



North Shore Branch of NZSG

NEWSLETTER Volume 21 Issue No.4

April 2016

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Programme for 2016

*Meetings held at Senior Citizens Hall,
Mayfield Centre, 5 Mayfield Road,
Glenfield*

Day Meetings:

Generally 1st Monday each month

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Door Sub \$4.00

2nd May AGM & Jan Gow

Family Search

30th May Speaker: Marion Heap

Subject: Huguenot Research

4th July: Speaker: Lyn McDonald

Subject: Missionaries and Misfits

1st August; Ian Faulkner

Subject: Rua Wahine

Evening Meetings:

Generally 3rd Wednesday each month

7:30pm to 9:30pm

Door Sub \$4.00

18th May Research 101

Proving the Source with Paul Ashton

Bring your laptop

15th June Rick Bragger

DNA

20th July TBA

*WiFi connection will be available at the
evening meetings for members
questions and problems using their own
computers.*

ACCESS TO STORED NZSG NORTH SHORE BRANCH RESOURCES

Resources retained by the branch will be available to access at 11 Summit Drive, Torbay, on a "by appointment" basis.

Easy one level access and parking

Please telephone Dennise Cook on 473 5351 or email her at djenj@xtra.co.nz to arrange a suitable time and date.

Alternatively a look-up service is available by either –

- email request only with photocopies delivered to the following day / night meeting at 20c per page. Please email request/queries to djenj@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE NOTE: NO scanning facility is available.

- mail-only request - send request/queries with sae and donation to: Dennise Cook, Research Officer North Shore branch NZSG, PO Box 89 045, Torbay, Auckland 0742.

Please refer to the North Shore branch's website www.tinyurl.com/nsgenealogy for comprehensive list of all resources held in storage.

CONVENORS REPORT

Well autumn is definitely upon us. The unpredictable weather makes planning difficult but I hope any school holiday activities you had were enjoyable.

I was very interested to see 2 of the 3 volumes published so far of the 'Onward Project' which were brought to the April day meeting by Phil Beattie. The project is to capture a likeness of all the soldiers who went off to the 1st World War. Phil and a friend are military history buffs who have also produced some books containing information not readily available elsewhere and printed by their own printing company. They are non-profit making and plough proceeds back into producing the next book. I gave him a CD copy of the information gathered at our WWI photo and history meeting where members brought their photos (some of which I scanned) and stories. I have told him to contact me if he wishes to get copies of any photos for his next book and I will put him in contact with the provider. I noticed a couple of my relations were in the books but there are a lot more who aren't.

I believe there was a good attendance at the first Wednesday evening meeting and that attendees learnt a lot of the differences between having a free and purchased copy of 'Legacy'. We hope the change of night has not inconvenienced too many people but unfortunately we had no option other than to try and find another venue.

We are lucky to have Jan Gow coming to our AGM as everyone really benefits from her knowledge. We also need a good turnout of NZSG members to make a quorum. As I am stepping down from the position of convenor and Linda is stepping down from the position of secretary I urge you to consider standing for these positions. We will remain on committee, if elected, and support anyone who is prepared to do these jobs. I look forward to new blood on the committee.

Raewyn

MAY MEETINGS

Both meetings should be of interest to many if not all members.

On **Monday 2nd May** at 1:00pm the Branch Annual General Meeting will be held. This will be followed with a session on Family Search with Jan Gow.

Come and have your say on how you would like to see your Branch operate and any offers of members prepared to join the committee would be more than welcome.

Jan Gow is an expert on Genealogy and her session on Family Search will be of interest to all.

On **Wednesday 18th May** the evening meeting at 7:30pm will be an interactive session on Research and the proving of sources. Paul Ashton who is a stickler for having evidence to support information will be running this session.

A reminder to all members that you are advised to bring your laptop to the Evening Meetings as there will be sessions with practical use of web sites, programmes and research. There will also be people available to help with problems you may be having or clarification of how to do certain procedures.

MEETING TIMES

Just a reminder that our Day Meetings are held at 1:00pm on the first Monday of the month and our Evening Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

With the **AGM coming up on Monday 2nd May** we ask all members to consider supporting our group by considering a spell on the committee. This is not an onerous position as the committee only meet around four times a year. They do help out by assisting with the set up and clean up of the room for our meetings.

We are in particular looking for people to take up the positions of Convenor and Secretary of our Branch. If you are able to assist please contact any of the present committee.

All positions for the committee require a nomination form to be completed. Copies of the nomination forms are held at the door reception for each meeting.

APRIL MEETINGS

Wednesday April 20th Evening Meeting

Our Wednesday evening meetings are proving popular as members have the ability of individual computer access. Even those without a computer learn a lot as current club members using a particular system show us the abilities, and pitfalls of programmes available to the public.

