



# From 'Our House' to Yours

Papakura Branch: New Zealand Society of Genealogists



February 2017

Convenor: Iris Taylor Ph 2666546

Secretary: Fredda Martin Ph 2674487

Treasurer: Jane Brooker Ph 2960257

11 Opaheke Road

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Papakura

## Welcome to 2017.

I hope everyone had a good holiday and hopefully some family history finds. My daughter-in-law is adopted and over the break I had a chance to look at her Adoption Papers – the letters written by her birth mother and the adopting parents. She knows her original name and when it was changed to the one she has now. More importantly, her adopting mother has traced her biological family back to the late 1600s. They are from Norfolk in England. My husband's family also come from Norfolk. Her Adoption date is the same as my son's birthday. You never know, there may be a link way back!!!!.

Iris  
Convener

## Sad News

Huia Mitchell, a long time member of the our Papakura Branch of the NZSG passed away suddenly in December. Huia was a fountain of knowledge, particularly of local history and contributed much to our Branch. Her knowledge and her willingness to help in any way will be sorely missed.

We hope everyone had a good break with lots of 'finds' or just a rest from the hurly burly.

Over the next couple of months we have some excellent speakers lined up.

**February Meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> February:**

10 am: "Are you researching - or wasting your time and money?" with Jane Brooker.

Jane is giving this talk based on bitter experience and helpful tips from many people – hopefully something she says may help you.

7.30 pm: Julie Halligan will be speaking on "Researching Local History".

Julie Halligan, a researcher and reporter with E-local, is talking about carrying out local research.

Some of you may have seen her articles in the magazine. Come and hear how she goes about finding the background to her articles.

**March Meeting 7.30pm:** Geraldine O'Reilly speaks about the "Irish Servant Girl"

**April Meeting 10am:** The NZSG webmaster will help us understand the NZSG website.

**7.30pm:** To be advised

**May Meeting 7.30pm:** This is our Annual General Meeting. Please consider standing on the committee. Your views are important. And being a committee member gives more insight into the structure of New Zealand Genealogy Society and also you will be playing an important part for the future of Genealogists.

Our Christmas Raffles were won by: Robyn Johnson, Gail Thompson and Cathy Owens.

Thank you to all who donated to this and made these special prizes.

**Branch Subscriptions**

Thank you too, to all those who have paid their \$15.00 Papakura Branch Subscriptions. If you have not done so by the 31st of March, you will, unfortunately, not receive any more newsletters. These subscriptions assist the branch with the costs of running 'Our House' Power, insurance, purchase of new resources etc.

**Garage Sale**

To also assist with funds the Papakura branch will be holding the annual Garage Sale and Sausage Sizzle on 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Please start bringing your items.

This will be held at 'our house' at 8am. Cakes and preserves accepted but these must be securely wrapped and labelled. Produce, bric-a-brack, Books etc. Donations of goods can be dropped off at Our House during opening times, Tuesday mornings, Wednesday nights, and Saturday afternoons. **No electrical goods**

Apart from cakes, any items can now be received.

### **Trading Table**

Our trading table is always open. During meetings and in Research times. Your produce and purchases are valuable for funds. And it is surprising the extent of items.

### **NZSG Conference**

The next great event is the New Zealand Society of Genealogists' Conference and Annual General Meeting. This year it will be held at the Alexandra Park Function Centre, Greenlane West, Auckland. Beginning on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June to Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of June with Dinner on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

Register online at the NZSG Website [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz) or at reception in the Family Research Centre, 159 Queens Road, Panmure, Auckland. Or alternatively pick up a leaflet and post. The Theme of the Conference Is: **“Looking forward to the past”**

More information in the newsletters over the next couple of months.

### **Computer Group**

This group holds informal meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month from 1.30pm at 'Our House'

These cover problem solving and general tips for computer uses as well as Family History Support.

