

Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists



News & Views

April 2015

Issue 332



Evening Meeting: 7.30pm 2nd Thursday, February to December
Day Meeting: 10.00am 3rd Thursday, February to November
Venue: Petone Community Centre, 7-11 Britannia Street
Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt 5040
Website: www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz
Convenor: Anita West
Secretary: Terry Stock HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz
Editor: Helene Philpott bhdk.philpott@gmail.com

Evening Meeting: Doors open 7pm. Notices begin 7.30pm. Speakers begin about 8pm (approx. 1 hour).

Day Meeting: Doors open 9.30am. Notices begin 10am. Speaker begins about 10.30am (approx. 1 hour). Please note the library does not open until 10am.

Branch Meeting Programme

9th April Evening Meeting and 16th April Morning Meeting

The theme for these meetings is Gallipoli. Anita West has a presentation, Christine Edney has a poem and a story behind it; Christine will also show us how to use Archway to find WW1 personnel records.

Plus expected contributions from members.

I'm sure there are many of you who have interesting stories to tell.

Please contact Graeme McVerry via: HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz

Thursday 14 May Evening Meeting: AGM and NZSG Councillors Peter Gibson & Gill Knox to present *'The benefits of belonging to the NZSG'*

Thursday 21 May Morning Meeting: Lynly Yates & Dawn Chambers *'Genealogy Travels'*

Genealogy/Family History Helpers Available At Petone Library 10am -12pm

On duty for: April, May & June

- Wednesday 15 April – Marie Perham & Lynly Yates
- Saturday 2 May – Dawn Chambers & Lynly Yates
- Wednesday 6 May – Deb Beban & Lois Bartlett
- Wednesday 20 May – Diane Stinson & Susan Wilson
- Wednesday 3 June – Ian Fyffe & Philippa Woolf
- Saturday 6 June – Janet Ketchell & Anita West
- Wednesday 17 June – Cheryl Dreaver & Avril Roberts

For those new to genealogy and/or who want help knocking down those brick walls, this is an excellent time and place to have our experts help you. Our helpers can show you what is available in the library and how to go about finding what you are looking for.

Hutt Valley NZSG Website: profiling branch members' initiatives

We are keen to offer a place on our website, www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz, for branch members to profile their genealogy initiatives. We are a creative bunch! A number of members have their own websites, where they offer amongst other things: transcribed records and indexes, blogs, family history stories, and tips for researching. And one of our members regularly publishes local history books. No doubt there are other things happening that we are not aware of.

If you are one of these members and would like a short description and a link to your website and/or your contact details included on this page, please email Anita with your text, any pictures etc.: HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz

Your Branch membership is now Overdue

Our branch membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March, so your membership is now **overdue**.

If you pay before 30 April, as usual there is a \$5 discount!

A membership renewal form is with this newsletter.

Welcome to the Family History Matters NZ Blog

Hello. I'm Anita West and Family History Matters NZ is my brand new blog.

<http://familyhistorymatters.co.nz/blog/>.

I am writing it with New Zealanders in mind, but actually it's for anyone who is interested. Primarily, I will be blogging about how modern technology can help you be successful and have fun researching your family history. The internet, computers, smartphones, tablets, the cloud, social networking, self-publishing and other wondrous developments have revolutionised the way we go about researching and telling our family stories. This is especially the case for people like me and most other New Zealanders, whose ancestors emigrated from distant lands over the last 150 years. We can't easily or cheaply travel to local repositories to find material about them, and it's easy for us to feel disconnected with our roots.

I also plan to blog about things of particular interest to New Zealand family historians, about some of my own family stories, and I expect a few articles on Irish research may creep in given that this is a special interest of mine.

I'm so excited to have finally launched the Family History Matters NZ blog. This enterprise has been a twinkle in my eye for some time now, but I have decided that 2015 will be **the year**.

I hope you enjoy it. Comments are welcome and I would love it if you would share your ideas with me too.

Anita

Electoral Rolls:

The Petone Library now only has the Wellington area current Electoral Rolls. The full national set is at the Memorial Library, Lower Hutt.

Research Day Thanks

Thanks to all the Hutt Valley Branch members who assisted at the Research Day on Sat 28th March. 30 non-members attended with 3 becoming members and others taking brochures away.

Welcome to New Members:

Graeme Gordon; Sacha Fawbert and Linda Appleton

An Online Archive of Nursing Oral Histories in New Zealand

A new website that holds an archive of nursing oral histories in New Zealand was launched on March 11, 2015.

The website is the brain child of the Nursing Education and Research Foundation oral history project adviser Dr Jill Clendon and an Auckland University Project team comprising Professor Linda Bryder, Associate Professor Margaret Horsburgh, Dr Debbie Dunsford and Dr Kate Prebble.

