



# PAPAMOA BRANCH

## November Newsletter 2017

The Papamoa branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists meets on the second Monday of the month in the Tohora Room at the Papamoa Community Centre from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm.

The doors open at 9.30 am. Tea and coffee provided but bring your own lunch.

*For branch meeting apologies please email [papgen@gmail.com](mailto:papgen@gmail.com)*

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 13 November 2017**

**Door charge \$5.00**

Our speaker will be Jane Brooker a member from the Papakura Branch of the NZSG. Jane will speak on:  
“Are you researching – or wasting time and money?”

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### Hands-on Help:

Volunteers are at the Papamoa Library to help with your research on: **Friday Nov 24, from 10.00 am – 12 noon**

#### **Genealogy Classes and Support Learning Centre Tauranga Library:**

A Glimpse in Time:

Exploring the 1939 Register:

Friday Nov 10 10.00 am – 12 noon

Individual Genealogy Research Assistance

An experienced volunteer will help you.

(Bookings essential)

Fridays: 10.00 – 11.00 am & 11.00 am – noon

**Waikato/BOP Regional Meeting:** Hosted by South Waikato Branch at the Hospital Conference room, Tokoroa.

**Nov 4, 2017 at 9.45 for 10.00 am start**



## Greetings from the Convenor

### October Meeting Review

At this meeting, we launched the branch's new sound system, which proved to be a success. Blue Hone was acknowledged and thanked for the tremendous amount of time that she spent finding the best system to suit our needs. Her knowledge and experience of the use of such equipment was put to good use. Thanks also to the committee members who so enthusiastically tested it prior to the meeting! Mark McKinney was also thanked for the system he put together for us a few years ago which was returned to him with many thanks.

We welcomed Bruce Ralston, Editor of the NZSG Magazine and Julie MacDonald, a NZSG Board member and writer. Bruce and Julie gave a presentation on the different ways we can write up the results of our research. We then moved into small groups and worked on writing a story about one of our family. As one member wrote on our Facebook page: *"It's funny how it seemed hard at first and then the room went quiet and everyone was very busy writing, obviously our creative juices were flowing onto the paper..."* Several members I have spoken to since the meeting have indicated how encouraging it was and they have started writing.

My hope is that some of you will submit something to Fiona McAllister our Newsletter Editor for us all to read. Perhaps you will also submit something to The New Zealand Genealogist magazine for Bruce Ralston to publish.

### **Next meeting in November:**

Our speaker will be Jane Brooker a member of the Papakura Branch of the NZSG. Jane's topic will be, "Are We Researching or Wasting Time and Money". I think about: Do I make the most of my Ancestry subscription, my Find my Past subscription, my NZSG subscription? Do I set aside enough time to research well and record the results? Do we make the most of our Branch membership? It will be interesting to see how Jane's presentation will challenge each of us.

As usual, we will have volunteers at the Papamoa Library to help you with your research on

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 between 10.00 am and 12 noon.**

Happy researching everybody!

Betty – NZSG17053

*Betty Atkinson*



## A word from the Editor

October for me was another busy month, with a couple of weekends away, and two trips to Auckland to visit my elderly mum whose health is not the best. My partner went to Japan for a couple of weeks so I was at home holding the fort, wrangling chickens and cats, running the house, (*which included a serious clean up after three weeks of neglect in September!*) It being 'Pinctober', I was also doing some volunteer work for Breast Cancer Support Tauranga, a local charity that I'm involved with which supports local women.

One of the things I really enjoy when I'm driving out of town is listening to podcasts (recorded audio files). If you haven't yet discovered this interesting (and best of all, generally free) media, I urge you to investigate! I have learned so much from these and many help my genealogy research come alive by giving fascinating historic background and tidbits. I've enjoyed podcasts on the Shetlands, British history, world-changing events, disasters, famous people and crimes amongst other things. "Black Hands", the 11 part series on the Bain murders was captivating and enlightening. Like most New Zealanders I had an opinion on what I thought had happened but the podcasts revealed so many new details that I had never heard before. If you have a 'smartphone' or tablet, you can easily download the Podcast app and new devices come with it preloaded.

