



Papamoa Branch

1st
February
2017

NEWSLETTER



6TH FEBRUARY

The Papamoa Branch of the NZSG meets on the 2nd Monday of the Month in the Tohora Room at the Papamoa Community Centre, 10am- 2pm. The doors open at 9.30.

The next meeting will be on Monday 13th February 2017. Entry \$3.00.

Programme: Bev Hodges will be our speaker for the morning – “Staying safe on the Internet” and “The Importance of Oral History.” Colin Adams will speak in the afternoon on understanding land maps and their use in research.



Welcome to a new year of Family History. This edition comes to you from “**the shed!**” Yes, we are now living in a rented cabin, and the extra essentials such as the computer, washing machine etc. we have in the adjacent shed. This is a stepping stone to our new house, and garage which should start sometime this year. **Please Members, I need more genealogy articles! How to and Family stories that you find as you do your research.**

Thank you to those who have sent me articles to start the year off.

The Editor: Lorrimer McAlister NZSG 1091 (new address 614 Kaitemako Rd Tauranga.) Email: drawbridge@kinect.co.nz (new) Phone: 0273836217

Almoner: Please notify Carole Bridge of unwell or bereaved members.
Phone: 578 1144
(new) Email: kenrole@gmail.com



Genealogy Friendly: meets on the 3rd Monday of the month, 1.30pm -3.30pm, in the Mako Room at the Papamoa Community Centre. **The next meeting will be on the 20th February 2017.** Contact: Daphne Friis Ph.575 4674. Email: daphnefriis@kinect.co.nz (Please note new time.)

The Convenor's Comment

Betty Atkinson betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz



Greetings from the Convenor's Desk!

I trust that you have all returned from the break over Christmas and New Year feeling rejuvenated and keen to get into your research again. I spent some of my quiet time learning more about DNA and the interpretation of test results. I also managed to get a lot of digital photos sorted ready for my writing projects in 2017. So, whatever you are planning for 2017 I wish you happy hunting!

December Meeting Review

What a lot of fun we had at this meeting learning about each other's research areas when we pinned the places we are researching on a World map and a map of the British Isles. Thanks to those who enthusiastically participated.

Thanks must go to our members for their generosity in contributing items for the Christmas Raffle. This enabled us to make many prize draws and spread the 'winnings' around. Thanks also to Gloria and Shirley for giving so freely of their time to make up the baskets and gifts so attractively. As always we had too much food at morning tea but I guess that's what the pre-Christmas season is all about!

February Meeting

We will start our 2017 programme on Monday 13th February with two speakers for the day. Please see elsewhere in the newsletter for details. I am certainly looking forward to hearing both Bev Hodges and Colin Adams sharing their knowledge with us.

Also in February it is our Branch's turn to host the NZSG Waikato/Bay of Plenty Regional Meeting and this will take place between 9.30 am and 3.00pm on Saturday 25th February in the Tohora Room at the Papamoa Library and Community Centre. If you are available to assist with set up of the room and /or provision and serving of morning tea there will be a roster set up at the February meeting.

These meetings are attended by branch or committee members from as far away as Te Kuiti and as far north as Huntly and Whangamata. Reports on Branch activities are given and the meeting is addressed by a board member of the NZSG Board who brings a report on the latest Board meeting decisions. In our case this is Robyn Williams, the Chairperson of the Board who is our Regional contact. All welcome to attend.

Research Assistance

Don't forget the last Friday of each month in the Papamoa Library for assistance with your research. Branch volunteers are there from 10.00 am until 12.00 noon.

The next session will be on **Friday 24th February 2017**. A big thanks to those who help out at these sessions.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 13th.

Betty

NZSG 17053

THE CON OF KINTYRE

A few years ago the magical mix of skirling bagpipes and Paul McCartney's "*Mull of Kintyre*" stirred even my small drop of Scottish blood to search the map of Scotland to find this geographical feature. Nearly twenty years on I was searching the Peninsular of Kintyre yet again, to gain some physical and historical background on my recently acquired surname, *McAlister*.