The evening began with 20 minutes of Clueless Corner run by Paul Aston in which members were invited to ask for help with their "brick wall". The first question was assistance in trying to find evidence of an ancestor's arrival in New Zealand. All the usual passenger lists, crew lists etc had been searched unsuccessfully. While time constrictions did not allow an on the spot successful search, some helpful hints on other avenues from members having experienced similar problems were forth coming. Hopefully our member will eventually find the evidence they are seeking.

This was followed by a demonstration of Legacy by Linda Pinder with a (paid) delux model and help from Paul Ashton (free) model giving a well rounded view of Legacy's excellent abilities. Having club members demonstrate such systems certainly make it less intimidating for new members and "dumb questions" are dealt with in a very down to earth manner – probably because others have already had that problem.

This was the second of our new style evening meetings and the ideal organisation of the room is still being sought where everyone can have best access to the screen and tables for their computers.

The evening concluded with supper.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Feel free to submit articles or contributions via email to the Editor for the monthly Newsletter. Articles should be no longer than 800 words. Pictures should be in JPG format. If you submit an article, you agree to have it edited as the Editor sees fit. No payment is made for any submissions published.

Here is our first submission

An ancestor on HMS Beagle

On 27 December 1831 HMS Beagle sailed from Devonport, England. This second voyage captained by Robert Fitzroy had as passengers two young men; naturalist Charles Darwin (22) and twenty year old Richard Matthews. Three Tierra del Fuegians were also on board returning home after having been taken to England on an earlier voyage. Otherwise Fitzroy's task was completing the charting of coastal Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego.

Following the Beagle's arrival at Walaia Cove on 23 January 1833 the del Fuegians and Richard Matthews disembarked. He was from Deddington, Oxfordshire representing the interests of the Church Missionary Society. However young Richard was far from welcomed by the Tierra del Fuegians. Fortuitously when the Beagle returned ten days later Richard was found "in a state of near hysteria". Matthews had been stoned and robbed of everything he had not buried. Concerning this episode Charles Darwin commented that 'they probably arrived just in time to save Matthew's life'.

The Beagle eventually arrived at Paihia on 21 December 1835 where Richard Matthews disembarked and walked to Kaitaia to join his older brother Joseph who had earlier established the work of the CMS there in 1832. In 1838 Richard married Johanna Sara Bloomfield of the Bay of Islands. Following a working sojourn in Whanganui, the Matthews family settled in Awanui, north of Kaitaia. He died on 27 January 1893 and is the two times great-grandfather of my husband Laurie.

Shona Michie

Sources:
Kaitaia Museum
Whanganui Museum

Voyage in the Beagle by John Goldsmith

AUCKLAND CENTRAL LIBRARY

The 2016 Family history lunchtime series re-started on 10 February. The link below takes you to their programme and list of events.

<http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/EN/Events/Events/pages/february2016familyhistorylunchtimeseries.aspx>

We do suggest that you regularly visit the Auckland City website as there is usually a wealth of information for the family genealogist.

www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz

Family History Club series re-starts Sunday 28th February.

<http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/EN/Events/Events/Pages/familyhistoryclub2016.aspx>

SOME BRANCH WEB SITE LINKS:

Wellington Branch NZSG:

www.genealogy.org.nz/wellington_District_124.aspx

Kilbirnie Branch NZSG:

www.nzsgkilbirnie.org.nz

Dunedin Branch NZSG:

www.dunedingenealogy.org.nz

Hutt Valley Branch NZSG:

www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz

Hibiscus Coast NZSG:

www.genealogy.org.nz/Hibiscus_Coast_69.aspx

The Coromandel Heritage Trust

www.thetreasury.org.nz

These web sites are well worth visiting as there is always something of interest as well as the access to their Newsletters.

You should also of course be visiting the National Office web site on a regular basis to keep up with current activities, courses and special interest group meetings.

www.genealogy.org.nz

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM is being held on 2nd May at the afternoon meeting of our group. This will be at 1:00pm Chaired by Jan Gow and then followed by a presentation by Jan.

All members are asked where possible to attend and to think seriously about how they can contribute to your group. The committee is always looking for further input and are ready to welcome new members to the committee.

HELP

We need you

Our club does not run by itself and our committee is responsible for providing interesting and informative programmes. New ideas and challenges come about by input from new committee members.

We have been lucky in the past to have an excellent Convener and Secretary but they are both taking a well earned break.

Neither positions are too onerous or time consuming and the personal benefits achieved outweigh the effort required.

Other positions are being retained by existing members who are friendly and supportive.

So please give it some serious thought and volunteer