

# Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists



## News & Views

October 2016

Issue 349



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Evening Meeting: 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, February to December  
Day Meeting: 10.00am 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz)  
Convenor: Helene Philpott [bhdk.philpott@gmail.com](mailto:bhdk.philpott@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Anne Martin [HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz)  
Editor: Helene Philpott [bhdk.philpott@gmail.com](mailto:bhdk.philpott@gmail.com)

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**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

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Members are welcome to contribute to the News & Views, genealogy research, family history stories, 'how to tips', interesting websites, or information sharing. The first weekend of each month is the deadline for the next month's issue. Email to Helene Philpott [bhdk.philpott@gmail.com](mailto:bhdk.philpott@gmail.com)





## Let us know what you think

The Committee would like to get to know you better, to help our planning for future meetings and activities. We want to find out what your experience in genealogy is, what you think about our current activities and services, and what you want to know more about.

In the next few weeks we will send a survey to all members, either electronically if you usually receive newsletters by email (using Survey Monkey) or by post. We would appreciate it if you could please take ten minutes to complete the survey once you receive it. All answers will be treated as confidential.

We want to hear the views of as many members as possible, so please take the time to complete the survey. The results will be presented at a future branch meeting and will help decide our future meeting topics and activities.

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## ***Branch Meeting Programme for October & November***

### **Thursday 13 October Evening and Thursday 20 October Morning:**

#### ***Starting your Family History Research: using technology to get it right;***

Mary Shadbolt, Kilbirnie Branch; A case study showing how her MacDonell forebears and living extended family were found using a range of electronic and other sources in New Zealand, Australia, Scotland and throughout the world, starting with two original documents.

*This is the presentation that Mary gave as part of Family History Month at Connolly Hall, Wellington 3 August.*

**Thursday 10 November Evening Meeting: *Researching Family History using Social Media.*** Jan Powell Porirua Branch; This presentation will show how a range of social media enables family history researchers to create and share content.

**Thursday 17 November Morning Meeting: *What were your Ancestors doing in the 1870's where ever they were in the world?*** Come and share some interesting stories about your ancestors. Internet access will be available. As this is the last morning meeting for the year Christmas Nibbles/Morning Tea will be provided by the committee.

## Heritage Centre Volunteers Available At Petone Library 10am -12pm

### On duty for: October & November

- Wednesday 19 October: Diane Stinson & Susan Wilson
- Wednesday 2 November: Ian Fyfe & Philippa Woolf
- Saturday 5 November: Dawn Chambers & Lynly Yates
- Wednesday 16 November: Cheryl Dreaver & Avril Roberts
- December- No Duties

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.

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### Your Committee Needs You:

There are now only seven of us on the Hutt Valley Branch Committee.



### NZ Society of Genealogists Inc rules state the following:-

**12.3.2** The committee shall comprise not less than **five** members and must include the following three officers: a Chairperson, Secretary and treasurer.

**12.3.3** A minimum of fifty per cent (50%) of the committee, including the three officers Chairperson, or Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer must be full (ordinary, Joint, Youth or Life) members of the society and/or local membership for their term of office.

Our Treasurer, Suzanne Sutton-Cummings, has advised that she will be stepping down from the Committee in May 2017.

We need an Assistant Treasurer (who is an NZSG member) to come on to the committee as soon as possible and is willing to be trained to take over this position.

We also need members of the branch to come on to the committee immediately to assist with the library, and organising guest speakers and are willing to replace those other members who will be standing down in May.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Should the Hutt Valley Branch Committee reach below **five** members we are no longer a viable branch of the NZ Society of Genealogist's Inc.

## What's on at your Local Branches?

### **Kilbirnie:**

Wednesday 2 November – *Bozie's War*- Colin Boswell talks about his father's experiences in WW1

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

### **Kapiti:**

Tuesday 25 October – *Irish Soldiers Discharged in New Zealand from Imperial Regiments pre 1870* – Brad & Kathryn Patterson

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

### **Wellington:**

Wednesday 26 October – *Researching Bankruptcy in 19th Century England and in early 20th Century New Zealand* – Allison Diem

Time/Venue: 5.30pm Connolly Hall, Guildford Tce, Thorndon

### **Porirua:**

Wednesday 12 October – *Finding Living Relatives*, Jan Bonnett, Public Trust and *Looking Behind the Curtains: Intentions to Marry*, Gill Knox (Short Talk)

Time/Venue: 7.30pm Helen Smith Community Meeting Room, Pataka Cnr Norrie & Parumoana Sts, Porirua

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## Websites for Researching old Trades and Occupations:

