



From 'Our House' to Yours

Papakura Branch: New Zealand Society of Genealogists



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March 2021

Convenor's Report

Yet again our monthly activities have been disrupted. I don't know about you, but it feels a bit like a rollercoaster doesn't it? In and out of lockdown, weather not sure if it is summer or not, do we do this or do we do that....

Our March meeting looks to be interesting - planning for what happens to your 'stuff' when you are gone, (not just genealogy) things you may not have thought of Marilyn will bring along a book she showed us at committee and give us some hints, who knew there was so much? Definitely food for thought.

March is cemetery month and Franklin branch are putting on a guided tour of Waiuku cemetery, see calendar for link. Have you done a cemetery lately?

We hope to see many of you at the memorial tea for Anne Tonar on 7th March 2pm. One of Anne's daughter hopes to be with us, please RSVP by 1st March.

Happy Hunting!

Jane

Coming up:

- April** What did your relatives do in the war? Not just those who served, but those who helped in so many other ways; Land army, WRVS canteen, fire watch, ARP wardens. What happened to the civilians in your family evacuees, bombed out, manpowered.
- May** AGM with guest speaker
- June** Show and Tell Genealogical treasures – Artifacts, Documents, Recipes, Photographs, What do you have?
- July** TBA
- August** Family History Month AM meeting Geraldine O'Reilly Irish Interest Group Topic to be advised.
Other activities TBA

Subs are due, please. Pay online at ASB 12-3031- 0617699-00

BRANCH MEMBER STORY

My Great-Great Grandfather, Joseph English

Joseph ENGLISH was born 1808 in St Johns, Limerick City, Ireland, the son of Joseph and his wife Elizabeth nee.

KENNY. He enlisted in the 60th Regiment at Dublin on 21 July 1826, aged 18 years and served a total of 20 years and 352 days, of which 8 years were in Gibraltar, Corfu, and West India. He was 5ft 5" tall, hair brown, eyes grey and a fair complexion, a labourer by trade. His army papers state that he was of "good character". He was discharged from the Army because of very bad varicose veins in both legs, the result of length of service in various climates. Joseph received 3 good conduct medals.

On 28 Sept 1828 Joseph married Sarah DOWD (born c1807), the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (nee McDERMOT) of Ireland, at St Thomas, Portsmouth, Hampshire, England. Their first son Edward was born 1829 and was christened at Portsea, England. Their other children were Ellen (Hellen) born c1831, Mary Ann born 1834 "at sea", Sarah born c1840 and Patrick Joseph born 1845. In July 1847 Joseph left Chatham, Kent with Sarah and their 5 children to settle in Howick. They came with other Fencible families on the "Minerva" arriving at Howick in October 1847. Two more children were born - William James, born 1848 (my great-grandfather) and Matilda born 1851.

Unfortunately, Patrick Joseph died in 1854 of scarlet fever.

Joseph was on the Jury List for Howick in 1848, and owned Lots 99 and 100 in Howick village, plus a 5-acre farmlet near Pigeon Mountain. Sarah died in 1887, aged 80. Joseph spent the last three months of his life at the Little Sisters of the Poor, Shelley Beach Rd, Ponsonby, Auckland. His last pension payment was paid to the Little Sisters. His inquest revealed his health "very feeble". He was not confined to bed but got up every day. He "took his food well". He was being assisted to dress "sitting on the side of the bed" when he made a little noise and fell back. The Good Mother tried to administer brandy, but he could not swallow it. The Doctor confirmed he died "quite naturally, no indication of poison having been taken - no froth at the mouth or nose". Joseph was 83 when he died in 1889. Both Sarah and Joseph are buried in the Howick Catholic Cemetery.

Incidentally, my Grandmother, Joseph's granddaughter, also died at the Little Sisters of the Poor in Ponsonby.

Iris

Thank you, Iris.

Easter Raffle

Coming Soon

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5



March 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 Evening Meeting 7pm	3 House open for research 7 – 9 Gloria & Marilyn	4	5	6	7 Afternoon Tea for Anne Tonar 2pm
Getting Sorted. Are you prepared? Talk and discussion.						
8 Legacy 1 -3	9 House open for research 10 -12 Gail & Jan	10 House open for research 7-9 Jane & Angela	11	12	13 NZSG Franklin Branch Behind the Headlines Guided walking tour of Waiuku Cemetery	14
				https://www.genealogy.org.nz/Franklin_76.aspx		
15	16 House open for research 10-12 Gail & Jan	17 Legacy 10-12 House open for research 7-9 Marilyn & Jane	18	19	20 House open for research 10 – 4 Gloria, Marilyn, Fredda & Jane	21
				Bring lunch, tea and coffee provided. Join us for research, help and chat.		
22	23 House open for research 10 -12 Gail & Jan	24 DNA Meeting 7-9 Chris & Heather	25	26 Papakura Library research assistance 11-1	27	28
		DNA Review				
29 Committee Meeting 7pm	30 House open for research 10 -12 Gail & Jan	31 House open for research 7-9 Jean & Iris				

February events updated.

