



Palmerston North Branch NZSG  
PO BOX 4058, Manawatu Mail Centre,  
Palmerston North, 4442



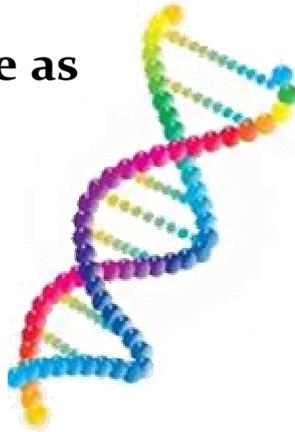
Newsletter 436  
August 2020

Meetings are on the **fourth Wednesday of the month**, February to November.

## Branch News

### August is Family History Month

We are lucky to have as our speaker, **SUZIE TSACLIS** who will give an indepth talk, learning about her own DNA.



Suzie was to have spoken to us earlier this year but COVID 19 intervened and prevented us from holding meetings.

We are now back in Covid19 Alert, Level 2  
All the Level 2 rules still apply if we remain in Level 2.

You may wear a mask if you wish  
Sanitise hands on arrival.

Chairs will be spaced 1 metre apart.  
All visitors and members are required to sign in the visitors' book - for tracing.

### Library Update

Please return all books and magazines which you may have borrowed in July.

We are updating the catalogue and tidying up the shelves so we would appreciate members returning their borrowed books

*From: Pat Rowe, NZSG #25792.*

## Next Meeting

### Wednesday 26th August

Doors open at 6.30 pm

Meeting at 7.30 pm

Kilwinning Lodge  
Church Street  
opp. Ashley Street

### Suzie Tsaclis

### Speaking about Her DNA

### Don't miss this meeting



## Adopt A Shelf A Project For All At The Library

As you know we are due to do a catalogue update of Library books.

On meeting nights we are rather stretched for time to carry out this project.

It has been suggested that we try a system of members adopting a shelf. This just means putting the books in their correct order for others to locate when borrowing.

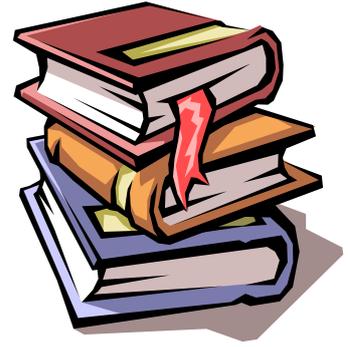
The shelves are well numbered with details at the end of the trolleys.

One person one shelf to check before a meeting and would only take five minutes.

The shelves are not very long. Any books you find that are really out of place can be put in the Returns Box.

If you are willing to help us just give me a phone call or an email and I will allocate a shelf.

**Pat Rowe, Ph. 324 8791. Email: [lprowe151@gmail.com](mailto:lprowe151@gmail.com)**



### The Library This Month

The latest "Irish Roots" magazine has arrived for you to read.

Here is an interesting article on the update of PRONI for those who are delving into research in Northern Ireland.

I have just had the chance to read the May edition of "Who Do You Think You Are?" There is a good article to extend your knowledge on DNA.

Also a little snippet on page 13, about the plans of the Church of England to map all their burial grounds. There are 15,000 grounds to cover and they hope to finish by 2025. This looks an interesting exercise. There will be a free online database for each church. Two church burial grounds have been completed.

Their web page address is included in this article.

*Pat Rowe, NZSG # 25792.*

### Sales Table



We had a very successful night last month, selling many pots of jam and some "Notebooks" which had arrived in time for our meeting. At only \$8.00 each, they are a great buy. Handy for family history notes and "trees".

We would love to receive pots of Jams, Jellies, Pickles, Chutneys and preserved Fruit and Vegetables for the Sales Table. Remember to buy Raffle tickets at the Sign-in Table. The money from the Sales Table and the Raffles goes towards Branch expenses and Library costs.

We are lucky to have **Kathleen Portch** in charge of catering. But we need another person to help her on our meeting nights. It's very easy and friendly. Contact Rose Rohde: ph. 359 9152.

**September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Anna Williams will speak about finding her family, with DNA. Remember to keep this date.

**October 28<sup>th</sup>**. We will focus on **Papers Past, Trove (Australia)** and the **British Newspaper Archive**. Get busy and prepare your "finds" from these archives, Please contact Linda - email: [leazep@xtra.co.nz](mailto:leazep@xtra.co.nz), or ph. 353 0899. Linda will advise Linley of anyone who wishes to use the Power Point. I'm sure that you all have a good family story.

**Graham Slater from Menzshed**, has replaced the wheels on one of the Library Books Trolleys. The present wheels were too small and had broken under the weight of the books.

