

## **COMMITTEE**

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### **OUTSIDE COMMITTEE**

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## **NORTH SHORE BRANCH**

NEWSLETTER Volume 20, Issue 2, March 2015

MEETINGS are held at Marlborough Park Hall, Chartwell Ave. Glenfield.  
Day Meetings: 1pm – 3pm: First Monday of the month,  
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 12-30 pm

**On Tuesday Meeting Nights** it will open at 6-45 pm

### **Convenor's March 2015 Report**

There was a good turn out to our February day meeting to hear Jan Gow speak on 'The 5 Rs' of UK research. If you wish to copy the digital forms she left for us they are on the branch laptop and can be copied onto your stick if you bring it to the Resource Room after a meeting or at the Wed 1-3pm research session. A number of people took advantage of the extended research time after the day meeting (till 4pm) and Linda has volunteered to repeat this for the next two meetings. I was unable to attend the Tuesday evening meeting but I hear it was very ably chaired by committee member Lyn Winkle. I know a lot of people have been concerned by the information on Marlborough Hall that has been appearing in the media. Your committee and some other involved members met with the Kaipatiki Area community advisor Jill Nerheny on 10<sup>th</sup> February. She explained to us that although the final decision has not been made officially, it is expected that the hall will be converted into a Youth Facility and our Resource Room will be required for this purpose. We are actively investigating alternative accommodation in conjunction with Jill and Maureen Buchanan, the community advisor for Takapuna-Devonport but Council space is at a premium and we do not meet the criteria for exclusive-use space. We do not use our Resource Room for the majority of the week so we would be expected to share a space with others to increase utilisation. As you can understand this would be difficult. Also in future Council will be leasing rather than renting space and our present cost for the Resource Room of \$5/month would increase to \$67/month. I am not sure if there is GST on top of that. If we cannot house the contents of the Resource Room at a reasonable rent and in a convenient place we may have to look at other solutions. If you have any suggestions please don't hesitate to contact us. In the meantime it has been suggested that we open the Resource Room on the first Saturday of the month from 1-3 pm. Would anyone



be interested in this? We would also need volunteers to supervise. At present we are looking for 'back-up' volunteers for Wednesday's 1-3pm session to help when we are one volunteer down – we have two 'librarians' on duty for security reasons. Can you help?

We are still waiting to hear from people who would like to have Beginner's lessons. These would be arranged to suit you. Please contact the Secretary.

Raewyn

### NEW AT THE BRANCH RESOURCE ROOM

#### **Kilbirnie Branch NZSG February Newsletter**

Content includes:

War Graves

Report on Christmas meeting.

#### **Hutt Valley Branch NZSG February Newsletter**

Content includes:

100 years ago Maoris sail to war

Where to find Thomas Ward Maps of early

Wellington

#### **Wellington Branch NZSG February Newsletter**

Content includes:-

This month in History – “Pistols at Dawn” deadly duel in Wellington.

178 year-old Bible re-united with owners relatives.

#### **Kilbirnie Branch NZSG March Newsletter**

Content includes:-

Extracts from the 1858-62 Journal of Wilhelm Heinz –Immigrant Gold Miner

Visit to Western Front April 2015 – Tag-along-Tours.

My NZ Forebears 1863-1913 by Mary Shadbolt.

### MEETINGS CALENDAR

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015**

**1 pm**

**Speaker:** Lorna Clauson

**Subject:** Will speak about her recent book “They sailed to the South”

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**7.30 pm**

Fossicking around in the Resource Room.

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**1 pm**

*(In lieu of Easter Monday)*

**Speaker:** Maureen West

**Subject:** Anchored in a Townland: Researching an Irish Family from New Zealand.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015**

**7.30 pm**

A Genealogy Quiz Night

### South African records online at Ancestry

This month Ancestry added nearly a million records from South Africa. There are 378,000 records in the [South Africa, Birth and Baptism Records, 1700s-1900s](#) set, and 220,000 in the [South Africa, Voter Indexes, 1719-1996](#) set. Also included for the first time at Ancestry is a collection of directories and one of *Methodist Parish Registers* (the latter also available free at FamilySearch) *From Lost Cousins Newsletter*

