

Newsletter



**Te Awamutu
Branch**

No. 295

July 2018



Te Awamutu Website: www.teawamutu.net/genealogy
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc:
www.genealogy.org.nz

Meetings are held at the **St John Ambulance Hall** on Palmer Street, Te Awamutu, at 7.30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month – February to December.

Visitors most welcome. There is a \$2 door charge for casual visitors.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd July. Mid-Winter Xmas and supper along with club member presentations.

August Meeting: Tuesday 7th August. Land research in NZ with Lyn Williams

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Club News!

Welcome to the July, 2018 newsletter.

July meeting:



July is our mid-winter meeting so please bring a small plate of finger food or dish of nibbles for a pot luck supper. The meeting will have a slightly different focus this year as we have two speakers to entertain us on the night. Firstly Bev Simpson, who has just returned from her overseas trip, is positively buzzing about her experiences in 'Genie Heaven', also known as Salt Lake City. She will give us an insight into what makes SLC so unique. Bev will do a second talk later in the year with tips on planning for an overseas research trip.

Then we have Alan Hall talking about the architect Archibald Macdonald and his 'diamond' houses. There is a fascinating story behind this and Alan will share it with you on the night. In between the two talks we will have a supper break – hence the request for members to bring a small plate for supper as a mid-winter treat – a change from our usual store-bought biscuits.



August meeting:

Just a reminder that we have Lyn Williams speaking to us in August about land research in NZ. Start thinking now about questions you may want answered and if you can, please let us know what specific things you would like her to cover beforehand.

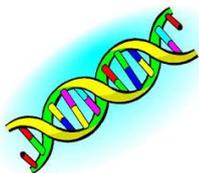
Help for Beginners:



If you need help with any of your research, please send an email to Christine Ball and the committee will find someone who can help you. Email teawamutu@genealogy.co.nz

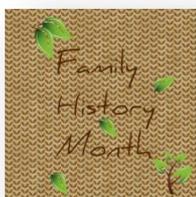
For those who need help with DNA or using FamilySearch.org then Sandra can often be found at the Te Awamutu Library on a Wednesday or Friday evening, or on Saturday mornings. It is best to let her know in advance though, as sometimes her life takes her elsewhere!

DNA Support Group Meeting



Sunday, 16 September

The next meeting of the Te Awamutu DNA Support Group will be on Sunday 16 September. Several of our members have proved that DNA is a very useful tool for solving family mysteries. Even if you feel you have completed your research and don't see any point, by taking a DNA test you could well help someone else solve their mystery. The focus of these support group meetings is on the analytical side. If you still feel confused by the whole thing, don't know what type of test to take or haven't looked passed your own ethnicity results, then book in a time to meet with Sandra and she will open up a whole new world for you to explore.



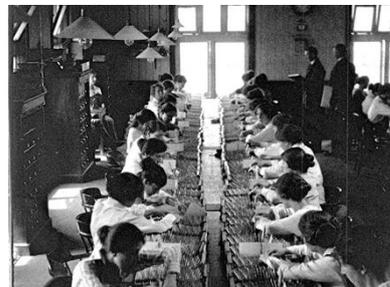
1. Library Display

As part of our Family History month activities we have a display at the local library from 28 July – 4 August. We need volunteers between the hours of 10am – 4pm on Monday to Friday and 10am-12.30pm on Saturdays. A roster will be available at the July meeting for you to fill in. The purpose of the stand is not only to promote this crazy addiction we have but to also promote the branch and its activities.

2. For King & Country – 6pm Wednesday, 1 August, Community Room, Te Awamutu Library

As part of Family History month we have a public showing of the film *For King & Country, NZ's First World War on Film*. The programme, produced by Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, New Zealand's audiovisual archive, shows our ancestors' experience of the war on the home front and abroad.

The showing of the film commemorates 100 years since the end of WWI and we want to encourage as many branch members as possible to attend. This will be the only showing in Te Awamutu and is especially poignant if you had family members who served in WWI.



