



North Shore Branch of NZSG

NEWSLETTER Volume 26 Issue No. 7

August 2020

COMMITTEE

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Afternoon Teas

Sharron PETERS

Evening Supper

Dennise COOK

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Programme for 2020

*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 \$5.00

3rd August 2020

Speaker: *Dennise Cook*

Subject: *Mini Family History
Session*

7th September 2020

Speaker: *Rhonwyn Hailstone*

Subject: *Library Resources for
Family Research*

Evening Meetings:

Generally, 3rd Wednesday each month

7:30pm to 9:30pm

Door Sub \$5.00

19th August 2020

GEDCOM: *What it is and how
to use it*

16th September 2020

To be advised

Bring your laptop

*WiFi connection will be available at the
evening meetings so that members can
use their own computers to follow and
attend to any problems or use of
alternative programmes.*

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

denjon@xtra.co.nz

to arrange a suitable time and
date.

A look-up service is still available during lockdown—

- **Mail-only request -**
Send request/queries with
sae and donation to:

Dennise Cook,
Research Officer
North Shore Branch of NZSG
PO Box 89 045
Torbay
Auckland 1742.

CONVENORS REPORT - JULY 2020

A great turnout for the AGM, thank you for coming! It was much appreciated as we signed off on our last year's accounts and records.

We elected new officers as follows: *Convenor* Teresa McCarthy, *Secretary* Pam Irwin, *Treasurer* Raewyn Nevin and *Committee members* Dennise Cook and John Hammond. To keep the Group running successfully we need 2 more committee members. We will be tapping some people on the shoulder to help out where needed until 2 more step up to join us. Many hands make light work. Feel free to come early and help us set our chairs and tables etc.

Many thanks go to Ian and Lyn Winkel who have had many years supporting the group. Lyn was on the committee from 7 years ago and encouraged Ian to join as Treasurer 5 years ago. Both were presented with a certificate of thanks for their service.

Thanks: also, to John and Paul who have been overseeing the Cemetery Project with a band of merry helpers who are amazing, taking photos of the headstones, and entering the data entry for John and Paul who then sort everything out on the master data base. I'm sorry I never did get involved and can only say I was working and didn't get around to it. No excuse of course. Guilty as charged. John thank you so much for joining us on the committee as a man's voice and it is very much welcome with a change in creative thinking and ideas.

Thanks: to Dennise and her 'team' of people helping with the Kiwi Index and births and deaths in the Herald newspaper. I think you have many boxes of archives in your basement too Dennise. You are amazing. Dennise is our August speaker on Monday day meeting and no doubt we are going to see some of her archives being aired and hear all about how to do a mini research session.

Supper: Our cups of tea and supply of supper overseen by Sharron and Dennise. Well done. I go into help and many people are washing dishes and processing cups with great teamwork skills. We can't do without you. You are all very much appreciated. Nothing like a nice 'cuppa tea' is there! It sets the world straight as my mother would say!

Our Speaker of the day was Dianne Hooper from LDS on Sunset Road. She spoke on the DNA process and did an amazingly professional presentation. Very helpful and I learnt a lot. LDS is a Family Research centre at the LDS church that runs a room where you can go in and they will help you to research your family tree. Tues/Weds/Thurs 10-12. Very helpful ladies.

Sorry I still haven't uploaded/downloaded and whatever'd my DNA tests of which I have done 2. Must do it as it pulls more relatives out of the woodwork and helps grow the family tree. I am retiring from my job at the end of August so I intend to get stuck into genealogy and find more family members for my tree. (I feel still a newbie after 2 years) On the personal side through doing my DNA through Ancestry a cousin found me. Her mother died a year or so ago and she found out her Mum was adopted. (So, I'm still a secret from her children), but we have made contact when she discovered my Grandmother (Dads mum) was *also her* Grandmother. Amazing and I'm still gobsmacked about that! So, a bit of rattling on the family tree. My sisters are all excited and I wish Dad and his Sister had been alive to know they had a half Sister. They even lived near us as we were growing up in Panmure/Howick. Look at what comes out of the DNA process. Can you handle it? They would turn in their graves but I find it fun and very exciting to be sure!!.. Many stories like this in the group...

Meetings are on the 1st Monday of the month at 1pm and the 3rd Wednesday evening of the month @ 7:30pm.

We would love interested people to come and join our great group from newbies (like me) through to very experienced genealogists. We would make you so welcome.

See you soon.

Teresa

NAME BADGES

If anyone requires name badges then please contact Teresa McCarthy either at our meetings (when they restart) or by email to saleskat@gmail.com
Cost approx. \$10.00.

JULY MEETING

Monday 6th July was the **Annual General Meeting** followed by a presentation by Dianne Hooper on DNA information.

Annual General Meeting

Some twenty-nine members attended the Annual general meeting. The previously circulated Minutes of last year's meeting and Convenors Annual report were accepted and approved. This was followed by a PowerPoint Financial presentation of the Annual Accounts which were approved by the meeting.

A motion to ratify the Rule Changes approved by the National Organisation was also presented and approved.

Our guest Speaker chaired the meeting while elections of officers were carried out.

The following were elected:

Convenor: Teresa McCarthy

Secretary: Pam Irwin

Treasurer: Raewyn Nevin

Committee: Dennise Cook, John Hammond.