Dr Jill Clendon says, "It has been a huge job getting this oral history site up and running. The web designers, Slightly Different Limited, have done a fabulous job building us a site that's easy to use, accessible and engaging."

"We are very excited about this project and its potential to improve people's knowledge and understanding of nursing history in New Zealand. Our intention is that this is the 'go to' site for information about nursing history in New Zealand. We see this as a repository for all things nursing history in New Zealand."

Auckland University history professor, Linda Bryder, who spoke at the launch, said, "The oral history website is a great resource and we envision it being used by schools, institutions and anyone who has an interest in nursing and nursing history."

"The site is an interesting way to explore more about New Zealand's social history through a nursing lens."

"I'm pleased that people will be able to listen to fascinating snippets of history, and dip in and out of different nurses' stories. The audio files are the perfect length to listen to on the train or in the car."

The nursing history site will become an interactive repository, with people being able to record and upload their own experiences.

To view the site go to www.nursinghistory.org.nz.

[Taken from: <https://nz.news.yahoo.com/a/-/top-stories/26589128/launch-of-online-archive-of-nursing-oral-histories/>]

Contributed by Susan Wilson

In the Library

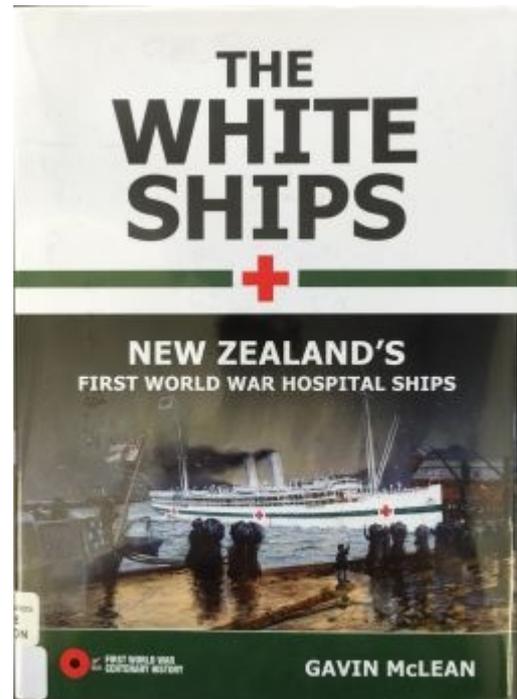
The White Ships

New Zealand's First World War Hospital Ships

Gavin Mclean is a Senior Historian in the Ministry of Culture & Heritages History Group.

This first book in the Centenary History of New Zealand & the First World War tells the story of the hospital ships. Based on extensive research, it brings to life a mixed crew of ship owners, politicians, mariners, doctors, nurses and patients as they battle sea-sickness, explore foreign lands, pull rank, mutiny, squabble over privileges and bitch about the food while still managing to care for patients under difficult and often dangerous circumstances.

Life on a hospital ship was no pleasure cruise.



New Zealand and the First World War 1914 – 1919

Damien Fenton

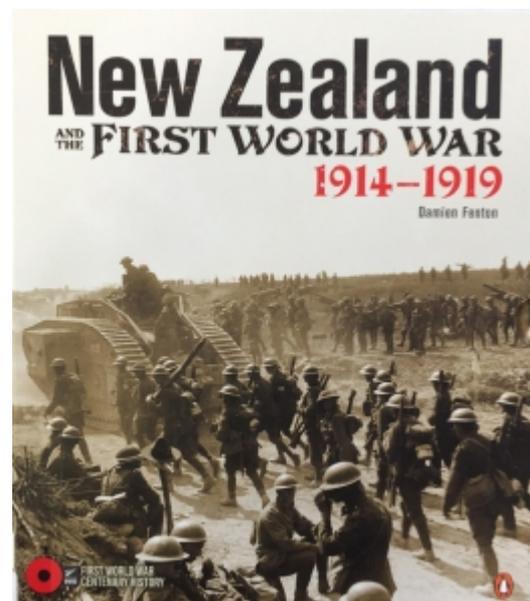
In association with the Ministry of Culture and Heritage in Wellington

The complete story of New Zealand's war is brought to life in dramatic detail – our front-line experiences overseas as well as those on the home front, from the outbreak in 1914 to demobilisation in 1919.

This terrible conflict was not restricted to faraway battlefields like Gallipoli and Passchendale – it had an unparalleled impact on New Zealand society, touching nearly every family, every street and every community.