Contact Anne Megget at [amegget@ihug.co.nz](mailto:amegget@ihug.co.nz) 298 9235 or Kay Rule on 298 3736

Next computer group meeting Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 1.30pm

### **Legacy Sessions:**

These begin again at 'Our House'

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 1 -3pm

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 10 -12am

Many a problem has been solved here.

Contact Jane Brooker at [jane@cjarm.net](mailto:jane@cjarm.net) or on 299 8749

## **My Find**

I was asked by my daughter-in-law, born in New Zealand but lives in Australia if I could find where her mother was born. This is necessary for her to gain citizenship in Australia. I knew when her mother was born but not where. Historic Birth, Deaths and Marriages would not be possible as it was under 100 years. (Tried, but no luck – always try). Daughter's Grandfather was a well-known military man and so I trawled through his military records, thinking that he may have been given leave for a marriage or something. This Grandfather had married in Egypt during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War and had a career spanning much of the world. Anyway to cut a long story short. There in his record was a list of his dependants, full names, dates of birth AND where they were born! (All of his five children were born in different places)

Now daughter is able to get her mother's birth certificate from the New South Wales BDM. When searching, the clue you need may be hidden away on page 35.

Cathy

This year I would like to have your stories for our newsletter. I know some people have had some marvellous finds and eureka moments. We want to hear about them. This in YOUR newsletter and you will be assisting others in their search for their families. Consider also photos and I will include them if I can. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Cathy - Editor.

[owens@varteg.nz](mailto:owens@varteg.nz)

## **Our House is open for research**

A small door charge is required

Tuesday 9.00am to 12noon

Wednesday 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Saturday 1.00pm to 4.00pm

## **We also subscribe to these overseas Magazines.**

“Who Do You Think You Are”

“Family Tree”

They are there in our library for your benefit.

Please use them as they contain great information.

**1868 Killer storm sweeps the country** A cyclone swept south across the country from Saturday 1st. By the time it moved away on Tuesday 4th, more than 40 people had been killed.

**1931 Hawke's Bay earthquake strikes** When the deadly earthquake, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale, struck at 10.47 a.m., many buildings in central Napier and Hastings collapsed immediately.



**1985 USS Buchanan refused entry to New Zealand** New Zealand's Labour government refused the USS *Buchanan* entry because the United States would neither confirm nor deny that the warship had nuclear capability

**1840 The Treaty of Waitangi signed** More than 40 Māori chiefs signed a treaty with the British Crown in the Bay of Islands. This 'Treaty of Waitangi' remains controversial.

**1863 New Zealand's worst shipwreck** For the British military it was the costliest day of the New Zealand Wars – but it occurred far from the battlefield. Bringing naval stores from Sydney, the modern 1706-ton steam corvette HMS *Orpheus* ran aground on the bar at the entrance to Auckland's Manukau Harbour.

**1943 49 killed in Featherston POW incident** Just outside the Wairarapa town of Featherston, a memorial garden marks the site of a Second World War riot that resulted in the deaths of 48 Japanese prisoners of war (POWs) and one guard.

Now my challenge to you is: Find out the actual dates.

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/calendar>

We also receive newsletters from around New Zealand. Including:

Hutt Valley,

Fielding,

Kapiti,

Blenheim

New Plymouth,

Hibiscus Coast.

Many of these newsletters, which are available at "Our House" have interesting stories from their members. Their finds and challenges.

Best wishes to all who have had births, birthdays and other celebrations.

To those of you who have been unwell, a speedy recovery.

Also our sympathy to anyone who has had a recent bereavement.

Save travel to all those who are travelling be it worldwide or at home.

And welcome back to those recently returned.

### **Papakura Branch Committee Members**

Convenor: Iris Taylor 266 6546

Secretary: Fredda Martin 267 4487

Treasurer: Jane Brooker 296 0257

### **Committee members:**

Jocelyn Bruton 298 7985

Gail Thompson 299 1162

Shirley Early 2987888

Chris Bayley 279 9474

Cathy Owens 267 6455



**PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE**