



PAPAMOA BRANCH

NOVEMBER 2020

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 to 2.00 pm.

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

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NEXT MEETING

- **MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER**
REMEMBRANCE DAY
SHARING STORIES OF OUR WW2 WOMEN
- **MONDAY 13 DECEMBER**
CHRISTMAS MEETING
HOW WE CONNECT
FAVE FAMILY CHRISTMAS RECIPES

For Branch Meeting Apologies
email: papgen@gmail.com

HANDS ON HELP

Volunteers are at the Papamoa library to help you with your research on the last Friday of every month

Next session: Friday 27 Nov 2020
from 10.00 am - 12.00 noon
betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz

Nothing
to see
here

Please!
Send me your stories
—it's your newsletter
not mine
fiona@betterwords.co.nz

ALMONER

Please notify Shona MacRury of any bereaved or unwell members

Hm: 07 578 1771/Mob: 021 415 701
Email: s.macrury@kinect.co.nz



Convenor's Comment



At our meeting on the 12th October, even although we were not in the Tohora room but once again relegated to the Aihe room, we were able to have a morning tea which made things feel a bit more like a normal meeting.

I know that when the idea of a Funeral Director speaking was mentioned that there was a bit of doubt as to whether this was an appropriate topic. I can assure you that it was, Greg Brownless is a very well-travelled, knowledgeable, and entertaining speaker.

Greg is the ex-Mayor of Tauranga and since his exit from this role he has once more taken up his love of acting and is involved with the Tauranga Repertory Theatre, and was in the play "Noises Off". As Greg says, he is not just business oriented, he likes to participate in the arts and spend time with his family.

Shona MacRury (our Almoner) and Greg trained as Funeral Directors at the same time, and if my memory serves me correctly, it was due to Greg that Shona became the first female Funeral Director in Tauranga. At the end of the question section Shona presented Greg with an old newspaper that had a photo and some information about a young Greg which she had discovered recently among her many treasures, (amazing what can be found "In the Cupboard").

After lunch Lorrimer McAlister showed us some books that she has been writing about her ancestors and explained how she is going about this, and that she is doing one for each of her grandchildren. Betty Atkinson then gave a brief talk on the use and need for the Microfiche that we have in the Papamoa Library, she then adjourned to the library with about 10 members to show them how to use the Fiche readers and what is the relevance of the books regarding the District Keys and the NZ Registration Indexes.

All in all, a particularly good meeting and I must thank everyone for their input.

Kate McEwan

Boy aged four: Dad, I've decided to get married.

Dad: Wonderful; do you have a girl in mind?

Boy: Yes ... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her too ... and she's the best cook in the world!

Dad" That's nice son, but we have a small problem there.

Boy: What's the problem?

Dad: She happens to be my mother! How can you marry my mother?

Boy: Why not? You married mine!

A Word From The Editor



Wow—that month went fast!



Greetings everyone. I'm sorry to have missed some interesting branch meetings over the past few months, but hope to make the November meeting if possible.

After a very busy Labour Day Monday when we counted the two referenda, things thankfully eased off a little bit this week for me at BOP Electoral HQ (compared to the previous month), but we're all go again Monday Nov 2, counting the Special Votes and their referenda papers too.

Please dig out your family-favourite Christmas recipes and perhaps do a test run for our December meeting when we would like you to bring along something for the morning tea. If it's a recipe not suited to a shared morning tea perhaps you could send it to me and I could include it in the newsletter. It should be either a word doc or a photo/JPEG, PNG doc etc. PDF's are trickier.



Thank you Jenny Joyce for sharing the story of Flo and Kath and their wartime work experiences (pages 4-5). If anyone else is inspired to write a story about a female family member's wartime experience, I would be happy to include your story in the December newsletter.

Why not make a special woman in your family come alive!