At this time the focus of my search was the Northern area where the *Macalister's* were the Hereditary Constables of Tarbert Castle, a royal castle of Argyll. The meaning of the name "*Tarbert*" is a narrow strip of dry land. The following story illustrates the significance of this name, and the historical importance of this area where Kintyre is joined to the mainland by a mere mile of dry land, between Loup and Loch Fyne.

Now, Nine hundred and twenty three years ago in the year 1093 King Malcom of Scotland had a meeting with King Magnus Bare-Legs of Norway. The outcome of these discussions was that they agreed that the mainland belonged to Scotland and the islands belonged to Norway. The test of what was Norwegian was to be whether a ship with its rudder in position could sail round it.

King Magnus knew that the Peninsular of Kintyre was a good piece of land and of better potential than even the best Hebridean Island, so he set about to acquire this territory for Norway. When he arrived at East Loch Tarbert (in his Dragon Ship) he organized his men to physically haul the boat onto dry land, with himself ensconced, hand on the tiller. Then with the aid of wooden rollers proceeded to complete the navigation of Kintyre, all be it on dry land, until they arrived at West Loch Tarbert.

This is how the Vikings conned the choice land of Kintyre from the Scottish. Later on Kintyre formed part of the Macdonald Lordship of the Isles, and later still during the 1600's it was conquered by the Campbells.



Lorrimer McAlister.

NZSG 1091

7th December 2016

Genealogy Trivia:

If you figure there's 25 years
between each generation,
500 years ago there were
1,048,576 people involved
in creating YOU!
YOU are special!





(From Shirley)

10 Genealogical Gems to get you Back Further

Niall Cullen - Find My Past

The resources that could help grow your family tree even more than you probably thought possible

In general, tracing your family history back to the middle ages and beyond is a challenge. Luckily, many of our amazing UK parish records date back as far as 1538, when Henry VIII was still on the throne, but we've got a lot more to offer than just parish registers. Here's some of our favourite early record collections,

many of which you may have missed.

Britain, Registers Of Licences To Pass Beyond The Seas 1573-1677

New to the site, this collection offers our earliest travel records by far. It includes lists of people who travelled from Britain to Europe, the Americas and other colonies. If you find your ancestors in these records you can learn their names and ages, where they departed from and their eventual destination.

Boyd's Inhabitants Of London & Family Units 1200-1946

Stretching back to 1200, these records can help extend the branches of your London family tree further than you ever imagined. The collection consists of 70,000 handwritten sheets, each containing details about a London family and amounting to over 583,000 individual records. In essence, it's like an early mini census of the British capital.

England & Wales Published Wills & Probate Indexes, 1300-1858

Wills are some of the best records for getting your research back further as they tend to cover long periods of time. These 34,000 plus indexes usually contain names, dates, locations, occupations and marital status and come with a glossary to help you understand the legal terms contained within.

Inheritance Disputes Index, 1574-1714

This quirky index records over 77,000 names of people who were involved in inheritance disputes at the English Court of Chancery over a 140 year time frame, dating back to the 16th century. It's one of our only early collections that will add some real substance to your ancestor's life story and better still, it's only available on Findmypast.

Royal Household Staff 1526-1924

This collection is a true diamond in our crown! It contains over 386,000 records of household staff who served the Royal Family, dating back to the reign of Henry VIII right up to George V and including every British monarch in between.

Index Of Irish Wills 1484-1858

Irish genealogy can be tricky at the best of times, making this collection, dating back to the 15th century, a real find. In each entry you'll usually find out your relative's name and address and executor's names are also included in almost half of the records.

New England Naturalizations, 1791-1906

Dating back to the earliest colonies in the northeastern corner of the United States, these exciting records can reveal extensive information about your family as they settled in America. Each record includes a transcript and an original image which usually includes country of birth, date of arrival in the US and names of witnesses.

United States, Early American Vital Records

This collection consists of over 30 publications about the earliest settlers in America in the 1600s. You'll uncover birth, marriage and death registers as well as gravestone inscriptions, wills and records from the American Revolutionary War. This resource is a must-search if your family settled in an American colony.

