



From 'Our House' to Yours

Papakura Branch: New Zealand Society of Genealogists



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May 2021

Convenor's Report.

April has been a busy month for me with the branch - getting the financial reports organised for the AGM, writing the convenors report for same, sorting out issues with insurance, photocopier and magazine delivery, attending the Regional meeting and helping with some research for overseas enquirers. Other committee members have similarly been busy, with the agenda and remits for the AGM, liaising with council staff, following up enquiries, giving talks, organising speakers, making sure we have supplies at the house and other myriad small and not so small tasks.

Without them, the branch could not function and without your support and attendance we cannot continue. Your support last year through lockdowns kept us going, please keep up the good work and come along to sessions. Unless you tell us what you want, we won't know.

Jane

Coming up:

- May** AGM Speaker Peter Krafft How to get the most out of the census
- June** Show and Tell Genealogical treasures – Artifacts, Documents, Recipes, Photographs,
- July** Are you prepared? Led by Marilyn transferred from March
- August** Family History Month - AM meeting Geraldine O'Reilly. Irish Interest Group Topic to be advised
PM Meeting Jane Brooker topic to be advised
- September** TBA
- October** AM meeting Barbara Mansell co-author of Clevedon Women and the 1893 Suffrage Petition
PM Meeting

April events updated.

Unfortunately, the April meetings coincided with the long Easter weekend, but those who attended enjoyed the discussion and information exchanged on our non-military relatives. See later in the newsletter for some further information. The Legacy session was well attended, as was the afternoon tea in memory of Anne Tonar. (See photo and an article from Margaret Mundy)

In our Library:

The February Who Do You think You Are? Magazine has arrived, we are waiting for March, April and May. There has been a hitch with our Family Tree subscription, which is being sorted out hopefully.

Clevedon Women and the 1893 Suffrage Petition Jessie Munro & Barbara Mansell.

Visit to Selwyn Oaks:

Earlier in April, committee member Gloria Buddle, was invited to attend Selwyn Oaks Retirement village to meet with residents who were interested in learning more about family history. This was a follow up from a chat she had had on another outing with a resident. Armed with pedigree charts, ideas for recording stories, leaflets and other information, a lively discussion was had and included DNA as some of them had had results back.

It will be interesting to see if anything comes of this. Thanks Gloria.

Some notes from the April meeting

Women's War Service Auxiliary WWSA (Also known as women without sex appeal apparently!)

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/women-together/new-zealand-womens-royal-army-corps-association>

Women in WW1

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/12-things-you-didnt-know-about-women-in-the-first-world-war>

VAD Records

During the war, many New Zealand nurses and Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs) went overseas to assist sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals in Europe and Africa. It was their own choice and it was a dangerous role.

<https://vad.redcross.org.uk/>

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/research/civilian-records/medical-volunteers.htm> links to both the British red cross and Friends ambulance unit. Quakers also formed the; Friends War Victims Relief Committee. <https://www.quaker.org.uk/about-quakers/our-history/quakers-and-wwi>

This page from the Australian Women's Archives Project gives information about VAD's from Australia

<https://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE0491b.htm>

www.findmypast.com has a British Red Cross Register of Overseas Volunteers 1914-1918

[www.nzhistory.govt.nz](https://nzhistory.govt.nz) has a long article "Supporting the war effort 1914-1919."

May 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
AGM + speaker Peter Krafft 'How to get the most out of the census'						
3	4 House open for research 10-12 Gail & Jan Evening Meeting 7pm	5 House open for research 7-9 Gloria &	6	7	8	9
1	11 House open for research 10-12 Gail & Jan	12 House open for research 7-9 Jane & Angela	13	14	15 House open for research 10 – 4 Gloria, Marilyn, Fredda & Jane	16
17	18 House open for research 10 -12 Gail & Jan	19 Legacy 10-12 House open for research 7 – 9 Chris & Heather	20	21	22	23 Irish interest group AGM & talk Irish buried in NZ 12.30 Scottish Interest group AGM 1pm Panmure
24 Committee Meeting 7pm	25 House open for research 10 -12 Gail & Jan	26 House open for research 7-9 Marilyn & Fredda	27	28 Papakura Library research assistance 11-1	29	30
31						

Bring lunch, tea and coffee provided.
Join us for research, help and chat.

Reminder – Did you forget to pay?

We have recently had several items donated from members to help fundraise. These are being put on Trademe or added to the trading table. If you take one of these items, your prompt payment is appreciated, as is your payment for attendance at branch activities.

Anne Patricia TONAR, nee VAZEY. born 25 Feb 1944, Auckland.

I first met Anne in 1997, shortly after I moved to Auckland, to work at Manukau. After a couple of months, I discovered the Manukau Reference Library, which was then on Ronwood Ave. So, I would dash down in my lunch hour to check the BDM microfiche. As you do, you notice when someone else is using the best microfiche. After a few visits when we were both there at the same time, we got chatting about our family names. And the surname LAMBIE came up. (This is NOT the LAMBIE, that Lambie Drive is named after. Anne said that she had the same surname. We were both pretty new at researching, our NZSG # are very close. When I said that I had a copy of the will of George LAMBIE who died in 1917 in Ashburton, everything went BINGO. She was a great grandchild through George's first child William (b 1859 Eaglesham, Renfrewshire Scotland, and I am a great grandchild through the second child Mary (b 1860 Loudoun, Ayrshire, Scotland).

