

News & Views

October 2004; 22nd Year

Issue 217



Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

Evening Meeting 7.30pm, 1st Thursday, February to December
Day Meeting: 9.30am, 3rd Thursday, February to November
Research Evening: 6.00pm, last Thursday each month. Library open
Venue: Hutt Bridge Club, 1 Park Ave, Avalon, Lower Hutt
Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt
Co-ordinator: Sandra Greig
Secretary: Deb Beban
Treasurer: Janet Ketchell
Membership: Dianne Fitzgerald
Editor: Suzanne Sutton-Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

COMING EVENTS (subject to change and confirmation closer to the event)

07 Oct : Evening Meeting - Ian Fyfe - Switzerland.
21 Oct : Morning Meeting - Bart Russell - World War 2.
28 Oct : Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research.
04 Nov : Evening Meeting - Jonathan Hunt MP speaker and then the AGM .
18 Nov : Morning Meeting - William Clark - How to do Research.
25 Nov : Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 8:30pm for Members' Research.
02 Dec : Evening Meeting - Party Time!

Evening Meeting - Switzerland - Ian Fyfe

Ian's interest in Swiss family research began when he started researching his wife's great-grandmother's ancestry. Marie Elisa VIATTE was from Jura Canton (County) in the North-West of Switzerland. This area is French speaking but he found that most of the church records are written in Latin. For a time the Swiss also used the French Revolutionary Calendar giving the non-church records a slightly different slant.

Ian will talk a bit about Switzerland's history relating to genealogy, the genealogy resources available and how he went about finding them. The Fyfe's have also visited this area and will have interesting overheads to show us.

Morning Meeting 21 October - Bart and Muriel Russell

Bart was born in Richmond, Yorkshire in 1920 where he lived until his mother, Winifred (nee Sutton) died in 1931. From there he was sent to an orphanage in Bisley near Woking, Surrey. At the age of 16, he joined the Army as a band master and was in Malta when War was declared. He served in the Army all through WW2 and for a few years afterwards until he answered an advertisement inviting him to live and work in New Zealand. In New Zealand, he met and married Muriel Compton from Birmingham, who had served in the Land Army in England and had answered the call for nurses to come to New Zealand.

Bart's story includes hardship, tragedies, separation from family, jolly good luck, hilarious incidents, meeting a few of Britain's famous men - and ten medals!

Remit for the AGM

- \$30.00 for single membership,
 - \$40.00 double membership
 - There will be a \$5.00 discount if subscriptions are paid by 31 December.
 - \$15.00 newsletter only membership remains as is without any discount.
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THIS YEAR'S AGM

- Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. All nominees and nominators must be NZSG members. The current committee are prepared to stay on - but we would welcome help to make our job easier.
 - Correspondence addressed to the AGM to be with the secretary no later than Wednesday 27th October
 - The speaker for the AGM will be addressing the branch at **7.30pm** and this will be followed immediately by the AGM.
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GUIDELINES FOR LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS - for comment.

The purpose of the branch Library is to provide genealogical material to Group members. This includes books, journals, microfiche, tapes, CDs and maps not readily available in the Wellington area public libraries. Limited storage space is available so there is a need to be selective in the acquisition of such items. All care will be taken not to duplicate material readily available from these public sources.

Each year the Branch budget provides for the purchase of material, as well as the upkeep of existing holdings. Members, other genealogists and the National Society also donate material to the Branch. In some cases consideration may be given as to whether a book offered to our library, because of its rarity and interest to the general public, should first be offered to the Alexander Turnbull Library or the New Zealand Society library.

Financial members only are allowed to borrow material from the Branch Library.

Main categories of material to be acquired at the librarian's discretion are: -

- Genealogical books, e.g. 'How to'... sources of information
- Family History magazines, NZSG branch newsletters
- NZ biographical sources
- Indices, lists of names, cemetery transcriptions, trade directories, general directories
- Donated Family Histories (as a record of member's research and examples of published family histories)
- Donated Wellington and Hutt Valley reference books
- Donated NZ local histories.