Fiona McAllister NZSG 26889. Email: fiona@betterwords.co.nz Ph: 021 855 603

NZSG invites you to an evening with John Steele

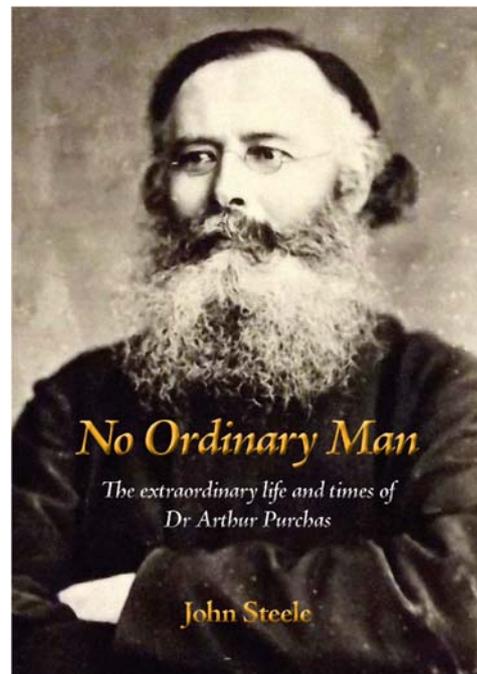
"The Perils and Pleasures of Historical Biography"

**Friday 13 November at 6:30pm
at the FHC**

**Your ticket includes wine/juice
and nibbles**

\$15

***Tickets can purchased from FHC Reception
or from membership@genealogy.org.nz***



**John is an author of five books which will be available for
sale on the night. The latest being "No Ordinary Man", the
story of Dr Arthur Purchas.**

In Memory of Kathleen and Florence

At the start of World War Two, recruiting posters appeared featuring attractive young women, a rural landscape, and using slogans such as “For a Healthy Happy Job Join the Women’s Land Army”. However, the reality of joining the Land Army was very different.

Florence Huggins (Flo) from Norwich was at the seaside in Hemsby when she heard that war had been declared. There was a general feeling of excitement amongst the young people which soon faded as all the young men were off to join the forces. Florence reported to the War Office where she was offered a job in the munitions factory, but couldn’t bear to have anything to do with killing people, so instead joined the Woman’s Land Army.

Meanwhile in New Zealand, another young women Kathleen Milne (Kath) was making the same decisions. By 1940 the Manpower regulations had come into force and Kath had decided that she didn’t want to work in a factory or an office so applied for a herd tester’s job. Having been raised on a dairy farm she was well aware of farming practices and by early 1941 she was sent to Massey university in Palmerston North for training.

On completing her training Flo was kitted out in her smart new uniform and sent to a farm just outside Norwich. The girls were expected to do all the jobs that the farm hands did. For a city girl it was a steep learning curve, learning how to milk cows, ploughing, spreading manure, looking after animals and mucking out pig sties and barns. The farmers were generally grateful for what the girls did but the farm hands didn’t make it easy giving the girls all the jobs that they didn’t want to do and generally not wanting them around. Winters were especially hard with snow often covering the ground but farm work continued. Certainly not the pleasant green land of the posters ...



Florence (Flo) Huggins

By March 1941, Kath had completed her training and was provided with the equipment. Kath worked all around Taranaki and as petrol was rationed, a horse and cart was provided. Eventually she was given a run in North Taranaki which included the Uruti Valley.

There had been talk by some of the farmers wives who thought that the female herd testers posed a threat to their marriages. On her first trip to Uruti, as she made her way up the rough gravel Mangahia

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(Continued from page 5)

road towards the Hall farm, Kath wondered what the family would be like. On arrival she met Joe and Daisy and was welcomed into their home. She soon learnt that there were five sons; Alex was working on the farm, George and Ron were both in the army serving overseas and Jack and Gilbert were still at school. A friendship soon formed with the family and Daisy especially welcomed her monthly visits. She shared the ups and downs of their family life and especially their concern when they heard that Ron had been injured.

During her time as a Land Girl, Flo took time off to get married. At St Pauls, Norwich on 8th August 1940, with air raid sirens sounding during the service, Flo married William Joyce. Returning to her parents' home for a small celebration, they found the chocolate icing melting on the homemade wedding cake. The cake would have been a special treat for everyone and no doubt sugar and butter rations had been saved for some time to make the cake, Flo was a Land Girl for four years and left before her son Barry was born.



Kathleen (Kath) Milne

Kath was one of the few women who carried on working after the war. She was in the district when the local boys came home and finally got to meet Daisy and Joe's elder sons. Daisy thought that Ron and Kath would make a great couple and tried a little match making. However unbeknown to her, Ron and Kath were already getting to know each other. Daisy and the rest of the family had to wait for a few years until Mum and Dad married in 1950. Mum left the Herd Testing Association just before her wedding and at the time she was the longest serving herd tester in Taranaki.