So we met every so often at the Library. She then told me about the genealogy group in Papatoetoe, and we both started going to their meetings. After I bought a computer (Win 3.11), in 1998 and got on the internet, Anne would sometimes come to my place to do some searching on Family Search, and RootsWeb. Then when her daughter upgraded her computer, she gave Anne her old one. So now she could do research at her place. Her husband was reluctant to have the internet, but after showing him and setting the PC up to access the trotting websites, he was much more amenable, after a couple of years even bought a new one.

Anne did not drive. If I was going somewhere connected with genealogy, I would often pick her up, and we visited cemeteries, and places of interest. She found out about the Papakura Group, and told me about it, so I also started going there.

As she did not work, she had more time to delve and poke around in records. I remember about 2000 she decided that she was going to locate her grandfather. She knew he was in Taranaki in 1938 as I had stumbled across the name, when I was down in Taranaki to see my Mum. This was well before Ancestry was available, and the only way to look for him was Electoral Rolls. So she started on 1943 Fiche no 1 Auckland, and then worked her way through every fiche until she found him in various parts of the country for the next 20 years after her grandparents had divorced. He was a meat inspector for the Government and moved around to various meat works.

This inspired me. If she could find him for 20 or so years, surely, I could find my grandfather, and how did a person who was living just out of Dunedin in 1908, meet and marry my grandmother in the Manawatu in 1916. So I followed her example and over a number of weeks when I could fit some research time in, when the library was open, managed to trace him, first to the North Island, then closer to where she lived.

To my knowledge, Anne never used a genealogy program but kept all her records in Paper form. Every family had its own file on a ring. Everything was meticulously recorded in pencil, until she had proved that fact, when she then wrote it in pen. She found genealogy an absorbing hobby and became a regular in the reference library, often helping others, as she became experienced. There was one time when I needed to contact her urgently, (she never owned a cell phone) so I rang the reference desk and asked for her, and they knew exactly who I meant. This was when the reference library was on Ronwood Ave. She was highly embarrassed, but at the same time pleased that I was able to get a message to her that was important.

Many people have been helped by Anne, especially complete strangers who have gone to the reference library not knowing how to start their research. Most of these knew nothing of the NZSG, and Anne was very good at having an NZSG brochure in her bag to pass on.

I will miss her. She would pass on leads, of things coming onto the internet, when the internet was new, and I am grateful for knowing her.

Margaret Mundy NZSG# 14426



Papakura and Papatoetoe branch members at afternoon tea in memory of Anne Tonar

4th MAY is our AGM.

It is important that we have a quorum and the guest speaker is very interesting, so please attend.

Your committee members have worked hard over the past year to keep the branch functioning with the various lockdowns and other factors that have impacted us.

Like many organisations we face challenges, but many hands make light work. Please consider helping on the committee.

Without YOUR support the branch will fold.

BITS & BOBS

Auckland Libraries together with the GCG will be hosting the Family History Fair again this August.

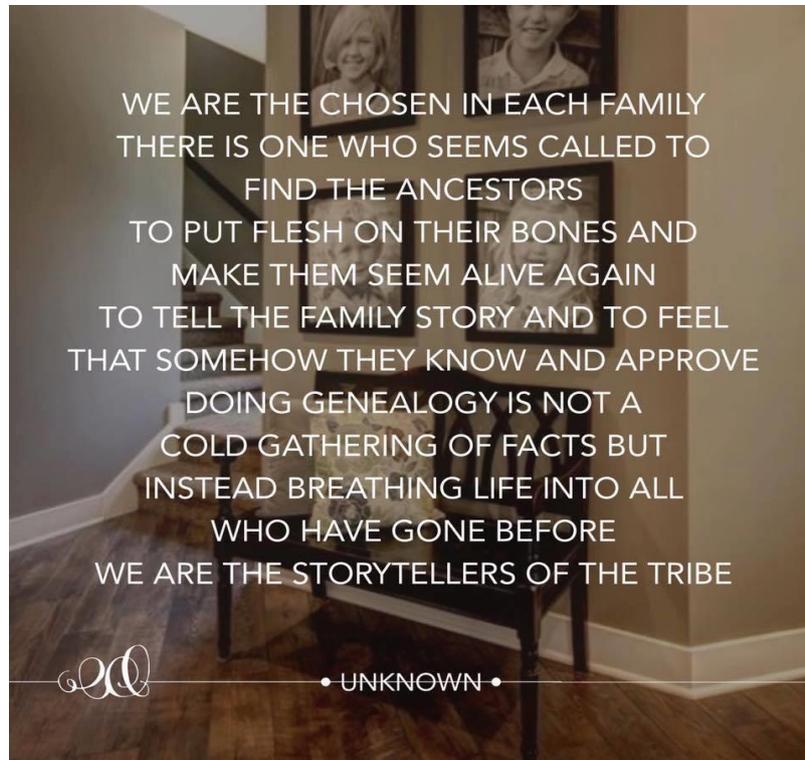
Ancestry has added Australian Army Militia service records 1901-1940, updated the Australia NZ FindaGrave and added cemetery records from Balmain.

Findmypast has opened more redacted 1939 register entries and added Royal Engineers tracer cards from 1900-1949 surnames A-H in first release. The site has also introduced a new and improved address search function.

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 used Canon and HP cartridges only.

Last Word:



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

