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February to December**Night Meetings:** 7-30pm– 9.30pm: Third Tuesday of the month
February to November**North Shore Branch Resource Room** at Marlborough Park Hall is open on
Wednesday from 1pm – 3pm.**On Monday meeting days** it will open at 12-30pm:**On Tuesday meeting nights** it will open at 6-45pm**MEETINGS CALENDAR.****Monday 3rd December 2012 – Day Meeting****FINAL DAY GET-TOGETHER****“Old Gadgets and Household Items – Bring and Tell”**

All Welcome to a Festive Afternoon

Please Bring a Plate**Monday 4th February 2013 – Day Meeting****Speaker:** Lynne McOnie**Subject:** “Family Search – the WOW Factor”**Tuesday 19th February 2013 – Evening Meeting****Speaker:** Lisa Truttman**Subject:** “Auckland Mental Hospital”**LOOKING AHEAD.....****The Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on
Tuesday evening 21st May 2013 and the Speaker will be
Michelle Patient President NZSG Society****READING.....****ARAWATA BILL** by Ian Dougherty *Available Takapuna Library – New Zealand
Collection Call # 622 342 DOU*

This is the story of the gold prospector William James O’Leary (1865-1947) known as Arawata Bill. This pioneering folk hero spent decades in the unforgiving mountain country of the South Island, prospecting for gold and other minerals and making new tracks in unexplored areas. His astonishing feats of endurance, coupled with his charming eccentricity, have captured the imagination of generations, and Denis Glover immortalised him in his famous poem, 'Arawata Bill'. He was an ordinary man who lived an extraordinary life. Recently, a Californian Country Rock act added his story to their ballads.

AT THE BRANCH RESOURCE ROOM

Dunedin Family History Group – November 2012 Newsletter:

The story of Captain William Cargill (1784-1860) after whom Invercargill was named.

See page 2

Feature on **Roxburgh** with Lists of Pupils attending Roxburgh School from 1877 to 1900 plus Roxburgh War Memorial with detailed List of those who lost their lives in WW1 and WW2 *See page 3 to page 11*

Hutt Valley Branch NZSG – November 2012 Newsletter:

Voyage of Barque Birman, Gravesend – Wellington, 13 October 1841 – March 1842 including diagram of bunk area with handwritten names of occupier of each bunk. (From booklet compiled by Bruce Crowther, Te Awamutu, October 1991).

See pages 4 to 6

Kilbirnie Branch NZSG – November 2012 Newsletter:

Review of NZSG Service “Documents OnLine”

See pages 2 and 3

Dunedin Branch NZSG – November/December 2012 Newsletter

Photographing of East and West Otago cemeteries almost complete and will be combined with Central Otago index. Email copies will be available.

Wellington Branch, NZSG – December 2012 Newsletter

UK Online Parish Clerks *see page 4*

FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE DECEMBER 2012

Wills – examining the small print – page 17
Preserving Stories – page 22
Parish Chest – unlocked & online – page 26
Discovering Documents –Confirmation Cards-
page38
Using archives – page 40
Ancestral Anecdotes – page 46
Deeds of Heroes – page 50
Long-forgotten roots – page 58
The wherry skipper – page 63

Septs of Clan Cameron

Chalmers	MacGillery
Chambers	MacGillonie
Clarke	MacIldowie
Clark	MacKail
Clarkson	MacKell
Cleary	MacClear
Clerk	MacCleary
Clerkson	MacClerie
Dowie	MacMartin
Gibbon	MacOnie
Gibson	MacOstrich
Gilbert	MacOurlie
Gilbertson	MacPhail
Kennedy	MacSorley
Leary	MacSorlie
Lonie	MacUlric
MacAldowie	MacVail
MacAlonie	MacWalrick
MacAloney	Martin
MacChlerick	Paul
MacChlerry	Sorley
MacClair	Sorlie
MacCleary	Taylor

(Sent in by Peter Cross)

Convenor's Report December 2012

Well here we are at the end of another year of hatches, matches and dispatches! I hope it has been a fruitful year for your genealogical interests and that you have a very enjoyable festive season. I hope those who attended my talk on my Swedish Research enjoyed it. The final evening meeting was festive with good food and entertainment. Some very interesting objects were displayed and some have still got us guessing.