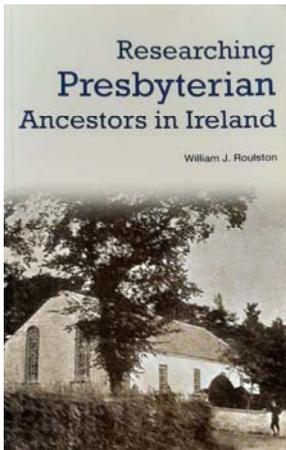
In 1980 Flo was presented with a medal by Lady Glenconnner in recognition of her service during the war. At 89, Flo was one of only three women in Norfolk to receive the award. She commented to a journalist that, "They should have recognised the Land Army Women earlier. Anyway, I am proud of it."

Kathleen and Flo, my much-loved Mum and mother-in-law, were two strong ladies who took on so-called male jobs and were paid less than their male colleagues. Both jobs would have been tough—working in all weather and confronting the social norms of the day.

Jenny Joyce

NZSG 8343

Library Update: New Books

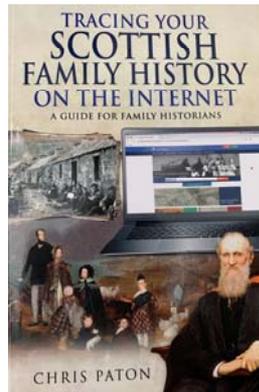


Researching Your Presbyterian Ancestors in Ireland:

William J. Roulston

Tracing Your Scottish Family History on the Internet:

Chris Paton



Papamoa Genealogy Help

FINAL MEETING

Sadly the decision has been made to wind this group up but everyone is welcome to join us for our final meeting

Monday, 16 November:

1.00 pm—3.00 pm

Mako Room at the Papamoa Community Centre

We will have a small Christmas-themed afternoon tea.

For catering purposes please email me:

PERC.JAN@xtra.co.nz

DNA Support Group Bay of Plenty

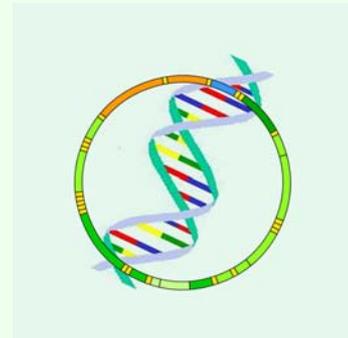
Do you need help interpreting your DNA results?

Next Meeting: Monday 2 November 2.00 – 4.15 PM

Mako Room, Papamoa Community Centre:

- * **\$3.00 door charge**
- * **BYO Tablet or Laptop**
- * **Please wear your name tag**

Contact Betty Atkinson Phone 0274 475 448 or email: betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz



Individual DNA Help: Friday 27 November 2020

In conjunction with Hands on Help at the Papamoa Library (on the last Friday of the month), Betty has two slots available:

- **10.00 am or 11.00 am**

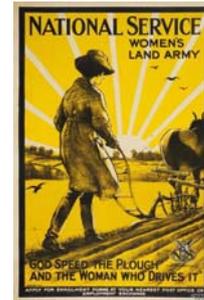
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Contact Betty Atkinson Phone 0274 475 448 or email: betty.ra.atkinson@xtra.co.nz

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 10.00 AM

OUR WOMEN IN WORLD WAR 2

- * What's the difference between Remembrance Day/ ANZAC Day/Poppy Day/Armistice Day?
- * 'In Flanders Field' poem
- * Women in World War 2 - video
- ◆ Shirley Beer – A nurse in the war
- ◆ Rowena Sinclair – my aunt as a Wren and my mother as a refugee
- * Voluntary Aid Detachment
- * Open for sharing from members
- * Land Girls
- * In the afternoon: Spies – Violette Szabo, Nancy Wake



Bits and Bobs

Please Note:

December Meeting:

- ◆ As well as being our Christmas meeting as we wind up for the year, we would also like you to share old family favourite Christmas food recipes
- ◆ We also want to explore how so many of us in the branch connect. It may be a blood relationship; having ancestors who arrived on the same ship or emigrated from the same village. Perhaps you or your ancestors lived in the same house as someone in the branch or worked in the same place. There are many ways we connect so start thinking ...

February 2021 Meeting:

- ◆ Please diarize—as this falls on Waitangi weekend there will be no Branch meeting on Feb 8 and our first 2021 meeting will be therefore be **Monday 8 March.**