**Tim Cook** spoke in July about his involvement with the New Zealand Army Band at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2019, which was held in Sydney. He also spoke about his experiences playing with the N. Z. Army Band at "The Castle" in Edinburgh. Tim showed pictures of the Band practising.



Film shots taken from above the band showed the intricacy of their marching movements. He spoke about the surprisingly rapid building of the stands to hold the thousands of people who attend the Tattoo in Edinburgh.

**.Mary Justine Akers (nee Gawith), died on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 94 years of age.**

We knew her as **Molly Akers**

Molly joined the Palmerston North Branch in 1986. She was a very keen researcher specialising on the McRae family in New Zealand. She wrote "McRaes to New Zealand". She also wrote about the historic Opiki Bridge, called, "Suspended Access: the history of the privately owned Opiki toll bridge 1918 – 1969".

Her large collection of McRae birth, marriage and death certificates were copied and added to our Certificate collection.

Our thoughts and sympathy are with her family at this time.

## Terrace End Cemetery Update

Ash burials still occur in family plots at Palmerston North's oldest cemetery, and memorials are added to previously unmarked graves. Once in 10 years, we need to inspect every plot, looking for additions while they are still conspicuous. Sometimes it may be a tiny home-made plaque for an ancestor, sometimes a listing of the next generation of a family has been added. 80 new names have been found in a recently completed update of our Terrace End records.



On this plot the old headstone has fallen and smashed, and a small plaque replicating the original wording has been attached discreetly at the head of the grave. The marble fragments of the original stone have been arranged on top of the grave.

A vertical placement for a plaque where rain drains off quickly seems to provide some protection. Gold lettering appears to last longer than white.



Materials need to be chosen carefully – this second example is a metal plaque, installed in 2002 and illegible already! It is attached to a horizontal surface.

With the naked eye I could not make out any details. However, I photographed it with my cellphone, transferred the image to the computer, and used the zoom tool to enlarge it 200%. It had been transcribed in 2009, and in 2020 I could read just enough to verify that I was looking at the same object. It read:

Sarah McKENZIE, nee JENNINGS,  
died 30th April 1901 aged 41 years,  
wife of John Travers McKENZIE,  
mother of Margaret, Benjamin, & Alexander.  
Installed by her descendants on 9-3-2002.

The image loses quality as it is reproduced, so don't expect to be able to decipher it from this newsletter. I use the same technique whenever I am working with difficult handwriting on a document. Enlargement makes an amazing difference to the legibility!

## Researching in the Branch Records

As I move quickly through the cemetery, photographing anything new, I rely on adjacent images to identify a plot location.

This Crosbie plaque was a problem. I had deleted my reference photo before discovering that the city database has no record of this name. What to do?



Remember that, thanks to Lesley Barrow and other members before her, we have scrapbooks of newspaper death notices covering the past 15 years, and more. Lookups are freely available to all members: send an email to [PalmerstonNorth@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:PalmerstonNorth@genealogy.org.nz), or consult the scrapbooks in our branch library. Fortunately, the Crosbie notice referred to a “late brother” who shares the same plot.

Margaret Gillingham answers your email research queries. She has digitised copies of all our headstone transcriptions, all our pre-1921 school records, all our Settlers Database entries, all our Funeral Service Sheets, and all our newspaper death notices. She can extract what you request and return it by email.

## Serendipity at Terrace End

I met a stranger at the cemetery, who mentioned that her husband was looking for a Wilton family grave. “Would that be the Wellington Wiltons?” I asked, having recently learned they were from the same place our Coopers came from, and they all emigrated on the same ship *Oriental* to Wellington in 1841.

The Wiltons were land owners, and I wondered if the Coopers had been recruited by the Wiltons. Without me even asking, this lady gave me my answer. She said “The Wiltons were to have travelled to New Plymouth, but Mrs Wilton was so sick she insisted on disembarking in Wellington. They had a shop on Lambton Quay.”

Guess what? The Coopers were booked to travel to New Plymouth, but they disembarked in Wellington. Samuel Cooper had a shop on Lambton Quay, now I wonder if it was next to the Wilton shop. Was a Wilton still their landlord?

## Situation Vacant

It is time for me to pass on the care of our cemetery records to a younger member, could you be the one? We need somebody confident in using Excel, who pays meticulous attention to detail. There are written descriptions of the processes we follow, and we could work together for a while till you feel ready to take charge. Let me know if you might be interested.

Mary Skipworth, [mkip@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mkip@xtra.co.nz) NZSG #1495.