The library will not be holding any of the following:

- Telephone directories
- NZ Electoral Rolls
- Travel books
- General newspapers

The Hutt Valley branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists reserve the right to decline or direct elsewhere any contributions which do not fit the Library Guidelines criteria

SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP OF NZSG

www.worldzone.net/social/scotgroup

Scottish research at the Lounge, St Giles Church
Corner Vallance St and Kilbirnie Cres, Kilbirnie
Sunday 7th November, 1-4 pm Door charge \$2

There will be a brief AGM and discussion on what you wish for next year. We will have research material from the Scottish Interest Group in Auckland, and our own resources, for Scottish family history research. If you have some useful Scottish material to share with others, do bring this along. Do label with your name. Photocopier and microfiche readers available. All welcome

SCOTTISH INTEREST SUB-GROUP---GREATER WELLINGTON

I have ordered some fiche and books from Auckland (excluding censuses) about Perth, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Edinburgh and Midlothian (the most populated areas).

SPEAKERS REVIEW - Scottish Research - Pendreigh Brown - Getting to know your Scottish Ancestors

Pen Brown, convenor of the Wellington Branch of NZSG, was the guest speaker for our September evening meeting and was speaking on a topic dear to his heart – Scottish Research. Though Ian Fyfe had covered some of this ground at the July meeting's "Heritage Evening Workshop", he only spoke to a group of interested Scottish researchers, Pen's speech was to the whole branch and covered in a systematic way researching one's Scottish Heritage in New Zealand and Scotland. Hutt Valley Branch has been keen this year to focus on the basics of genealogy as we have had many members, new not only to the Hutt Branch but new to genealogy. Pen's speech covered this aspect and is therefore worth writing in some detail.

Genealogy is about learning, collecting, preserving and writing about our heritage. We start with ourselves, moving onto our parents, grandparents and then further back. We ask questions of our relatives, our grandparents, those who know the family. We are looking at the social, historical and work content of their lives. Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths give a partial framework. Photos and other memorabilia flesh out the framework. Knowledge of the time is important.

Although the pattern was not universal through Scotland, the Scottish naming pattern held sway till well into the 19th C.

- 1st son named after his father's father
- 2nd son named after his mother's father
- 3rd son named after his father
- 1st daughter named after her mother's mother
- 2nd daughter named after her father's mother
- 3rd daughter named after her mother

Realising a family has your family Christian names can be an indicator of which family might be yours when hunting through families with the same surname.

As Scotland started national registration in January 1855 and New Zealand in January 1856 once the trail back through births, marriages and deaths can be established, the search can be straight forward, but expensive. Because Scotland didn't destroy its census records, research in Scotland becomes easier, for between 1841 and 1901 are the ten yearly census results. Siblings become evident and through them impasses may be often be negotiated. Prior to 1855, research in Scotland is via the old parochial registers. Here the Church of the Latter Day Saints has made a great contribution. Through their International Genealogical Index [IGI] names may be searched, and parishes located. Using films hired from them, the old parish register of the day may be read, revealing in some cases both parents' names, their place of abode and the witnesses to the baptism/marriage. Unfortunately deaths were rarely recorded.

Possibly the most difficult part for those searching their Scottish roots is establishing from where in Scotland their ancestor came. Knowing their ancestor Murdo McKenzie came from Ross-shire is equivalent to looking for John Brown in London. The more detail known about the immigrating ancestor, the better chance of locating the correct parish especially if your ancestor was born prior to 1855. The National Archives of New Zealand hold probate records. In Scotland legal records are divided into immovable property and moveable property. Land inheritance is classed as immovable property. The heir is the eldest son and the legislation is referred to as Retours or Service of Heirs. Moveable property is less restrictive and those other than the eldest son could inherit. Moveable property can be traced through wills and testaments and include, as well as lists of inheritors, names of executors and an inventory. Land transfers were recorded in the Register of Sasines These too are available on Film from the LDS Library. To find out about our ancestors' lives, delving into the statistical accounts written by the parish ministers gives a view of life in the 1790s and 1840s.