*From Family Tree Magazine August 2016 Issue*

<https://archive.org/details/bookenglishtrad00soutgoog>

Freely downloadable, a large file

Find woodcuts and descriptions of occupations c1827

<http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/>

Index of Old Occupations

<http://www.batamemories.org.uk>

Explaining the history of the Czech Company (Bata Shoes) set up in Essex in 1933

<http://www.thepotteries.org/>

For those with pottery ancestors living and working in the six towns around Stoke on Trent

<http://www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk/lace-making/>

A fascinating explanation of the history, equipment and processes of lacemaking including photographs

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

The Society of Brushmakers Descendants; some free on-line information

<http://theclergydatabase.org.uk/>

The Clergy of Church of England database

<http://www.unionancestors.co.uk/>

Lists trade unions and union family trees

<http://www.nls.uk/family-history/directories/post-office>

The National Library of Scotland extensive collection of Post Office Directories

[http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/View\\_by\\_Biographies](http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/View_by_Biographies)

Source of Historical Information on industry and manufacturing in the UK

<http://www.londonroll.org/home>



The records of: London's Livery Companies online project.  
List apprentices (occasionally naming the master) and  
freemen 1400-1900

Currently includes the Bowyers , Clothworkers, Drapers,  
Founders, Girdlers, Goldsmiths, Mercers, Musicians,  
Salters and Tallow Chandlers Companies

## What's New for the Irish:

Claire Santry

- Recent overview article in *Family Tree* magazine, March 2016
- Blog [www.IrishGenealogyNews.com](http://www.IrishGenealogyNews.com) with e-book *New Irish Genealogy Records 2011-2015* and Irish Genealogy Toolkit

Chris Paton

- [www.britishgenes.blogspot.co.nz](http://www.britishgenes.blogspot.co.nz)
- Books/e-books *Irish Family History Records Online*, *Discover Irish Land Records*,  
*A Decade of Centenaries: Researching Ireland 1912-1923*

Other blogs: [www.johngrenham.com](http://www.johngrenham.com) and [www.irishfamilyhistorycentre.com](http://www.irishfamilyhistorycentre.com)

Irish History 1912-1923: [www.theirishstory.com](http://www.theirishstory.com) and [www.rte.ie/centuryireland](http://www.rte.ie/centuryireland)

Irish placenames and townland maps

- [www.logainm.ie/en](http://www.logainm.ie/en) – all of Ireland
- [www.placenamesni.org](http://www.placenamesni.org) – Northern Ireland
- [http://www.ulsterplacenames.org/street-names\\_project.htm](http://www.ulsterplacenames.org/street-names_project.htm)

Roman Catholic parish registers

- [registers.nli.ie](http://registers.nli.ie) – digitised microfilms but not indexed by name
- Indexes at
  - [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie) – free but coverage limited to Dublin City, Kerry, southwest County Cork
  - [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie) – indexed from original parish records, not films
  - [www.findmypast.ie](http://www.findmypast.ie) and [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) – shared indexing, different searches

Church of Ireland records

- [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie) – Dublin City, Kerry, Carlow
- [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie) – all counties (but not full coverage) except Dublin City, Kerry, Carlow, Clare and Louth
- Representative Church Body Library – free PDF table of surviving Church of Ireland parish registers with some online links (mainly to above sites)  
**[tinyurl.com/j6g2kpt](http://tinyurl.com/j6g2kpt)**

Other denominations

- [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie) – many Presbyterian records, some Methodist, Quaker and Congregational

### Civil registration **index** of BMDs

- [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie) (free)
- Another version at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)
- Ancestry and FindMyPast also have enhancements of FamilySearch versions with different search engines
- RootsIreland has 16 counties to date from local sources

### Civil registration **records** for Northern Ireland

#### General Record Office of Northern Ireland (GRONI)

- Google GRONI (full address very long)
- Basic, enhanced and full searches – need to transcribe full search, which is not downloadable
- Accessible for only 72 hours

### Burial records and headstone inscriptions

- <https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/irish-records-what-is-available/graveyards> - good description of larger sites
- [www.irishgraveyards.ie](http://www.irishgraveyards.ie) - (free) covers 20 counties
- [www.historyfromheadstones.com](http://www.historyfromheadstones.com) – Northern Ireland, also accessible via Ulster Historical Foundation (UHF) [www.ancestryireland.com](http://www.ancestryireland.com)
- Cantwell's memorials on FindMyPast
- [www.DiscoverEverAfter.com](http://www.DiscoverEverAfter.com)
- [www.HistoricGraves.com](http://www.HistoricGraves.com)
- Google “headstone inscriptions Ireland” or similar for many other sites

### Wills and will calendar indexes

- <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/search-archives-online/will-calendars> - PRONI, many abstracts linked to transcripts of wills (Northern Ireland)
- [www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie) – National Archives of Ireland Calendar of Wills and Administrations 1858-1922 (all of Ireland)

### Griffith's Valuation 1847-64

- [www.AskAboutIreland.ie/griffith-valuation/](http://www.AskAboutIreland.ie/griffith-valuation/) - links to maps and Name Books (free)
- [www.leitrim-roscommon.com/GRIFFITH/Griffiths.PDF](http://www.leitrim-roscommon.com/GRIFFITH/Griffiths.PDF) – best description of records

## Valuation Revision books (Cancelled Land books)

- Valuation Revision Books [www.proni.gov.uk](http://www.proni.gov.uk) – free, only Northern Ireland
- Irish Valuation Office  
[http://www.valoff.ie/en/Archives\\_Genealogy\\_Public\\_Office/](http://www.valoff.ie/en/Archives_Genealogy_Public_Office/) .
- Family Search wiki  
[www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ireland\\_Land\\_and\\_Property](http://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ireland_Land_and_Property)
- Bill Macafee's online guide  
[www.billmacafee.com/valuationrecords/griffrevisions.pdf](http://www.billmacafee.com/valuationrecords/griffrevisions.pdf)

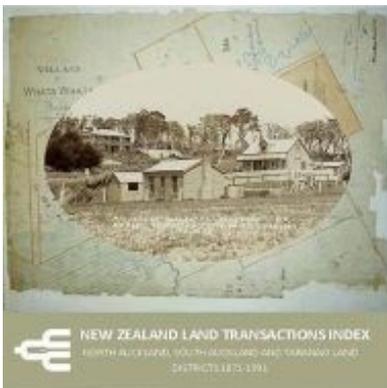
## Irish censuses

- [www.census.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie) – 1901 and 1911
- <http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy1/introduction-to-genealogy/>

© Graeme McVerry, 9 August 2016

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## NZSG News:



### **New Zealand Land Transactions Index**

Just published is the *New Zealand Land Transactions Index* for sale from our website for \$45.00 plus P&P.

This searchable database contains almost 210,000 named individual records extracted from 150,000 documents held in the Land Districts of North Auckland, South Auckland and Taranaki.

Records cover a date range from 1871 to 1991. Details will usually include Surname, Given Name, Place of death or residency, Occupations, Event, Repository and the Document number.

Despite Land District boundaries, records include people with connections to most regions of New Zealand and overseas. With any resource of this nature, there is a limit to what information can be extracted. We recommend that you obtain a copy of the land document itself because most contain identity certificates and references to the Land Titles affected.

Please read the Guide (contained on the product) if you want to order documents from LINZ, as they have some particular requirements - this will avoid any problems.

## Avoid wasting ink when you print the 1939 Register:

<http://lostcousins.com/newsletters2/midmar16news.htm#Ink>

Using the free Irfanview graphics program. Irfanview works on all versions of Windows, and there are lots of features that I find useful.

Not only can you trim off the edges of an image - very useful for censuses which are surrounded by areas of solid black - you can also reverse the colours in a selected area, to create a negative image.

Because a quarter of the records in the 1939 Register are closed - and on some pages the proportion is much higher - you could spend a fortune in black ink printing the black bars which conceal closed records. Instead use the cursor to select one of the areas where there are closed records (Irfanview will draw a rectangle around the area) then choose *Negative (invert image)* from the *Image* menu, and select the *All channels* option. Bingo - black becomes white and white becomes black!

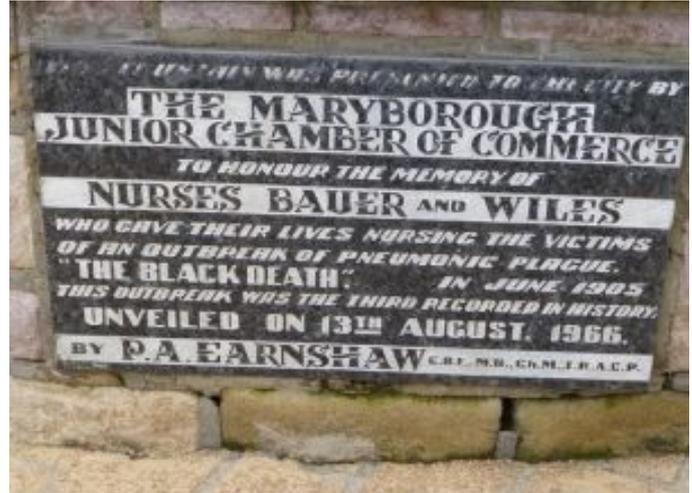


The example above shows three stages - in the far right image Michael has taken things a stage further by changing everything to black and white.