## P.N. City Library Genealogy Volunteers

### **The Volunteers are back again!**

They are members of the Palmerston North Branch NZSG, who are very willing to help you search for your ancestors on Ancestry, Papers Past and many more.

**Wednesdays & Fridays, 10.30 am- 1.30 pm,  
Saturdays, 1.00 – 4.00 pm.  
On Floor 2, P.N.Central Library.**



**Welcome to our visitor Alison Everett** who attended our July meeting.  
Alison needs help with researching family in Ireland:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BIRTH DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>MARRIED</u>	<u>PARENTS</u>
Denis Hayes	abt 1836	Ireland	???	John Hayes Bridget Reardon
Ellen Quinlan	abt 1836	Ireland	???	Patrick Hayes Hannah Painy?

Alison is looking for evidence of the births of Denis and Ellen in Ireland and any siblings and information about their parents. There are Catholic Parish registers from Shinrone (Offaly/Tipperary) that record the baptism of two children of a Denis and Ellen Hayes. These children have the same names and approximate dates as those that have passed down through oral stories.

Denis and Ellen, and the two oldest children emigrated to NSW Australia around 1864. Alison has evidence of this of one child born on ship and their other children in Australia.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BIRTH DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>MARRIED</u>	<u>PARENTS</u>
John Gillespie	???	,	Old Deer Aberdeenshire 18 May1854	???
Elizabeth Davidson	Abt 1828	-Scotland	18 May1854	Alexander Davidson Christian Thomson?

I am looking for information in Scotland about birth of John and Elizabeth, siblings and parents.

John and Elizabeth were in Victoria, Australia between 1854 and 1857 when their child Alexander was born.

Alison needs hints on how to find information in Ireland or Scotland in the early half of the 1800s

## “A Little Piece of Ireland”



What a treat for those researching their Irish ancestors. Well worth watching along with a thermos of coffee and a heater,

This live stream was presented by Fiona Fitzsimons and Brian Donovan. I joined many others to the live stream from Dublin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

Fiona spoke on some of the genealogical web sites to study and then to look at various local places where you might get information like, the National Library, and Church of Ireland Register. Then we looked at where to find Estate Records, Rentals, Wage books and Leases. Maps were another topic. Bankrupted Estates was interesting and a discussion on how to use a genealogical researcher.

Brian comes from Find My Past, and explained what is available on this website. This covered many topics like Paris Registers (free on FMP), Registry of Deeds, Prison Record, Poor Relief and many more. He mentioned Liverpool was a Port where many migrants left for New Zealand. Two web sites he mentioned could be of interest, are [www.osi.ie](http://www.osi.ie) for maps and [www.askaboutireland.ie](http://www.askaboutireland.ie)

This live stream has been recorded and will be available at a later date on the N.Z. Society of Genealogists' web site. I think I will watch it again along with the notes I took down.

The following is a list of websites that were mentioned in the live stream and sent out by the N.Z. Society of Genealogists in the NZSG e-kit on August 12

[www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie)

[www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) \$\$

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) \$\$

[www.rootsireland.com](http://www.rootsireland.com) \$\$

[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/) \$\$

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

[www.nidirect.gov.uk/pulications/proni-guide-church-records](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/pulications/proni-guide-church-records)

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) Irish place names

[www.townlands.ie](http://www.townlands.ie)

[www.nli.ie/](http://www.nli.ie/) - look to the main catalogue, and the Sources data-base on the homepage

[www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/search-pronis-ecatalogue](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/search-pronis-ecatalogue)

[www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/AboutUs/library/registers/ParishRegisters/Parishregisters.pdf](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/AboutUs/library/registers/ParishRegisters/Parishregisters.pdf)

[www.apgen.org](http://www.apgen.org) –Association of Professional Genealogists



The \$\$ are pay sites

## Book recommended

**Kiwi Cameliers: a nominal role of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> companies of the Imperial Camel Corps in the Great War 1914-1918: by M. J. Pomeroy and P. J. Beattie; 2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2017.**

This second edition adds about 100 photographs of some of the members of the NZ companies of ICC, a number of recommendations for honours and awards.... This edition also adds some biographical detail to many of the fatal casualties suffered by these companies.

The entries are in alphabetical order similar to the Onward books produced by the same authors.

## Magazines

Who Do You Think You Are? (WDYTYA?), July 2020.

The New Zealand Genealogist, August 2020

Who Do You Think You Are? July and August 2020.

## **Committee Members**

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Operations Manual	Linda Leach	☎06 353 0899	<a href="mailto:leazep@xtra.co.nz">leazep@xtra.co.nz</a>
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*The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Palmerston North Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.*