The computer has become an excellent tool for extending our research and Pen chose a dozen websites he felt would help those keen on Scottish research:-

www.genealogy.org.nz New Zealand Society of Genealogy

www.worldzone.net/social/scotgroup NZSG Scottish Interest Group

www.cyndislist.com 237,000 genealogical links

www.rootsweb.com includes mailing lists and much more, starting a free UK census on line at <http://freecen.rootsweb.com>

<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>

www.familysearch.org LDS site for births and marriages in the International Genealogical Index [IGI] and Old Parochial Registers [OPR] and much more.

www.genuki.org.uk genealogy in United Kingdom and Ireland

<http://edina.ac.uk/statacc/> Statistical Accounts of Scotland 1790s & 1840s. Find out about your ancestor's parish

www.safhs.org.uk Scottish association of Family History Societies

www.scottishdocuments.com wills to 1901 online: cost – £

www.scotsorigins.com births, deaths & marriages to 1990; 1861 census and 1871 census, cost £: also free IGI, place name search and Scots life

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk births, deaths & marriages online to 1903, 1953 & 1928, with OPR; and 1891 census and 1901 census: costs £

www.google.com popular general search engine

Four books that Pen recommended:-

Tracing Scottish Ancestors by Rosemary Bigwood 2001

Scottish Ancestry by Sherry Irvine 2003

Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry by Kathleen B Cory 2004

Gathering the Clans Tracing Scottish ancestry on the Internet by Alan Stewart 2004

And if Pen has got you hooked now on searching for your Scottish Ancestors, you might even be tempted to join the Scottish Interest Group [website above]. "taing" (pronounced tie-ng) or "morán taing" (many thanks) Pen.

Review by Bobbie Amyes.

SCOTTISH CENSUS RECORDS

	local LDS microfilm	-----INTERNET £----- Scotlands People	ScotsOrigins	CD	NRH Edinburgh microfilm
7.6.1841	X				X
31.3.1851	X				X
<i>1.1.1855</i>	<i>Civil Registration (B D M) started</i>				
8.4.1861	X		X		X
3.4.1871	X		X		X
4.4.1881	X	X		X	X
5.4.1891	X	X			X
31.3.1901		X			X

1901, 1891, 1881, are indexed. 1871, 1861, 1851, 1841, no complete indexes yet.

1881 census on www.familysearch.com does not include Scotland.

1881 census for whole British Isles including Scotland, is on a set of 24 CDs. These are:

a) available for NZ\$81.70 from LDS Distribution Centre on 09 262 2913 (using Visa card)

b) freely usable at National Library of NZ, in Molesworth St, Wellington.

Do read all guidance instructions before paying £ (by Visa or vouchers) on:

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk and/or www.scotsorigins.com

BDM = births, deaths and marriages; LDS = Latter Day Saints, the Mormon Church;

NRH = New Register House (holds Scottish BDMs and Census records).

Pen Brown, September 2004

SCOTTISH CENSUS RECORDS

	local LDS <u>microfilm</u>	Scotlands <u>People</u>	-----INTERNET £----- ScotsOrigins <u>CDs</u>	NRH Edinburgh <u>microfilm</u>	
7.6.1841	X				X
31.3.1851	X				X
		<i>1.1.1855 Civil Registration (B D M) started</i>			
8.4.1861	X			X	X
3.4.1871	X			X	X
4.4.1881	X	X		X	X
5.4.1891	X	X			X
31.3.1901		X			X

Pen Brown, September 2004

SPEAKERS REVIEW - Researching in the UK - Gerry Eady

Our speaker for September's morning meeting was Gerry who talked in depth about the repositories, and records available in the UK. He came up with many interesting facts, useful things to know, quotes, websites, in fact 20 pages worth which he sold cheap to those who wanted it all in writing!