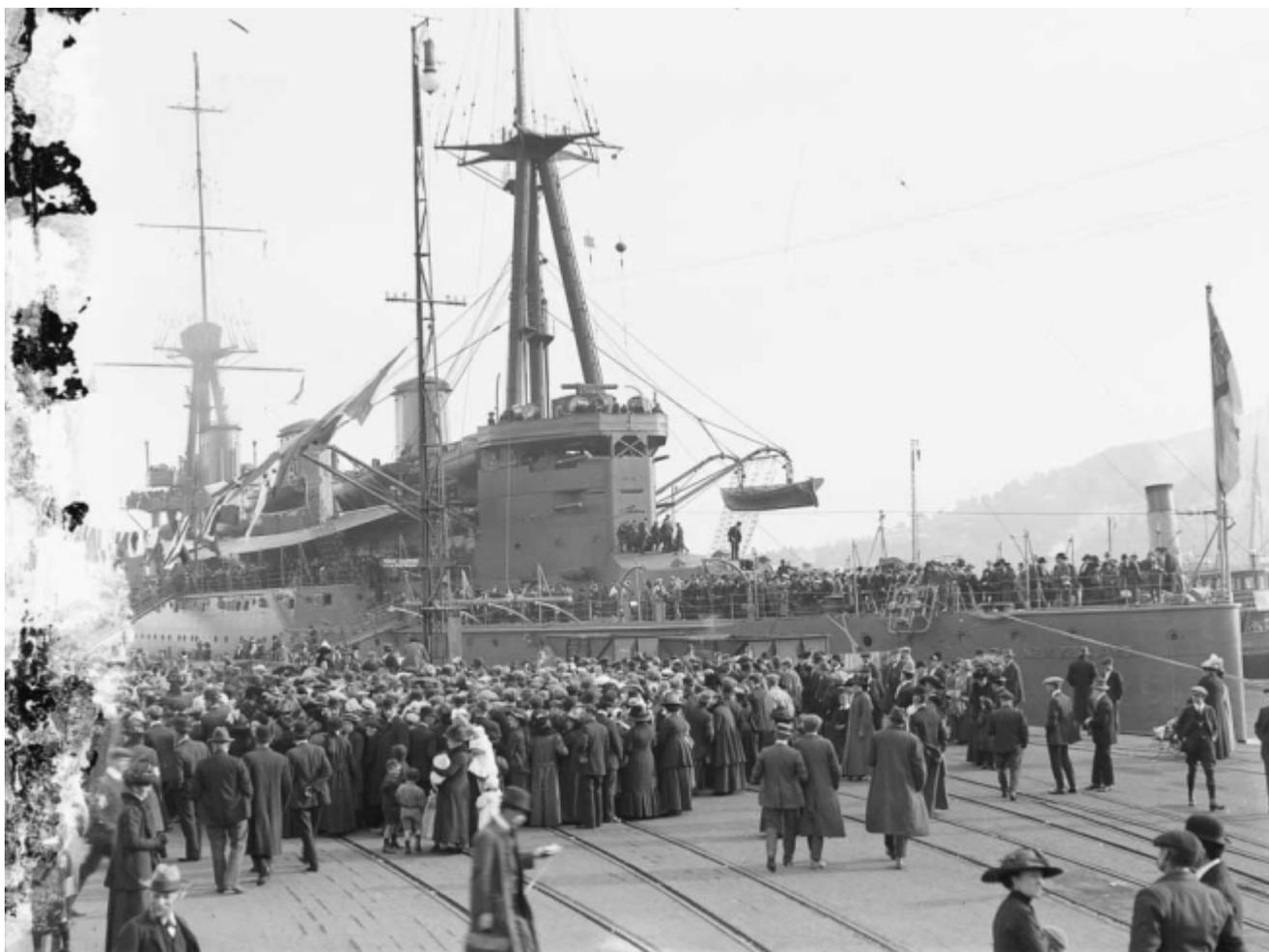
Until now no single history has explored New Zealand's role in the First World War with such breadth and colour.

Featuring over 500 images, many previously unpublished, the book comes with a host of memorabilia fold-out maps; posters; booklets; letters; & postcards.



12 April 1913

HMS *New Zealand* begins tour of New Zealand



Here large crowds gather during the ship's visit to Lyttelton in 1913. [Alexander Turnbull Library](#)

In 1909 Prime Minister Sir Joseph Ward announced that New Zealand would fund the construction of a battlecruiser to be gifted to the Royal Navy. Construction of the battlecruiser HMS *New Zealand* cost £1.7 million (equivalent to \$265 million in 2013). With 26 guns and 800 crew, the ship was commissioned for service in November 1912.

