary

The anniversary celebrations will be held at Akaroa (south-east of Christchurch) from 26 to 28 March 2021.

More information is available at the website

www.comtedeparisdescendants.org.nz/



Riccarton People Project

The Riccarton branch of NZSG is running a project to collate information on people who lived in the wider Riccarton area between 1840 and 1920.

If you would like to contribute some information, please contact Alan Tunnicliffe at alant@snap.net.nz.

Recent Archway Discoveries

Have you looked at the NZ Archives website, [Archway](#), recently? There is constant digitisation and new records going on many of my favourite sites. So do go back now and again to recheck things. Archway has put up more probates which are free to view and download. I got excited to see recently the will of my half-aunt, Jane. My father was one of her executors along with Jane's husband, Hector. I knew nothing about the details of her will so got a surprise to see the details. The will said the house belonged to her, not her and her husband. The second piece of information was that a substantial amount of money had been left to her illegitimate son. Jane said the executors were to sell "her" house if necessary to pay this sum of money to Jane's son, who was Hector's step-son.

Then I looked at the electoral rolls on Ancestry and saw the change of address for my uncle Hector, several years after Jane's death. We had visited him all those years ago at the new address, which was a small garage on the outskirts of the city. Very isolated considering he didn't drive. I am assuming he did have to sell the house because of his wife's will.

During my childhood, I did enjoy many holidays staying with my aunt and I was very fond of her. There is much more to this story that I have been able to piece together since I started researching family history and pieces of the puzzle continue to come together thanks to more and more records coming on the internet.

Annette Larsen

PS: Also just found Uncle Hector's will on Archway and free to download. That's another story, perhaps for another time!

Members Interests

One of the older pages on our websites is a list of [members interests](#). The idea is that this page displays names that branch members are researching, so that we can collaborate on ancestors we have in common.

But this page is now well out of date, and is to be updated or deleted. If you wish to list your research interests on our branch website, please send an email to newplymouth@genealogy.org.nz. List the names you are researching, with outline dates and country, as on that web page.



Library Roster: March

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

Mon 1 Mar Neville Richards
Sat 6 Mar Gail Tanner
Mon 8 Mar Charles Le Breton
Sat 13 Mar Bruce & Lea Bellini
Mon 15 Mar Lea Bellini
Sat 20 Mar Sharyn Guthrie
Mon 22 Mar Jill Jackson
Sat 27 Mar Karen Crowe
Mon 29 Mar Sharyn Guthrie

Facebook

Our Facebook group is now up to 71 members, coming from around the world, some as far afield as the UK and Canada. Membership is not restricted to our local branch members as many around the world have roots or families connected to Taranaki.



It's a great place to join in and ask any questions you may have. It's also a place to keep up with genealogy news and events that we post about.

The Facebook group is private, and you need to answer two questions to join. Please DO NOT use the 'Invite' button, as this bypasses the verification process that we want to use. Unfortunately, it is a Facebook feature that we cannot disable. Here is a link to the Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/groups/949196718907560

Internet Connection

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

Based right here in Taranaki, Primo provides internet connections and ISP services for residential and business customers. As well as the usual fibre and ADSL connections, Primo also provides broadband internet over a wireless link for customers who are not in an area served by the other types of internet. This is just great for people who live outside the main centres.



PRIMO

Please consider Primo for your internet service. Ring them on 0800 123 774 or visit their website:

[primo.nz](https://www.primo.nz)

Christchurch Family History Expo 2021

This event is on 20-22 August 2021 at the Christchurch central library. Expressions of interest are invited from anyone who wants to exhibit, speak or sponsor at this event. For more information, check out [this page](#) and respond by 14 March 2021.

Library News

Magazines received;

Genealogist (Jan/ Feb)

Family Tree Maker (March)

Newsletters received;

Canterbury, Dunedin, Feilding, Gore, Hawke's Bay, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Nelson, Otaki, Palmerston North, Porirua, Riccarton, Southland, South Waikato, Wairarapa

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.