At this time of the year the committee likes to express it's thanks to all those people who volunteer and help keep the club running during the year. There are so many things going on behind the scenes, projects, answering research queries, manning the resource room, preparing refreshments and numerous other tasks that we would miss if they weren't there. Our cemetery photographing project needs more helpers and if you can help in the new year could you please pass your name on to me or one of the committee. We are photographing Schnapper Rock Cemetery and it is a very large task.

Shona Michie with the help of Sharron Peters has prepared an exciting programme for the first half of next year. Of special interest are the visits in April of Councillor Owen Ormsby who will speak on his portfolio Education and on the Maori Interest Group and in May at our AGM the President Michelle Patient will talk on her visit to the USA conference Roots Tech the previous month.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Raewyn Nevin
Convenor

FOREIGN TEXT TO SPEECH

"SITEPAL" is a handy website whereby you can enter a name of a person, a place or simply a phrase and choose the language in which to have it pronounced.

http://www.oddcast.com/home/demos/tts/tts_example.php?sitepal

Family history research will become even more of a challenge in the future!

Hundreds of British married couples every year are now blending their surnames in a new trend that has seen Mr Pugh and Miss Griffin become Mr and Mrs Puffin, the latest Deed Poll figures, shown exclusively to The Telegraph, reveal.

The practice, which originally became popular in the US with American newlyweds, six years ago, is known as 'meshing' and has become incredibly popular with young newlyweds.

Eight hundred British couples have already meshed their surnames this year and the soaring popularity of the practice has meant that the UK Deed Poll Service, the UK's largest issuers of Deed Polls (approximately 50,000 a year) have had to create a separate system to cope with demand and track the fast-growing trend.

"Meshing has changed from once being a rare novelty to now being noted as being one of the main reasons couples may use a Deed Poll to change their names," said Claudia Duncan, an officer at the UK Deed Poll Service.

From the The Telegraph UK sent in by Pam Hamlyn

Launch of the Scottish Wills and Testaments, from 1902 to 1925

'SCOTLANDS PEOPLE' is delighted to announce that the Wills & Testaments for 1902 to 1925 are now live on the [ScotlandsPeople website](#). With this latest addition of records, researchers can now access 1 million Scottish Wills & Testaments, covering the period 1513 to 1925.

The new records, 392,595 in total, document the last wishes of 267,548 individuals who lived and died in Scotland between 1902 and 1925. The collection also includes the wills of Scots who died outside Scotland, but still had assets in the country. As inventories of moveable estate (savings, cash, furniture, stock, etc) are also included, you can discover the fine details of people's worldly possessions during this era.

The new records include both poor and the rich

People from all social classes are included in these new records - from famous industrialists and philanthropists such as Andrew Carnegie and George Coats, to the impoverished inmates of the nation's poorhouses. With more than 35 millionaires included in the records, you can learn how the members of this Scottish 'Rich List' ultimately chose to distribute their wealth.

Conversely, the simpler and cheaper procedures for recording wills that were introduced by the Small Estates Act of 1894, ensured that more estates below £500 were also included.

Cost now 10 credits on the Scotland's People's website or \$8.00 through the NZSG Scottish Certificate Service

Sent in by Pam Hamlyn

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

I have a list of folks I know, all written in a book,
And every year at Christmas time I go and take a look.
And that is when I realise that these names are a part,
Not of the book they are written in, but of my very heart.

For each name stands for someone whose path touched mine, then
Left such a print of friendship that I want to touch again.
And while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,
I really feel I am composed of each remembered name.

And while you may not be aware of any special link,
Just meeting you has shaped my life more than you can think,
For once you have met somebody, the years cannot erase,
The memory of a pleasant word or a friendly face.

So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine
Of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between.
For when I send a Christmas card, that is addressed to you.
It's because you're on that list of folks I'm indebted to.

For one is but of total of the many folks I've met,
And you happen to be one of those I prefer NOT to forget.
And whether I have known you for many years or few,
In some way you have had a part in shaping things I do.

And every year when Christmas comes, I realise anew
The biggest gift life can give is meeting folks like you.
And may the Spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures
Leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours!

Author Unknown