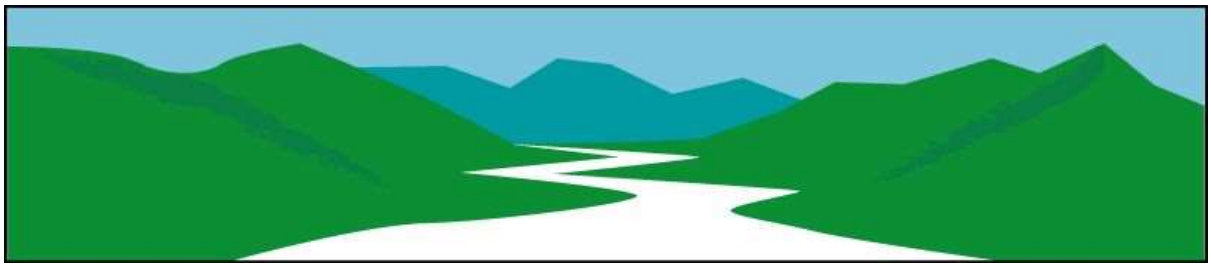
Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists

News & Views

March 2019 *Issue 375*



Evening Meeting: 7.30pm 2nd Thursday, February to December
Doors Open: 7pm

Day Meeting: 10.00am 3rd Thursday, February to November
Doors Open: 9.30am

Venue: Petone Library, Meeting Room, 7-11 Britannia Street

Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt 5040
Website: www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz
Convenor: Helene Philpott bhdk.philpott@gmail.com
Secretary: Anne Martin HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz
Editor: Helene Philpott bhdk.philpott@gmail.com

Some of our long-serving members of the NZSG Hutt Valley Branch Committee intend to step down over the next year and we need your help to continue the running of our branch.

Please talk to a committee member if you are interested in joining us.

Branch Meeting Programme March Meeting:

Thursday14 March Evening Meeting: *EGM then our guest speaker Gail Rumble; Burials on Matiu/Somes Island 1872-1919.*

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)
The motion that will be put at the EGM is: That the Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, having previously adopted as its own rules the rules of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc., now adopts the subsequent partial amendment to those rules as registered on 26 September 2018

Thursday 21 March Morning Meeting: *Gail Rumble: Burials on Matiu/Somes Island 1872-1919.*

Thursday 11 April Evening Meeting: *Flora Feltham, Digital Archivist, National Library – Managing your Personal Digital Archives.*

Thursday 18 April Morning meeting: *Jeffrey Russell, Community Library Manager, Moera – Suffrage 125; Lower Hutt Women in WW1.*
This meeting will be coordinated by Jennifer Flynn and Claude Polsen.

Thursday 9 May Evening Meeting: Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting of the Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists will be on Thursday 9 May 2019 at 7.30pm at the, Petone Library, Meeting Room, 7-11 Britannia Street, Petone.
The agenda for the annual general meeting is:

1. Receipt of the branch annual report and statement of accounts;

2. Set the annual subscription for the 2020-2021 year;

3. Election of Convenor, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members

4. General Business

Note: For election as Convenor, Secretary, Treasurer you need to be a member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists (not just the branch). 50% of the Committee also need to be members of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. However branch only members are always welcome to participate in the work of the committee.

Heritage Centre Volunteers Available At Petone Library 1st Sunday 1 -3pm and the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays10 -12noon of each Month

On duty for: March, April & May

- Wednesday 20 March: Cheryle Dreaver/Avril Roberts
- Wednesday 3 April: Deb Beban /Lois Bartlett
- Sunday 7 April: Anne Martin/ JudyRider
- Wednesday 17 April: Diane Stinson /Susan Wilson
- Wednesday 1 May: Cheryle Dreaver / Avril Roberts
- Sunday 5 May: Donald Smith / Terry Stock
- Wednesday 15 May: Marie Perham / Leanna Menchi

Please advise Jennifer Flynn, Phone 589 0544 as soon as possible, of you are not able to do duty.

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.

Tea Roster for the Evening Meetings: March, April & May

- Thursday 14 March – Suzanne Sutton-Cummings
- Thursday 11 April – Helen Berg
- Thursday 9 May – Graeme McVerry

Thank you for agreeing to help with the Tea/Coffee making and washing the dishes afterwards.
The Tea, Coffee, milk etc is supplied.
If you are unable to be at the meeting on the date allocated please advise Diane Stinson Ph 586 4434

It's Time to Renew Your Hutt Valley Branch Membership for 2019

Our branch membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March, so it's approaching that time again when fees fall due.

Your membership renewal form is with this newsletter, please note changes.

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

If you prefer, you can pay via internet banking. Instructions for this are on the form.

If you use the internet banking option, don't forget to include your name in the payment details and do drop us an email HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz to let us know that you have paid and update your contact details as required.

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https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers

Latest additions to Newspapers (February 2019):

Lyttelton Times (1915-1920) Manawatu Standard (1924-1945)

Nelson Evening Mail (1923-1930) Press (Jan-Jun 1887, Sep-Nov 1903)

Waikato Times (1922-1928)

Archives New Zealand Notice re Wellington Shelving Maintenance:

From January to June 2019 there will be a programme of shelving maintenance in Wellington that will impact access to some archival holdings. The work will result in the 'rolling closure' of storage areas – a small area will be closed for one or two days. You will not be able to order an item using Archway when a storage area is closed (you will receive a message that the item cannot be ordered when you submit the request.