After several months' hiatus from my genealogy research, as frequently happens after attending our branch meeting, I was tempted to delve into something or other on *Ancestry*. Several hours later when it was well past what should have been dinnertime, I realised my addiction is still as strong as ever! I have had my aunt DNA tested and not surprisingly, her matches are much stronger than mine are; however, I haven't had time to explore them yet. That will be my next project...

Regards, Fiona - NZSG 26889

**Email: [fiona@betterwords.co.nz](mailto:fiona@betterwords.co.nz) - Phone: 021 855 603 - [www.betterwords.co.nz](http://www.betterwords.co.nz)**

### Getting to know your fellow branch members

Have you considered sharing a little about yourself and adding some 'local colour' to our newsletters? Please send a short bio, including the key family names you are researching and a head shot. Alternatively, perhaps you could share the story you wrote at Bruce Ralston's workshop last month. I can help with editing and I would really love to hear from you, as I'm sure would your fellow branch members! Send your submissions by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please understand that items will be included depending on available space and at the editor's discretion to ensure a balance of material.

Many thanks to Kate McEwan for her story this month, on page 4, about the King's Pennies belonging to her family.

## The King's Penny

Some of you may have heard the expression "The King's Penny" but do not know what it means. As a genealogist, it is really great to be able to say that I have two of these in my home. When I was a young child, I was sad that we had a "King's Penny" in our family and my husband was also sad that they had one in their family. This was because if you had a 'King's Penny' in your family, it meant that a member of your family had not returned from the First World War.

The **Memorial Plaque** was issued after the First World War to the next-of-kin of all British and Empire service personnel who were killed as a result of the war. The plaques (which could be described as large plaquettes) were made of bronze, and hence popularly known as the "Dead Man's Penny", because of the similarity in appearance to the somewhat smaller penny coin. There were 1,355,000 plaques issued, which used 450 tonnes of bronze, and they continued to be issued into the 1930s to commemorate people who died because of the war. (Source: Wikipedia)



I will start with my grandfather Peter Ross, born in Inverurie, Aberdeen, Scotland. He was my maternal grandfather, and we were always told that he had died at sea. Peter joined the army August 30, 1914 in Maryhill, Glasgow. (Maryhill had army barracks for many years). He was 25, already married and had three small children.

On the June 6, 1915, he landed in Gallipoli. (My grandfather was in fact a baker, and he was with the Supply Unit and classed, as far as the army was concerned, as a driver). On July 12, 1915, at Gallipoli he was wounded in the chest by gunshot. (Wounded in action) This resulted in him being transported on the hospital ship *Asturias* to Alexandria, Egypt.

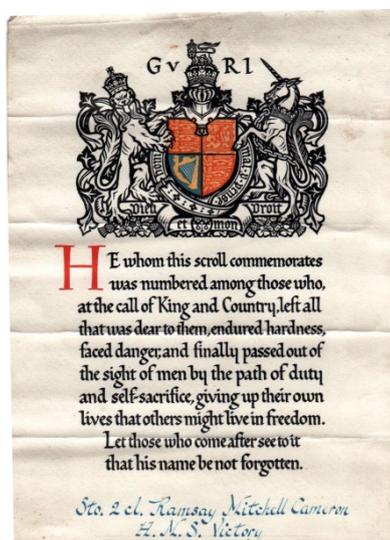


He was returned to Gallipoli on August 2, 1915 with the 52<sup>nd</sup> (Lowland) Infantry Division. I don't know why, but January 9, 1917 saw him hospitalised once more in Alexandria. Next, he was shipped to France and hospitalised there. By May 25, 1917, he was back in Gallipoli. In October and November 1917, he was once again in hospital. December 4, 1917 saw him transferred to the Australian Mounted Division for duty with the 5<sup>th</sup> Mounted Brigade.