Australian Dictionary Dates & Men

First published in 1879, this document covers notable men in Australian history and the history of the country from 1542 onwards. It'll help you with your early Australian family history and will also add context as it includes a list of chronological historical events in the country.

Early History Of New Zealand

One of the highlights of this record set is a valuable list of New Zealand visitors and residents from 1642-1839. It also features extensive material and illustrations covering the history of the country

Thank you Shirley

Letter to the Editor

Hi Lorrimer

While at the Library today doing our monthly help session I noticed the following details of which members must be informed:

Since November the Library car park has been revamped and there are now new parking restrictions.

Yellow line parking spaces on the far left as you come in the entrance are restricted to P60 mins.

Middle parking spaces seem to have no time limitations.

Right hand parking spaces have been repainted to have 3 x disabled car parks + 2 x Pram car parks (don't think any of our members qualify for these! 😊)

For committee members who have stuff to unload from their cars I suggest we use the Loading zone and then move our cars over to the Plaza car park.

For able-bodied branch members I suggest that you park in the Plaza car park. There are usually plenty of spaces available there in the mornings but it sure fills up later in the day.

*Cheers
Betty*





Website from Helen

Ever wondered what your street looked like 50 years ago?

A website has been launched showing how much Rotorua and the Bay of Plenty has changed over the years.

The website, called Retrolens, provides free access to hundreds of thousands of aerial photographs taken from the 1930s to the early - 2000s.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Waikato Regional Council, Environment Canterbury and Hawkes Bay regional council worked together to create the website.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council geospatial team leader Glen Clarkin said in a statement Retrolens was a great project to be part of.

“It means the public can easily access some of the photos it holds which would otherwise sit on a shelf and gather dust.”

“By collaborating with the other councils a great public resource had been created that would have been otherwise unaffordable had each council tried to do the project on its own,” said Mr Clarkin.

He said it was a fun tool for people to use to see what the land around them looked like decades ago. Visitors to the site can download a copy of the image for their own use.

The images on Retrolens are sourced from a parallel project which is digitizing the Crown’s archive of historical aerial photos to preserve them.

The website can be found at <http://retrolens.nz/map/> s

Helen Riddell

(A True story from the pages of the Manchester Evening News)

Last Wednesday a passenger in a taxi heading for Salford station leaned over to ask the driver a question and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention.

The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate window. For a few moments everything was silent in the cab..

Then the shaking driver said “are you OK? I’m so sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me.”

The badly shaken passenger apologized to the driver and said,

“I didn’t realize that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle someone so badly.”

The driver replied, “No, no, I’m the one who is sorry, it’s entirely my fault.

Today is my very first day driving a cab. I’ve been driving a hearse for 25 years.”



Mark McKinney

News from the Library 2017



Happy New Year Everyone. Here's to another great year of discoveries with your research. I must say how wonderful it is to work with another family member on your family tree, and bounce stories off each other, photos and information . On the wonderful Facebook page - New Zealand Genealogy and Beyond, I spotted that someone was looking for information of my great great grandparents. Of course I replied immediately, they were her great x3 grandparents, and over the past 6 months, we have shared much and became good friends :) I am looking forward to meeting her, hopefully in the near future :) She now lives in rural Queensland and is making a book for her Grandmothers 90th birthday.

Lots of people turn their noses up at Facebook, you can limit what you see. There are some great genealogy sites that can be very helpful. Our own 'Papamoa Genealogy' site has 25% of our members who have joined.