Following is an extract:

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF GERRY'S TALK

- Ancestral Trails Mark Herber - Genealogical Publishing Company 1997
- The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers - Cecil Humphery-Smith Phillimore 1984
- Irish Records, Sources for Family & Local History - James G Ryan, Ancestry 1997, USA.
- Making Use of the Census - Susan Lumas PRO Publications 1993
- Making Sense of the Census Edward Higgs PRO publications
- Domesday Book - Huntingdonshire Phillimore 1975 - Northamptonshire Phillimore 1975 - Middlesex Phillimore 1975
- Cambridgeshire Epitaphs Eileen Clifford - Cambs. Historic Churches Trust 1993
- The Calendar David Ewing Duncan - Fourth Estate 1999
- Tudor & Stuart Muster Rolls J Gibson & A Dell - Federation of FHS 1991
- Militia Lists & Musters 1757-1876 J Gibson & M Medlycott - Federation of FHS 1994
- The Protestation Returns 1641-42 J Gibson & A Dell - Federation of FHS 1995
- Records of the Church of England S Bourne & A H Checken - Pub S Bourne & A H Chicken 1988
- Records of the Militia from 1757 G Thomas - PRO Publications 1993
- World War 1 Army Ancestry N Holding - Federation of FHS 1997
- Army Service Records of the First World War - S Fowler, PRO Publications 1996
- Dates & Time A Handbook for Local Historians L M Munby - British Association for Local History 1997
- Dictionary of Saints A Jones - Wordsworth Reference 1992
- The Family Historians Enquire Within P Saul - Federation of FHS 1995
- The Family & Local History Handbook R Blatchford - British Association for Local History 2002
- The Complete Book of Heraldry S Slater - Hermes House 2003
- The Parish Chest W E Tate - Phillimore 1983
- Latin for Local & Family Historians D Stuart - Phillimore 1995
- Manorial Records D Stuart - Phillimore 1992
- A Clearer Sense of the Census E Higgs - Her Majesty's Stationery Office 1996

- Pre-1841 Censuses & Population Listings C R Chapman - Lochin Publishing 1994
- David & Charles Ordnance Survey Maps 19th Century
- Godfrey Edition Ordnance Survey Maps 19th Century
- Family Tree Magazine lesboon@family-tree.co.uk
- Record Repositories in Great Britain 10th edition - Public Records Office 1997 (Ed.I Mortimer)
- The Evacuee - Newsletter of the Evacuees Reunion Association - Issue 95 June 2004.

Gerry Eady

WEBSITES

Genealogists delight!

<http://www.ancestral-villages.co.uk/>

This site is wonderful for anyone doing London or the Dockyards area

<http://www.parishregister.com/>

Sandra Greig

Akatarawa Cemetery records are now available online. It is part of the Upper Hutt City Council Site

http://www.upperhuttcity.com/Council_Info/Cemetery/index.asp

Janet Doyle

JUST A MUM??

A woman named Emily renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk's office was asked by the woman recorder to state her occupation. She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself. "What I mean is," explained the recorder, "do you have a job, or are you just a . . .?" "Of course I have a job," snapped Emily. "I'm a Mum ." "We don't list ' Mum ' as an occupation. 'Housewife' covers it," said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The Clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high sounding title like, "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar." "What is your occupation?" she probed.

What made me say it? I do not know. The words simply popped out. "I'm a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations. The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in mid-air, and looked up as though she had not heard right. I repeated the title slowly, emphasising the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire.

"Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?" Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research, (what mother doesn't), in the laboratory and in the field, (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters, (the whole darned family), and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree?), and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are more of a satisfaction rather than just money." There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants -- ages 13, 7, and 3. Upstairs I could hear our new experimental model, (a 6 month old baby), in the child development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another Mum ."

Motherhood . . . What a glorious career! Especially when there's a title on the door. Does this make grandmothers "Senior Research associates in the field of Child Development and Human Relations" and great grandmothers Executive

Senior Research Associates"? I think so!!! I also think it makes Aunts "Associate Research Assistants.

submitted by Sandra Greig

That's strange; half my ancestors are WOMEN!

MORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS' PROFILES

LYNNE GENTRY

I have been a keen genealogist for about 15 years, and I'm searching for both my husband's and my own ancestors. I joined the Hutt Valley branch (rather than the Wellington or Porirua branches that are all about the same distance from my home) because my READE ancestors lived in the Hutt Valley from 1900, as did my DODGE ancestors from 1842, although the latter moved to Canterbury after the floods and earthquakes of the 1850's. I thought the resources in the Hutt Valley would be the most beneficial in my family hunt.

Other names I'm researching are GENTRY in London (I still can't find Fred Gentry's birth in about 1876, but I do have his marriage in 1898); WELLINGTON in Cornwall; MAY in Berkshire and London; BIGHAM in County Down; ALLEN and EVANS in Montgomery, Wales; WHEELER in Wiltshire; GRIMWOOD in Suffolk; and OED in Hanover, Germany.

I was born in Palmerston North, and raised and educated in the Hutt Valley and Wellington. Roger and I married in 1970 and lived at Awarua Radio in Southland, and Rotorua, before settling back in Wellington to bring up our children. We are now Mum and Dad of Shelley & Collin, Karen & Lyle, and Mark & Heidi, and Nanna and Poppa of Rebecca and Aaron.

I'm a pharmacist and have worked in retail pharmacy, and in pharmacy education. Recent retirement has allowed me time to indulge in my passions for quilting, embroidery, reading, and genealogy. I hope to add travelling to ancestral sites to that list before too long.

CAROL ANN MASON

I have attended the Hutt Valley group on and off for the past 17 years and was recently invited to join the committee. I have taken over the maintenance of our members interests.

I started researching my family history in 1986 and have attended a couple of genealogical courses, one led by Heather Webber and another by Hylton Tuckett. I was also a member of GRINZ. (Genealogical Research Institute of New Zealand - no longer in existence).

I have been the Australian Certificate Purchasing Officer with the NZSG since 1997. My interest in Australia came from my mother's family. The Duncans and Whiteheads came over to the West Coast from Australia in the early 1900s. I am still trying to find my great grandmother Ellen Duncan nee McDonald or McDonnell, last seen in Newcastle, New South Wales around 1909.

My maternal grandmother liked to tell stories about her family and my interest about the family history grew from there. However, I sometimes wish I had listened more closely to her stories!

My Mason family originally came from Leith in Scotland. In 1862, Robert Boon Mason and his brother John Gibson came to Dunedin. Their mother Jane and sisters Wilhelmina and Isabella joined the brothers in 1863.

My earliest New Zealand ancestors, Charles and Ellen Connell, arrived at Port Nicholson in 1841 on the ship Gertrude.

My paternal grandmother's family, the Pattersons and the Jackways, came to New Zealand in the 1870s.

John Patterson, along with his wife Eliza and sons, James, John and George arrived at Bluff in April 1876. John served in the 72nd Highlanders from 1853 – 1865. He saw action in Crimea and India. John's claim to fame was that he was a champion marksman and award winning poet. I am still searching for his poems.

Harry and Caroline Jackway arrived at Lyttelton in 1877. Harry and Caroline, with their family, eventually settled in Gore.

I am currently working as a Test Analyst for Westpac. This job entails checking that new and enhanced computer systems works as designed. In my spare time I go to the gym, enjoy reading and recently began Scrapbooking, which is proving to be a good way to collect and document family photos.

FINAL NOTE

Any contributions to the newsletters for November to be received by the editor by the next committee meeting/research evening, the last Thursday of the month, the 28th of October.

GRANDPA AND THE COMPUTER

The computer swallowed Grandpa
Yes honestly, its true.
He pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And disappeared from view.
It's devoured him completely
The thought just makes me squirm.
Maybe he's caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.
I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind.
I've even used the internet
But nothing could I find.
I asked Jeeves in desperation
My searches to refine.
The reply from him was negative
Not a thing was found online.
So, if someday in your 'InBox'
My Grandpa you should see.
Please 'Scan', 'Copy' and 'Paste' him
In an e-mail back to me.