***The Australian Mounted Division, originally formed as the Imperial Mounted Division in January 1917, was a mounted infantry, light horse and yeomanry division. The division was formed in Egypt, and along with the Anzac Mounted Division, formed part of Desert Column, Egyptian Expeditionary Force in World War I. The division was originally made up of the Australian 3rd Light Horse Brigade, (formerly the Anzac Mounted Division) the reconstituted 4th Light Horse Brigade, and two British yeomanry brigades; the 5th Mounted Brigade and 6th Mounted Brigade.***  
(Source: Wikipedia).

Peter embarked on the Hospital Transport ship *Norman* for four weeks furlough in the U.K. on compassionate grounds on August 31, 1918. He was in fact hospitalised in Hastings and at the end of his four weeks was retained.

It was not until my sister and I began doing our family tree research that we found that our grandfather had not died at sea on his way home after the war, but had in fact been hospitalised in Hastings and had died in Hastings. We were a bit perplexed as to why he was buried in a war cemetery and not brought home to Scotland for burial, but we just thought it was probably a lack of funds on our grandmother's part. We later discovered however, that he had been released from hospital, and was living in a boarding house in Hastings until the doctors felt that he was fit to be discharged.



I am quoting here from the Entry of Death and the Coroner's Report: ***Dead body found in the wash of the sea opposite the Bull Inn, 27 January, 1919. Cause of death Asphyxia, due to drowning. Suicide whilst of unsound mind.***

This information was not on his army record. Today we would consider that he had suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and back in WW1 it would have been classed as Shell Shock.

The other King's Penny in our family was awarded to my husband's uncle, Ramsay Mitchell Cameron, who was born in Cambuslang, Scotland in 1899. Ramsay joined the British Navy on June 28, 1918 at the age of 18. He was a Stoker, 2nd Class on H.M.S Victory. He died July 11, 1918 and the cause of death is registered as, "Died from disease: Pneumonia" in The Royal Navy Hospital, Hasler, meaning he never actually saw conflict, which was possibly a good thing.

My grandfather Peter Ross was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. I have never seen these and I do not remember them being around when I was a child although the "King's Penny" was.

Having the "King's Penny" for both of these relations is rewarding to us as a family, but as you will appreciate, I would rather have had my grandfather around when I was young and my husband would rather have had his uncle.

**Kate McEwan NZSG 26490**

## Genealogy Friendly Group

Join Daphne Friis on the third Monday of the month to share and learn from other enthusiastic 'genies'.

The group meets in the Mako Room at the Papamoa Community Centre on the third Monday of each month from 1.30 – 3.30 pm.

NEXT MEETING: **Monday November 20, 2017**

Contact Daphne on 07 575 4674



## Celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Te Puke Genealogy Branch



The first meeting of the branch was held April 28, 1978 and an anniversary lunch is planned for **April 26, 2018 at the Te Puke Senior Citizens' Club**. An invitation is extended to all former members to attend the buffet luncheon, for which there will be a charge. Any ex members interested in attending, please contact **Graham Black** at [grabet81@gmail.com](mailto:grabet81@gmail.com). Further details will be forwarded nearer the anniversary date to all those who have registered their interest.

### Useful Resources:

Thanks to Helen Riddell for sharing some excerpts from The Genealogy InTime Magazine - a great resource for reading about new records on line. <http://www.genealogyintime.com/>

**Denmark** – Huge news for anyone with Danish ancestors. FamilySearch has put online the Denmark censuses for 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1901 and 1906. These collections can be browsed by image or searched by first and last name (in total, some 12.5 million records have already been indexed).

The 1860 census was Denmark's ninth census since 1787. It was taken on February 1, 1860. The records are in Danish and German. All these census records can be searched by first name and last name. Access is free. [[Denmark 1860 Census](#)] [[Denmark 1870 Census](#)] [[Denmark 1880 Census](#)] [[Denmark 1890 Census](#)] [[Denmark 1901 Census](#)] [[Denmark 1906 Census](#)]

**Ireland**– County Tyrone Genealogy, (the website for all things related to genealogy in County Tyrone), Ireland has a new website. Originally established in 2006 as part of Rootsweb, this volunteer-run initiative now has a stand-alone website.

If you have ancestors from County Tyrone then this is the website to consult. It provides links to many genealogical records – everything from census records to church records - to emigration records to obituaries - and best of all, everything is free!