This is a matter of personal preference, but if you want to save even more ink, go back to the *Image* menu, select *Decrease Color Depth*, then choose *2-colors (black/white)*. A compromise would be to choose *Convert to grayscale*.

*Handout from Ann Ball's Presentation; The 1939 Register, 15 August 2016*

## Cecilia Bauer & Rose Wiles:



*Bauer and Wiles Memorial Fountain located on the Lennox Street side of City Hall, is a memorial to the two Nurses Cecilia Bauer and Rose Wiles who courageously volunteered to nurse victims of the plague.*

The two nurses were victims of Australia's only outbreak of pneumonic plague in Maryborough, Queensland in 1905. Pneumonic plague, a severe type of lung infection, is one of three main forms of plague, all of which are caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. It is more virulent and rare than bubonic plague.

Nurses Cecilia Bauer and Rose Wiles courageously volunteered to nurse victims of the plague. Whilst looking after their patients both nurses fell ill and died from the deadly disease.

Australia's only outbreak of pneumonic plague occurred in Maryborough in 1905. At the time Maryborough was Queensland's largest port – a centre for wool, meat, timber and other rural products. A freighter from Hong Kong, where plague was rampant, was in the port of Maryborough about the time that a wharf worker named Richard O'Connell took home some sacking from the wharf, for his children to sleep on.

Subsequently, five of the seven O'Connell children, two nurses, and a neighbour died from the disease. Fortunately, there were no more cases but the ensuing fear, panic, and hysteria totally consumed the town, and a huge crowd gathered to witness the family's house being burnt to the ground by Health officials.

*From The Editor on holiday in Maryborough/Hervey Bay, Queensland*

## **Victoria University of Wellington Scottish Interest Group:**

Friday 28th October 7.30pm

The Paisley Shawl - for years a popular garment - now the pattern is in fashion again.

How and why did Paisley become the centre of production so that its name was associated with the garment? What happened that it fell out of favour?

Kathleen Major will share what she has learnt about an intriguing history.

Held at the VUW Law Faculty, Old Government Buildings, Lambton Quay.

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### **Legacy:**

A reminder that the Kapiti Branch of NZSG holds sessions for Legacy users on the last Saturday of every second month from February to October

***Next meeting Saturday October 29th***

Everyone is welcome.

Meet at the Kapiti Community Centre. Cost \$3, pay at the door.

Doors open at 1 PM, meeting is 2-4 PM.

Tea and coffee is available. You need to bring a laptop if you have one and a power cord if you need power.

The contact is Gerald Twiss- [gero@ihug.co.nz](mailto:gero@ihug.co.nz)

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### **The Scottish Graves of Knox Presbyterian Church Lower Hutt:**

<https://www.facebook.com/akoakoproductions/videos/1274261679291649/>

*Thanks to Anita West*

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### **Manawatu Heritage:**

<https://manawatuheritage.pncc.govt.nz/>

Palmerston North City Library have created a new resource that is helping to put names to faces for people in the Manawatu and beyond.

Comprising thousands of historical records, including photographs, maps, documents, booklets and more

*NZSG Magazine October 2016*

## NZSG News:

### First World War Essay Competition:

The **Ted Gilbert Literary Trust** is pleased to provide an opportunity for NZSG members to turn their research and writing skills into a permanent record of their family and events surrounding World War One.



The purpose of the competition is to encourage the recording of New Zealand family histories, improving the standard of research of family history, adding it to a national collection and achieve these aims through readable interesting narrative.

There is a prize of \$750 waiting to be won by a member. Entries must be received no later than 31 December 2016. Late entries cannot be accepted.

For the rules, entry form, and conditions of entry, contact NZSG.

There are guidelines for styles of bibliographic writing. The two formats that are probably most useful for essay writing are the Chicago Manual and Vancouver System.

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### Family History Month Raffle Results:

1. One year membership of NZSG - (\$100) - **Virginia Frost**; Wellington Branch
2. An A-3 digital print (or smaller if preferred) from the digitised collection of ATL (\$49.50) **Clint Davis**; visitor – no Branch
3. Genealogy book "Oral History Workshop" (\$30) **Errol Cooney**; Kilbirnie Branch
4. Genealogy book "Family History Made Easy" (\$30) **Valerie Hagan-Pratt**; Kilbirnie Branch
5. One year membership of one of the contributing branches (\$30) **Wayne Church**; Hutt Valley Branch

## NZ Coastwatchers Executed by the Japanese

**15 October 1942**

Image: [Monument to New Zealanders killed on Tarawa](#) (National Library)



Seventeen New Zealand coastwatchers and five civilians who had been captured in the Gilbert Islands (now Kiribati) in August–September 1942 were beheaded at Betio, Tarawa.