The committee was given the power to co-op members to cover the shortfall.

Speaker: Dianne Hooper

Topic: Understanding DNA

Dianne Hooper from the Latter-Day Saints is always a popular speaker and after assisting with the official proceedings of the AGM she gave a most informative talk on that most popular and complicated subject of DNA. As usual Dianne illustrated her talk with well-prepared overheads which helped us achieve a better understanding of the scientific principles of this research tool which has only been available for about 20 years.

Prior to DNA we were dependent on the written record and DNA has provided a tool to confirm or sometimes disprove the results of our previous findings. For this reason, Dianne discussed the reasons why we should first give thought to why we are having our DNA tested. These could be for ethnicity, relationships, medical, chromosome mapping, parentage or even breaking down a brick wall in our research. As with the results of all our

research, family relationships may not be what we expect or hope for and could be quite distressing. Some of the other consequences are loss of privacy and the unknown future when present day safeguards may be changed. However, a show of hands indicated the majority of present members had already had their DNA done so its popularity as a tool was obvious.



Dianne Hooper giving her talk on DNA

For the majority of her talk Dianne, concentrated on explaining in simple terms, the types of DNA testing done, the companies who provide this service and why different companies give different results for the same person due to their methods of testing. The two most common providers are Ancestry and My Heritage, costs vary but special prices are often offered on occasions such as Christmas, Mother's Day etc. The results, once received, must then be interpreted and with the tools provided by the company can be used to increase your search field. Contact with previously unknown names and searching of their family trees can solve a problem or create more questions.

Research may indicate these as unanswerable at the moment. However, with the increase of information as more people look into their DNA, someday these questions may be answered.

Dianne's talk was most appreciated, and we all were able to take away a little more understanding of DNA.

Thank you, Dianne.



"How much history do we have to do before we start to run out of family?"

AUGUST 2020 MEETINGS

The day meeting on 3rd August at 1:00pm will be a mini Family History session presented by Dennise Cook. This will be an ideal time for you to find out what resources are held by the Club and how to access and use them.

The evening meetings will restart on Wednesday 19th August at 7:30pm. GEDCOM will be discussed and demonstrated.

Bring your laptop as wifi facilities will be available.

AUCKLAND FAMILY HISTORY EXPO 2020

Friday 7 August to Sunday 9 August

At the Fickling Convention Centre,
Mt Roskill, Auckland



"I hope you don't mind me saying but I think your husband might have got the wrong end of the stick about this tracing your ancestors thing."

NSMP Cemetery Project

We are now a little over a full year into the practical side of the project & progress has been very good. The Central area is complete & we have just started into the Northern area. The covid issue did put a temporary halt on the visits to the cemetery however it did not stop original data being transferred to the current spreadsheets by our small but dedicated band.

There is now about 15,300 photos on file, some new, some original, all of which have been checked to ensure they are current, of good quality & the correct size. Of the original photos some needed to be replaced as there were additions to the plots, some were deemed to be of lesser quality than required but a large proportion were good & have been retained. Along the way we have also cleaned a lot of lichen from plaques to enable them to be photographed so a little community service.

At the start there was 421 known areas in the cemetery this figure has already increased to 423 as we have progressed through the cemetery, new rows added, of the 423 we have completed 266 to date which is 63% so it is fair to say the light is brighter looking forward rather than back, if one was referencing the tunnel analogy. By the end of the coming summer we expect to be very close to completion of the primary aspect of the project, however a secondary check will then need to be made on the entered data before we can say it is complete.

Along the way there has been some interesting finds bearing in mind that the cemetery only opened in 1978,

Birth & death dates for persons buried overseas.

Earliest death date recorded so far 1896

Death dates for relatives who died in some case considerable prior to those buried after the cemetery opened in 1978.

Names of persons born in 1856-63 who died in 1915-25.

The list could go on however the point is none of these will be found in the current council records. The council records are only actual burial & cremation records. The council records also do not, especially in the case of the memorial walls, specify a plaque

location & for their size some of these small plaques contain a surprising amount of information.

So while we are well on the way with this if anyone wishes to join the team, please talk to a committee member. There are tasks that can be done without leaving home.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL LIBRARY

Libraries are gradually getting back to normal services now that we are at Level 1.

Visit the Auckland City website as there is usually a wealth of information for the family genealogist.

www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz

Family History Club.

<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 access to their Newsletters.

www.genealogy.org.nz

The NZSG national web site

www.tinyurl.com/nsgenealogy

Your Branch Web Site

OTHER WEB SITES

www.hookedongenealogytours.com

www.FamNet.org.nz

Where Kiwis tell their stories

www.RootsIreland.ie

Irish Family History Foundation – R.C. Records include CLANN e-newsletter

www.irishlivesremembered.ie

Ireland e- Magazine Free

<http://www.surnamenavigator.org/>

Surname search

<http://www.ancestorsatrest.com/Ireland.genealogy.shtml>

Death Records for Cemetery, Church and Parish

<http://www.ireland-genealogy.com>

Irish Pensions

<http://www.irelandoldnews.com>

Old Irish Newspapers

REMINDER

**Day Meeting Monday 3rd
August at 1:00pm.**

**Auckland Family History
Expo at Fickling Centre 7
to 9 August**

**Evening Meeting
Wednesday 19th August at
7:30pm**