On 2nd February, a number of members attended the first meetings back for the year and there were lively discussions about discoveries made over the break plus we all learned something new about the treasures at 'Our House' and how to use some of the resources available.

Sadly, due to commitments for many people no-one attended the first Legacy session and lockdown stopped the second. See calendar for new dates.

Another branch member contribution. Origins of some expressions. Thanks Kay.

1. In the 1400s a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. > > Hence, we have 'the rule of thumb.'
2. Many years ago, in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'... and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
3. Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history –

Spades - King David	Hearts – Charlemagne
Clubs - Alexander the Great	Diamonds - Julius Caesar.
4. In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... 'goodnight, sleep tight.'
5. It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.
6. In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So, in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts and settle down'. It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's.
7. Many years ago, in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. 'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.
8. In 1696, William III of England introduced a property tax that required those living in houses with more than six windows to pay a levy. In order to avoid the tax, house owners would brick up all windows except six. (The Window Tax lasted until 1851, and older houses with bricked-up windows are still a common sight in the U.K.) As the bricked-up windows prevented some rooms from receiving any sunlight, the tax was referred to as "daylight robbery".

HAVE YOU SEEN? This website www.behindthename.com

Look up your first name and find its meaning and history, related names (variants, diminutives and other languages and cultures) and popularity in different countries. They even have New Zealand.

For example, my name, 'Jane' was most popular in New Zealand in the late 50's, 60's and 70's as it was in the United States before dwindling away but is being used more recently in the Netherlands.

Meaning & History

Medieval English form of *Jehanne*, an Old French feminine form of *Iohannes* (see [JOHN](#)). This became the most common feminine form of *John* in the 17th century, surpassing [Joan](#). In the first half of the 20th century *Joan* once again overtook *Jane* for a few decades in both the United States and the United Kingdom. Famous bearers include the uncrowned English queen Lady Jane Grey (1536-1554), who ruled for only 9 days, British novelist Jane Austen (1775-1817), who wrote *Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice*, British primatologist Jane Goodall (1934-), and American actress Jane Fonda (1937-). This is also the name of the central character in Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre* (1847), which tells of Jane's sad childhood and her relationship with Edward Rochester.

Helpful hint:

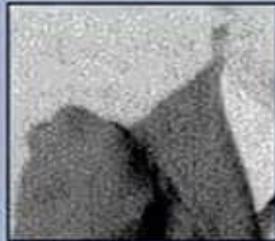
Trying to date photographs? These pictures may help BUT REMEMBER some people didn't change their styles each year, they simply couldn't afford it.

Women's fashions are the first things to check when trying to establish the date of a photograph. Fashions changed as often as they do today and they are an excellent indicator of the date.

In the example on the right, the prominent top of the sleeve on the young lady's dress are very helpful. This style was only common from about 1890 to 1898 — other examples are shown here.



1893



1892



1892

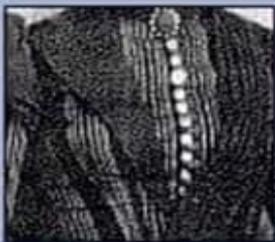


1894

Some aspects of fashion fell in and out of popularity. For example, very wide, loose sleeves on women's dresses were common in the mid-1860s, fell out of fashion for a time and are then seen again about 10 years later. Even a quick examination of old photographs demonstrates that there were a number of different styles popular at any given time. You cannot state that such and such *was* the fashion in a particular year — you can state that it was *a* fashion of the period.



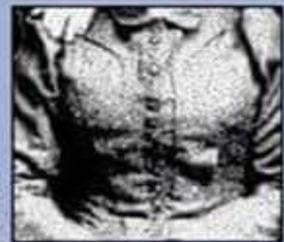
1888



1889



1890



1893

There are other clues in the picture. The closely-spaced buttons on both ladies' bodices are found from 1870 to 1900 — a rather broad period. However, the young girl on the left is wearing a check patterned dress; this design was popular for young girls between 1889 and 1893. A further clue is the pleated top of the skirt on the woman seated — this is only found on another photograph dated 1893.



1889



1890



1892



1893

Trading Table: Bring along your excess produce, jams, genealogy bits and bobs, no longer needed books etc and support the branch.

Ink Cartridges: We accept old, used Canon and HP cartridges only.

Last Word:



Who Knew?

If there are any errors, omissions or any comments about this newsletter please contact us via email to papakura@genealogy.org.nz - Please insert newsletter in the subject line.

Do you have an interesting story you would like to share? Any contributions, handy hints, or articles you would like to share for the next edition are always welcome. Please send to papakura@genealogy.org.nz.

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Preserving the Past for the Future

