

What have we done?

The Trustees have marshalled the Trust fund since 1986 to provide support for a number of activities:

Essay Competitions

In the mid 1980s Ted Gilberd supported the concept proposed by former President Colleen Main to run an essay competition for members of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

The competition aimed to create a national collection of family biographies to commemorate the 1990 sesquicentennial. It sought unpublished material in essay form, in readable and interesting narrative and to publish a selection of the best. Over 100 essays were submitted and are housed in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

Following the success of the 1990 Family Biography Competition, the Trustees organised a further essay competition in 1995. Again we were looking for unpublished material written in readable narrative. This competition was about the New Zealand family with a focus on one of five themes (women, children, occupation, rural life, urban life). The essays were placed in the Alexander Turnbull Library.

The First World War Essay Competition launched in 2015 sought contributions that discuss a family with New Zealand connections before, during and/or after the First World War. The essays should include at least one of the following areas of interest where there was change to family members as a result of the War: education; occupation; housing; clothing; food; faith; community; geographic location; individuals who exploded a stereotype.

The competition closed on 31 December 2016, were judged and the winning and highly commended essayists announced in the June issue of *The New Zealand Genealogist*. Copies of the twelve essays received have been given in hardcopy and/or electronic form to the NZSG Library, the Alexander Turnbull Library and the Auckland Museum Library.

Publications arising from the Essay competitions:

Our Lesser Stars (1990) – a selection of the best essays received for the 1990 Family Biography Competition.

Guide to the Family Biography Competition Collection in the Alexander Turnbull Library (1991)

The Ted Gilberd Family History Award

The Ted Gilberd Family History Award is a certificate and a \$100 prize for the best family history article published in *The New Zealand Genealogist* each year.

Any original and previously unpublished work of the writer, who must be a member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists at the time the article is submitted are eligible for judging.

The criteria for inclusion in the judging are that the article should show a clear relationship between the research evidence and the written result, be well referenced and include illustrations. The Trustees evaluate each essay for:

- the effort to provide a broader context for the story rather than just a description of a family or person,
- clarity of structure and style,
- organisation and evaluation of the evidence,
- evidence of sources through references and / or bibliography, including illustrations.

Recent winners are:

- 2018 'Ordinary men, extraordinary experiences' by Delwyn Blondell, June 2017 p102
- 2017 'My Poppa was a humble ag lab from Coull' by Yvonne Milbank, April 2016, p66
- 2016 'The Zealandia – a Foster family provenance for the only known painting of the famous immigrant ship' by Elizabeth Foster, June 2015, p108
- 2016 'From Peat Banks to River Gravel' by Julie MacDonald, October 2015, p234
- 2015 'The life and crimes of William Barker' by Pamela McKirdy, April 2014, p85
- 2014 'Immigrants and settlement schemes or how I became a New Zealander' by Dorothy Dowgray, June 2013, p106
- 2013 'Master Mariner, Captain James Robinson' by Jennifer Clark, March/April 2012, p64
- 2012 'Dolly the Bridge – a Llangwm fisherwoman' by Jane Smallfield, January/February 2011, p24
- 2011 'Who was Mr Marriott?' by Pendreigh Brown, January/February 2010, p15
- 2010 'On the Wright trail – London, Melbourne, Echuca, Hokitika' by Paul Hickford, September/October 2009, p231.
- 2009 'Maternity care in Hamilton' by Jeni Palmer, May/June 2008, p211,
- 2009 'Do you take this man?' by Noeline McLaren, September/October 2008, p304
- 2008 'Arrow agony' by Pat Brocklebank, May/June 2007

Lectures, seminars, workshops

The Trust provides grants to assist education in writing and publishing family history.

Examples include:

The TGLT sponsors the Family History Writers' Network initiative set up by Julie MacDonald and Bruce Ralston. During 2017 and 2018 a number of two-hour workshops have been conducted with branches as an introduction to writing family stories and encouraging the establishment of formal or informal writing activities by branch members.

'Imprint 2002 - Putting Your Family History in Print' was a weekend programme, covering the process of gathering information and the treatment of it, with the aim of encouraging greater publication of family histories. It looked at factors such as determining the content, the writing process, desktop publishing, audio visual and web-based publishing, printing, financing and marketing.

The inaugural Ted Gilberd Literary Trust Lecture was presented at the NZSG Conference 2006 and has

been offered at most conferences since. Future NZSG conference organisers may apply to the Trust for similar sponsorship of a lecture.

In 2011 the Trust sponsored the Sir Jon Trimmer session, based on a format developed by the Kapiti Branch, NZSG at the Family History Fair, Hamilton. The Trust also supported costs for Ros Henry of Christchurch to speak at the 2011 Annual Conference in Dunedin and lecturers at subsequent conferences.

Digital Archive for Family History

The Digital Archive for Family History (DAFH) was a joint venture between The Ted Gilbert Literary Trust and the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

Its purpose is to create a repository that will allow NZSG members to preserve the results of their family history in a digital narrative format. There is no cost to submit files to the Archive. It is now managed as one of the NZSG's specialised services.

The Archive specifically aims to encourage NZSG members to create a literary piece of work including documents and images in a digital format that reflects their family history research.

For further information about the Digital Archive:

- Visit the Digital Archive for Family History (Note: this link is accessible only to NZSG members who are currently logged on to this website)
- Email the Archivist at digital.archivist@genealogy.org.nz for more information.