<http://www.cotyrone.com/>

## NZ Police Gazettes Online

The digitised Police Gazettes are a great research tool, particularly in conjunction with articles from the Papers Past website. All police gazettes 70 years old and over are open and the gazettes from 1878 to 1945 are freely searchable on the Archway website. From 1877, the Gazettes are fully indexed, except for police appointments. On the Archway site, there is also an Information Sheet on the Gazettes. Police gazettes were published weekly from 1861 to 1990, with some gaps for some areas of New Zealand. They were distributed to police stations throughout the country to disseminate information relating to the daily work of the police and prison officials. In them, you will find offences/incidents, including missing persons, deserters from ships, forgery (“uttering”), absconding husbands, unsolved crimes, police appointments, promotions, dismissals. If you are looking for people who were in the Force it is more complicated, as this information is likely to be closed and you will have to seek permission.



One of the useful features for the researcher is the photos of prisoners. However, there is not a photo of every prisoner. (Use the Windows snipping tool to take out and save photos.) In the Returns, you can get the following information: person’s name, where and when tried, offence, sentence, nationality, trade, birth year, height, complexion, hair and eye colour, nose, mouth, chin, and extra remarks. The remarks section can be very useful as it

states whether there are previous convictions and how many. In addition, we are given information on any distinguishing features such as scars, tattoos, disabilities, etc.

### Working your way around the site:

- 1) Google “Archway” and go on to the site
- 2) Type in “New Zealand Police Gazettes” (Make sure you type it exactly this way)
- 3) Click “Search”
- 4) Click on “Go” button to right of 909
- 5) At the bottom of the screen, change the “1” to a “7”.
- 6) Click the >> button
- 7) Scroll down to the year you want and click
- 8) There are indexes down the left side to search on with a name.

### Hints

It is good to have a year to search. This year will probably come from some article you have discovered on the Papers Past website, where a person has been in court or fallen foul of the law. There are various indexes down the side of the page so if you don’t find the person in one, try another. Note the arrows (found with your cursor) on either side of a downloaded page – they are a quick way to get to the next page or the previous page. To change your search to a different year simply go up to the top of your screen and click on the “x” to get back to page 7.

Above all, you may need some patience! The results are well worth the effort as you can find new information that was not in the newspaper on the person for whom you are searching. This may help you ascertain whether someone in a news article is 'your person', particularly if the person has a common name.

Warning – you may find out something disturbing about a family member. Even from the distance of time, the knowledge you have obtained could be upsetting. I prefer never to judge.

Happy searching! Hope this is useful!

**By Annette Larsen (Reproduced with permission from the New Plymouth Branch NZSG Newsletter, October 2017.)**



### Christmas Raffle ~ We appreciate your contributions

Please bring something non-perishable for the raffle, to the **November 13 meeting**. This meeting will be your last opportunity to contribute to this fun activity, to be held at our final meeting for the year on:

**Monday, December 11. Raffle tickets \$2 each or three for \$5.**

### Upcoming Speakers

- **Monday 13 November, 2017: Jane Brooker**
- **Monday 11 December, 2017**

Christmas Morning Tea, Raffle and entertainment. (No door charge at this meeting).

- **(Christmas Break)**
- **Monday 12 February, 2018**

Speaker to be confirmed

#### FOR SALE: TP-Link Router and network cable. Offers over \$20.00

At our branch meetings, as we now use the Community Centre's free Wi-Fi connection when required, we no longer need the TP-Link Router and network cable, which we previously used to connect to the internet. We purchased this secondhand, from Matthew Edwards at Vision Lab for \$75.00. The router will be available at the November meeting. Please see Betty if you are interested.

#### DNA Support Group Bay of Plenty

Are you struggling with interpreting your DNA results? If so, you are not alone! Consider joining our monthly DNA Support Group. First Monday of the month (except January).

**For further details please contact Betty on 0274 475 448**

**Or email [betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz)**

**Next Meeting: Monday 6 November from 2.15 - 4.15 pm, \$3.00 door charge.**