Ballot at the Government Statistician's Office (1916)

The film shows soldiers training and departing as well as shipboard life. There is footage of NZEF soldiers in Egypt, Gallipoli, Europe and the Middle East and includes scenes showing the work of the medical corps.

There are also rare glimpses of life at the home front in New Zealand, including the first conscription ballot, fundraising activities and an intimate home movie. It finishes with activities surrounding the armistice in the UK and New Zealand, the return home of the Māori contingent and the unveiling of the Messines Ridge memorial in Belgium in 1924.

Films made during this time were all silent; however, they were never presented silently. They were usually accompanied by a narrator and a pianist, or even an orchestra. To match the spirit of the time the film has a recorded commentary by renowned historian Dr Chris Pugsley, ONZM, to explain what is happening in the films.

Entry is by gold coin donation to help cover the venue cost. Tea, coffee and juice will be available. The film starts at 6pm and lasts 70 minutes.

Family History Q&A

(adapted from January 2018 Family History magazine)

Part 5: Brickwalls & Illegitimacy

1. I've come to a brick wall. How do I get through it?
 - A. Summarise everything you do know; identify what you want to find out; and think of alternative means to solve the problem.

There is no point in banging your head against a brick wall. Think of other ways round the problem; other search terms you could use; other relations who may be able to help you bypass the problem; other records you could use

Record the facts in a timeline. Sorting things chronologically can clarify the gaps and help identify where to look next. Getting things out of your head and down on paper stops you going round in circles and helps keep you focused.

2. I think my ancestor was illegitimate. How can I trace the father?
 - A. Even if your ancestors weren't married, the father's name could be on the birth certificate (from 1875, as long as the father was present at the registration)

Parish records may note details of the illegitimacy on the baptism. There may also be bastardy orders for the support of the child

With illegitimacy in particular, you will need to piece together evidence from various sources eg does the baby's birth record include a middle name that could be the father's surname? Can you spot the possible father, subsequently married to the mother on the census? Do the birth details or census entries of other children shed further light in the father's identity?

Branch Projects

Cemeteries: Sue Gordon has taken over the cemeteries project and is looking for people to help with photographing the headstones, doing transcriptions and entry checking etc.

Cemetery Tour: Dot Nicholson is organising a tour of the Kihikihi cemetery in March, 2019 as part of Cemeteries Month. She will be selecting 5-6 interesting 'residents' and is looking for members to do some research into the background of those selected.



CBD Heritage Buildings

The team has started researching the next lot of buildings in preparation for another public display in November this year. Alan Hall would love to hear from you if you are interested in helping with the background research into any of the following buildings:

Alexandra Street: the old Te Awamutu Courier office and the 1929 Warburton building (ReMax); Hutson Building (Flight Centre), Lims Building (Te Awamutu Pharmacy), Coronation Building (Health 2000)

Sloane Street: the old Rickits Building (Betta Electrical)

Market Street: the Regal Chambers (dentist) and the Market Buildings (Te Awamutu Picture Frames)

Arawata Street: Newton King building (now Go!NZ), Advance Cars (now Paperplus)

Redoubt Street: Redoubt Building (temporary Spark office), Courthouse

What's on the Web?



Claim a Convict

The site offers researchers a free service that enables those researching the same convict ancestors to contact each other directly by email.

Searchable by convict's name and ship.

<http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/index.php>

Our Criminal Ancestors

A FREE criminal ancestor website that includes guides for tracing your forebears and allows users to share their family stories. Launched April 2018.

<https://ourcriminalancestors.org/>



Legacy Users' Group

Venue: 5 Toi Place, Rototuna, Hamilton

Contact: Bruce/Trish Cron. Email:

brucecron@gmail.com, ph. 021 407 478

Sunday, August 15th from 1.30pm to

3.30pm. \$2 donation