Coastwatchers – service and civilian personnel who kept a 24-hour watch for enemy ships and aircraft – were a vital link in the intelligence chain. Under a scheme drawn up by the Royal Navy in 1929 and extensively reorganised just before the Second World War, about 60 stations were established around the New Zealand coast. Others were later added on Pitcairn and Norfolk islands, and in the Chathams, the Kermadecs and the subantarctic Auckland and Campbell islands.

After the outbreak of war coastwatching was extended into the Pacific. By December 1941 there were 58 stations spread between Western Samoa, Tonga, the Cook Islands, Fiji, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, the Phoenix Islands, Tokelau and Fanning Island. More were established in 1942 and 1943. A typical station had a radio operator, one or two soldiers, a radio to communicate with headquarters, and a number of lookout posts. Coastwatchers were a mixture of service personnel, government officials (mainly from the Post and Telegraph and Public Works Departments) and local volunteers.

For most coastwatchers the main challenges were isolation and boredom. For those on the ‘front line’ in the Gilbert group, however, the risk of capture by the Japanese was very real. In December 1941 seven New Zealand coastwatchers – three radio operators and four soldiers – were captured on Butaritari in the Gilbert Islands. They were taken to Japan and spent the remainder of the war as prisoners of war. On 26 August 1942 Sergeant Ronald Third, who had volunteered to remain behind after his colleagues were evacuated, was captured on Ocean Island. He died in captivity later that year.

Another 17 coastwatchers – seven radio operators and 10 soldiers – were captured elsewhere in the Gilberts in August and September 1942. Together with five civilians (three British, one Australian and one New Zealander), they were brought to Betio, Tarawa, where they spent three days tied to coconut trees in front of the Japanese commandant’s house before being confined in the native lunatic asylum. On 15 October 1942 United States forces bombed and shelled

Tarawa. One prisoner, believed to be a civilian, apparently escaped to the beach and waved to the American planes. He was hunted down and killed. That afternoon the Japanese beheaded all the other prisoners, either as a reprisal for the air raid or in revenge for the escape.

A Tarawa local, Mikaere, later described the events of 15 October:

*I heard a lot of noise in the lunatic enclosure. There was a lot of shouting going on. I ran into the house nearest the lunatic enclosure and sat on the floor. This house is about twenty fathoms [36 m] from the lunatic enclosure. While I was sitting in the house I saw all the Europeans sitting down in line in front of the first house inside the lunatic enclosure. There were a lot of Japanese coolies inside the enclosure. One of the Japanese stepped forward to the first European and cut his head off. Then I saw a second European have his head cut off and I could not see the third one because I fainted.*

The executed coastwatchers, and Sergeant Third from Ocean Island, were posthumously mentioned in despatches, 'For exemplary conduct in coastwatching and communication duties in the Gilbert Islands area in the face of the enemy, despite overwhelming odds and the knowledge that relief or escape was impossible.' Later, the seven civilian coastwatchers were retrospectively given military rank so that their dependants could claim pensions and other rights.

From December 1942, all civilian coastwatchers were enrolled in the Army in the hope that this would reinforce their right to treatment as POWs if they were captured. As the Pacific War moved further north, most of the stations were closed in 1944. The last of the coastwatchers returned to New Zealand two years later.

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



# Irish Education Day

Join us to learn how to read and understand

Griffith Valuations and Tythe Records

by; Geraldene O'Reilly

on Microfiche  and the web 

How to find Maps  and websites  demonstrated  
by; Graeme McVerry

A full day of hands on learning.

We will also have a selection from our Library available.

DATE: 15th October 2016  
TIME: 9.30am till 3pm  
VENUE: Kilwinning Lodge  
ADDRESS: 391 -393 Church Street, Palmerston North  
Opposite Ashley Street.  
ENTRY: \$20 per head. . . .LUNCH/Morning/Afternoon Tea inclusive

## **BOOKINGS REQUIRED:**

Please contact Jenny Martin [jenmartin@paradise.net.nz](mailto:jenmartin@paradise.net.nz)

REQUIREMENTS: LAPTOP or IPAD..... plus internet stick/toggle connection if you have one.  
We have some but it will help if you have one and can bring it with you.

There is No WiFi installed at the venue.