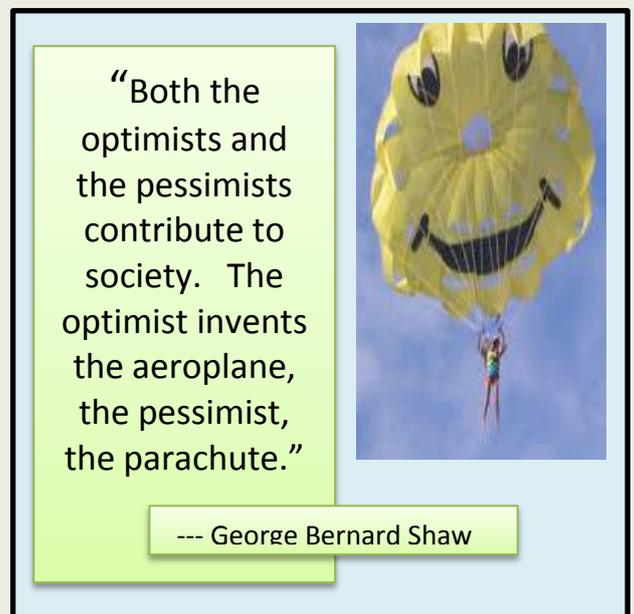
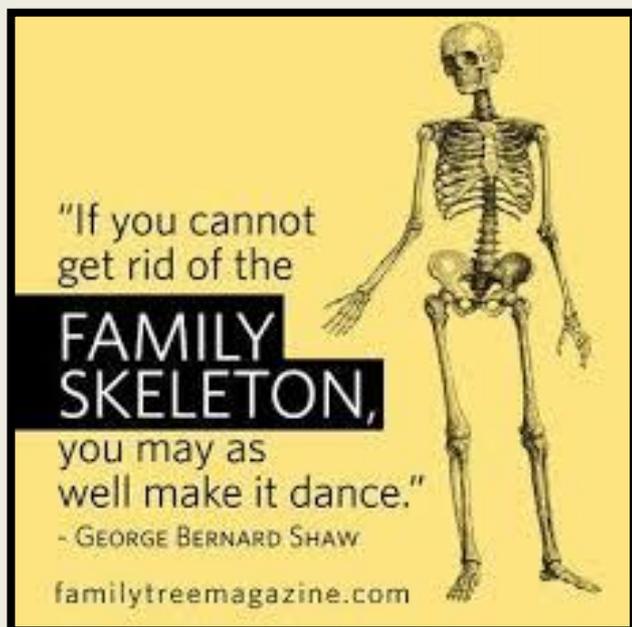
Back to our Library Thanks to Gloria Davies and Heather Culling-Smith who helped with the annual stocktake. I am pleased to say that all books, folders, maps have been returned. PLEASE look for the following missing CDs, if you think you may have borrowed them in the past.

1. Mid Atlantic 1340 -1940, New England 1600 -1900s, Military Records—US Soldiers 1784 -1800
2. NZWW1 Service Personal & Reserves Index
3. New Zealand Marriages 1836 -1956

We now have a full set of the Irish Maps to complement the existing ones. They will be available for issue at our February meeting. They cost \$740.00. We are very fortunate that we are able to purchase this valuable resource for all to use. We are hoping to have someone talk about the use of the maps in our research soon, for all us newbies

We have also received half the list of 'Unlock the Past' Booklets, they are ready to borrow. Some of the Titles are - Social Media for Family Historians, British and Irish newspapers, Finding Ancestors in Church Records, Convict Transportation Lists 1787-1800, DNA for genealogists. I am sure there will be something that will be helpful for you all. Do ask if I can be of any help regarding our library

Shirley Youens



2017 – 2018 Committee Nominations

While our existing committee members enjoy the roles they fill we need to make provision for the future.

With the growth of membership in the last year, (we have almost reached 100 financial members at the time of writing) I am looking for members to sit on the committee to learn how it all runs and perhaps ‘understudy’ for a position that interests them which will be vacated in the future.



Our AGM is due to be held on Monday 8th May 2017 so if you are interested in learning more please contact me on betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz

Thanks,

Betty Atkinson -- Convenor.

Facebook Page – Branch Members only

Don't forget to check out our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/906448932749791/>

Or email Admins:

Betty on betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz OR

Kate on katemcewan5@gmail.com

Members share useful information there regularly and help each other.



Wine does not make you FAT ... it makes you LEAN ... (against tables, chairs, floors, walls and ugly people.)

Stories & information in the Newsletter are sourced from various publications & the Internet. While every care has been taken, their accuracy cannot always be guaranteed.

The Editor: Lorrimer McAlister NZSG 1091 (my 50th issue)