### Findmypast add US travel and immigration records

This week Findmypast unveiled a new [collection](#) with 75 million US records based on passenger lists or naturalizations. There will clearly be some overlap with their existing [Passenger Lists Leaving UK 1890-1960](#) records, although this new collection covers a longer time period, and arrivals records sometimes give different information from the departure records. Also, a quick check suggests that at least some of the records are available at other sites such as FamilySearch or Ancestry - nevertheless there will be quite a few new discoveries made! *From Lost Cousins newsletter*

## Fishponds

In the Middle Ages fish ponds were a normal feature of both lay and ecclesiastical estates, as the consumption of red blooded meat was forbidden during Lent and at other times. Ponds were sited close to domestic buildings to prevent poaching. Often a surrounding moat was used. Most ponds have long been abandoned but their outlines are still discernible. They were typically rectangular and flat bottomed, with raised embankments. Young fish were raised nearby in "stews". When regularly drained and cleaned, the residual deposits were valued for fertilizing fields. In post-medieval times some fish ponds (especially for carp) were incorporated into garden schemes.

*From The Oxford Companion to Family & Local History*

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### For Common British Military Abbreviations from WW1 see:

<http://www.1914-1918.net/abbrev.htm>

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### Latest additions to Papers Past :

- [Hastings Standard \(1896-1920\)](#)
- [Press \(1929-1935\)](#)
- [Star \(1915-1917\)](#)
- [Westport Times \(1868-1874, 1879-1884, 1886\)](#)



Can you picture your great-grandfather in his Sunday best, riding across the countryside on a high-wheeled penny-farthing bicycle to visit the young lady who was to become your great-grandmother? I wonder what her parents, your great-great-grandparents, thought of the young man riding that foolish contraption.

## Auckland Central Library

### Family history lunchtime series

**When:** Generally fortnightly on Wednesdays from February to November, 12pm - 1pm unless otherwise stated

**Where:** [Central City Library, Whare Wānanga, Level 2](#)

**Cost:** Free

**Booking:** To secure your place, please contact the [Central Auckland Research Centre](#) on 09 307 7771, or complete our [online booking form](#)

### The records of the English Parish Church with Viv Parker

**Wednesday 4 March, 12pm - 1pm**

The records of English parish churches recount the day-to-day running of the parish, including not only baptisms, marriages and burials but also a wealth of information about our ancestors.

### Tracing your Huguenot ancestors with Marion Heap

**Wednesday 18 March, 12pm - 1pm**

Between 1550 and 1750, a large number of Huguenots escaped from France and the low countries and fled to England, Ireland, the Channel Islands, Switzerland, Germany, America and South Africa, bringing with them a wide range of professional and creative skills. It is not unusual for New Zealanders to find a Huguenot ancestor.

### Irish placenames with Geraldene O'Reilly

**Wednesday 1 April, 12pm - 1pm**

The majority of Irish genealogy records are arranged by locality and most people within them are identified by the placename where they lived.

The Townland is the most fundamental land division in Ireland, the basic address for a rural family. Geraldene has had a longstanding association with the New Zealand Society of Genealogists (NZSG) and since 2009 has held the position as Convenor of the NZSG Irish Interest Group

## Cheaper option than purchasing certified UK Certificates coming

The Society of Genealogists is delighted to announce that the Government has accepted an amendment to the Deregulation Bill currently going before the House of Lords that allows for the publication of information from Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in England and Wales to be issued otherwise than in the form of a certified copy. This is something the SoG has long campaigned for and is grateful to Baroness Scott of Needham Market, herself an enthusiastic genealogist, who suggested to Government that this deregulation is possible.

The report in Hansard for 5th February, allows for an amendment in the various Registration Acts. Most importantly this decision paves the way to allow the Government full opportunity to consult on the best way in which to bring in changes to how records are accessed. It will provide the Secretary of State with the power to lay regulations to define how a person may access these records, the type of product that can be issued, how the record is to be provided and the amount of fee payable. This would, for example, allow older records to be viewed online, similar to the systems in Scotland and Northern Ireland, or for the introduction of plain paper extracts to be offered to customers who do not require a watermarked certificate.

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