HMS *New Zealand* arrived in Wellington on 12 April 1913 as part of a 10-week tour during which an estimated 500,000 New Zealanders inspected their gift to Mother England. Ten sailors deserted in Auckland, while at Dunedin sightseers had to be ferried out to the heads because the ship was too large to enter Otago Harbour.

The ship's first captain, Lionel Halsey, was presented with a piupiu (flax kilt) and a greenstone tiki (pendant) which was intended to ward off evil. He wore these items while in command of *New Zealand* at the Battles of the Heligoland Bight and Dogger Bank.

His successor Captain John Green inherited the piupiu and tiki from Halsey and wore them during the Battle of Jutland in May 1916, when, as with the earlier battles, the ship escaped significant damage and casualties. HMS *New Zealand's* subsequent reputation as a lucky ship was attributed by some to the piupiu and tiki.

In 1919, when Admiral Jellicoe took a Royal Navy fleet on another tour of the dominions to report on their defences, he chose HMS *New Zealand* as his flagship. In New Zealand, crowds once more flocked to visit the ship. More than a third of the country's 1.1 million people went aboard during the 11 weeks it was here.

By now obsolescent, HMS *New Zealand* became a casualty of the 1922 Washington Naval Treaty. The vessel was decommissioned and sold for scrap in 1923.

New Zealand did not finish paying for it until 1944.

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz>

Anzac Week:

Wellington has a spectacular series of commemorative events planned for Anzac Week during April as New Zealanders mark the centenary of the Gallipoli landings during the First World War. The website below is courtesy of the Ministry of Culture and History, go to www.mch.govt.nz/anzacweek

WW1 Websites & Databases

1. Sites & sources | WW100 New Zealand www.ww100.govt.nz
 2. Online Cenotaph - Auckland War Memorial Museum
<http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph>
 3. Archway: Archives New Zealand– 160,000 Digitized WW1 Personnel Files
<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>
 4. Researching Your Family Service History | RSA www.rsa.org.nz
 5. Commonwealth War Graves Commission <http://www.cwgc.org/>
 6. The War Graves Photographic Commission www.twgpp.org
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Onward

Portraits of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces - Volume 3
Release target April 2015, still requiring photos to complete this volume.
Petone Library has Volumes 1 and 2
<http://www.fairdinkumbooks.com/>

Whats On at Your Local Branches?

Kilbirnie:

Wednesday 6 May – *WW1 Members Stories*

Time/Venue: 10am The Park Bowling Club, Kilbirnie Crescent, Kilbirnie

Kapiti:

Tuesday 28 April – AGM followed by *Using Family Search*

Time/Venue: 7pm Kapiti Community Centre, 15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu.

Wellington:

Wednesday 22 April – Barbara Mulligan *War Memorial Project*.

Time/Venue: 7.30pm Connolly Hall, Guildford Tce, Thorndon

Porirua:

Wednesday 13 May- To be advised

Time/Venue: 7.30pm Helen Smith Community Meeting Room, Pataka

Cnr Norrie & Parumoana Sts, Porirua

New Zealand Family History Fair

The NZSG Council has made the decision to cancel the 2015 NZ Family History Fair scheduled for August.

Many of the ideas and contacts made relating to the fair will not be wasted. Some may be able to be used in planning an eventful Family History Month for August.

Dictionary of Old Occupations by Jane Hewitt

The Dictionary of Old Occupations explains the meaning of job titles, trades, professions and terms dating back through the centuries.

<http://www.familyresearcher.co.uk/glossary/Dictionary-of-Old-Occupations-Index.html>

Available as an eBook, too:

<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/53427>

FAMILY HISTORY MONTHLY TALKS 2015

Find out more about the resources and services at the National Library and Archives NZ that can help with your family history research.

The Online Cenotaph



Shrine to WWI soldiers, photographed by Cornall (Harrowgate) ca. 1918. ATL reference no: PAColl-9261

On 25 April 1915 the Australian and New Zealand troops landed on the shores of the Gallipoli Peninsula. In the lead up to this year's ANZAC Day, and to mark the centenary of the Gallipoli landing, **Joan McCracken** will give a presentation about the redevelopment of Auckland Museum's **Online Cenotaph website**. The presentation, prepared by the Online Cenotaph Co-ordinator **Victoria Passau**, gives some background to the project and the changes made in the redevelopment.

Learn how you can use the greater search capabilities of the new site, and add your own information and images for family members.

Monday 20 April 2015

12:10 – 1:00pm

Venue: Tiakiwai, Lower Ground Floor

National Library building, cnr Molesworth & Aitken Street, Wellington

Watch the national Library website for information about future talks and events

www.natlib.govt.nz