

South Waikato Genealogy

A Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Newsletter

OCTOBER 2017

Contact southwaikato@genealogy.org.nz

Upcoming Events;

October ; 8th Sunday 1.30 pm Senior net rooms. Putaruru. Speaker Kathryn Parsons

Kathryn is the archivist at the Cambridge museum and has a wealth of info

Sat 4 November . Our Branch hosts the Regional meeting at the hospital conference room. We need a good number of plates for morning tea and helpers for the kitchen - Contact Denise Fargher. You are all welcome to attend.

Wed 15th Nov S Gardiner ; Photography

Stuart had to apologise for not being at our Sept meeting, but in his place our Convenor Judith took a great session on using e books. Much of the material for this came from Dick Eastman's session at conference. Thank you Judith for filling in so ably. The discussion afterwards was great too.

PASSCHENDAELE CENTENARY

Thursday 12 October, New Zealand's darkest day. We will remember them and their sacrifice.

Just because you can't find a record, doesn't mean that it doesn't exist" Family Tree magazine June 2017

PUTTING YOU ANCESTORS INTO HISTORICAL CONTEXT

I am finding spending time going back to text books.

1920s THE NEW ZEALAND SCENE

Keith SINCLAIR in his "History of New Zealand" describes this period as "The nineteen twenties saw many changes in New Zealand life. The use of super phosphate manures, tractors, electric milking machines and herd testing to improve the yield of butterfat per cow led to a great expansion in dairying. The rapid adoption of motor vehicles, improvement in road surfaces, hydro electricity and electric light brought improvement in the lives of many people. Yet where-ever one looks at life in New Zealand during the 1920s there is evidence of a loss of confidence, hesitancy, and disillusionment. Life seemed more circumscribed than at any time since the 1880s."

How did this period affect your people? We, at a distance, cannot understand them without some appreciation of their times.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES - NOT NEW In 1906 there were many complaints by Londoners about the fumes and noise caused by motor omnibuses, prompting the Electrobus Company to develop their electric buses.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES (1871)

Duties;

Inspect the ditches; inspect the cesspools; inspect the ashpits and inspect animal dwellings. drains & gutters; inspect obstructions to the footpath; Inspect the privies inspect launch a fleet of non-polluting vehicles.

South Waikato history: Some resources

“Memories of Tirau” compiled by Peg Cummins 2006

“A brief history of Tokoroa” by DWN Saunders

“Early Tokoroa” by Dolina Lory 1977

“Te Wautu School Centennial” compiled by Ruthana Begbie 1986

Booklet on Te Kohutu O Hatupatu by Jim Hassall 1977

Notes on Okoroire and Tirau from Cyclopedia of NZ (Auckland volume) 1905

Notes on Treaty of Waitangi from Ruthana Begbie

“Okoroire School and District seventy fifth jubilee” Bellamy and others 1989

“Tokoroa 1932” - a compiled plan showing early occupation, and rail lines (Harrison and Grierson)

Matarawa Estate land “for sale 1937” by Gray and Cockroft, Agents, Auckland

“Centennial history of the Matamata plains” by C.w. Vennel and others 1951

“Crucible of Change” 1982

“Putaruru - home of the owl” Vicki Scherer 1992

“The Horahora Power Station” compiled by Stan Rowe and Barry McKey 1997

“The history of Arapuni “ (50th Jubilee)

“Mangakino in perspective” Cynthia Hasman

Book " **Bedrock and Rail**" has been printed. It covers South Waikato from volcanic days to 1919. I have started next book - working on 1920s.

Contact Elsie through Branch e mail address.

Here is a site re “below stairs”

<http://servants.harewood.org>

I will be following up that one. If you have servants you could try the estate name for an equivalent site. Or even if you do not know your person was a servant you could try the local estates.

IN MEMORIUM

Two ex members - Vera Burt and Tom Dempster have recently died.

SOME SITES TO TRY

Scottish P O Directories <http://digital.nls.uk/directories>

<http://specialcollectionsle.ac.uk/cdm/ler/collection/p16445coll4>

<http://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/#wills>

www.gedmatch.com

London Research -Try

www.oldbaileyonline.org

www.londonlives.org

Forces www.forces-war-records.co.uk

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DID YOU KNOW?

Using cyndis list you can do a direct search”

Try site cyndislist.com Brown, John (or whatever name you are after.)

Cydi’s list also is a great portal to many other great sites

Another portal for UK is <http://forebears.co.uk>

Good luck with your searching.

Reminder any contributions to the newsletter would be gratefully accepted.

'We don't own our family history, we simply preserve it for the next generation.'