Research in the Heritage Library: Petone Library staff has offered Hutt Valley Branch members research time from 6 to 7pm in the Heritage Library, before the evening meeting, every month. We would like to know if members would be interested in this time.HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz

August Family History Month 2019: The Hutt Valley Branch will again be hosting the Combined Wellington Genealogy Branches Family History Open Day in August this year.
We expect this to be held at the Hutt Bowling Club, Myrtle St, Lower Hutt; date will be advised after the first combined meeting is held at the end of March.
We hope, with all branch members' support, to make this as a successful day as it was in 2015.

Funeral Services Sheets: are being collected by the Hutt Valley Branch and sent to the NZSG Family Research Centre for inclusion in a future Kiwi Collection.
Leanna Menchi is the branch contact for this, her address is 4 Cressy St, Waterloo, drop them in her letterbox; or please bring them to a meeting and they will be passed on.

NZSG Branch Newsletters from around New Zealand:

We receive the following branch newsletters: Riccarton, South Canterbury, Hawera, Wellington, Whanganui, Kilbirnie, Porirua, New Plymouth, Otaki, South Waikato, Wairarapa, Kapiti, Palmerston North, Nelson, Hawkes Bay

If you would like to receive any of these please contact the branch Secretary Anne Martin HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz

What's on at your Local Branches?

Kilbirnie:
Thursday 4 April – Graham Langton – *Beyond the scrawl: Scanning and Transcribing -Merits and Issues*
Time/Venue: 9-12pm Matairangi Room, ASB Sports Centre, Kilbirnie
Kapiti:
Tuesday 26 March- Peter Farrell: *The Lie that Settles*
Time/Venue: 7pm Kapiti Community Centre, 15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu.
Wellington:
Wednesday 27 March-Diane Fraser: *Putting Flesh on the Bones – How to find out more about our relatives*
Time/Venue: 6.00pmConnolly Hall, Guilford Tce, Thorndon, Wellington City
Porirua:
Wednesday 13 March- Diane Fraser: *Putting Flesh on the Bones-How to find out more about our relatives*
Wednesday 14 April- Porirua Members: *Fabulous Finds and Terrific Treasures*
Time/Venue- 7pm Porirua Library, (office entrance on Harvey Norman side).

Getting it Right:

Starting your family history can be daunting; 'Getting It Right' is a series of learning resources from the New Zealand Society of Genealogists with a New Zealand focus to help you with your family history research. They have been produced by Kilbirnie Branch members Sarah Hewitt, Gerry McGlinchy and Mary Wood with funding from the Wellington Masonic Club (Inc).

In these series of 3 presentations you can discover practical steps you can take to start on the fascinating story of your family – Starting your Genealogical Journey; Effective Research; Sharing your Family History

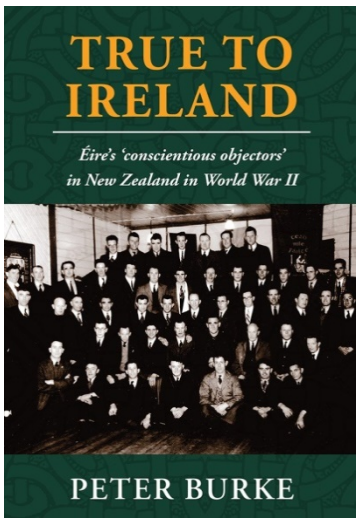
Each resource consists of a video and a set of notes. The notes can be downloaded and saved to your own computer. Even if you're not a beginner, they can be a great refresher.
They're available on the NZSG's website www.genealogy.org.nz

Genealogy on the Cheap:

Summary of the Presentation by Doug Miller:

Ways to Cut Costs:

- Head for the local Hutt City or Upper Hutt Library
  Many family, community and church histories are lodged in local libraries.
- Go to other Local Libraries
  Use the Wellington City Library 'My Gateway' access.
- Go to the National Library
  This also incorporates the Alexander Turnbull Library.
- Talk is Cheap
  Talk to your elderly relatives
- Build your own Library
  Check out local second hand book fairs.
- Go to Archives NZ or NZSG FRC
- Use Free Websites
  Keep a watch out for free access to Findmypast and Ancestry records; for example Military records on ANZAC day.
- Shop Around
  Use 14 day trials but make sure you cancel before the trial expires.
- Get Free Family software packages and charts on-line
  Use to see if it is what you want-you can always upgrade later.
- Join a Genealogical Society and/or another branch
  Look at the NZSG website at branch listings.
- Go to free Seminars
  National Library has them regularly.
- Free on-line genealogy courses and webinars
- Keep good records
  Avoid duplicating your work.
- Use free entry to Archives and Museums
  Various throughout New Zealand
- Use a Digital Cameras and a smart phone
  Photograph articles, documents where you can.



True to Ireland

www.true-to-ireland.com

Talk by Peter Burke about his book.

Untold story of a group of patriotic Irishmen

Hear the story of a group of 155 Irishmen living in New Zealand in WWII who refused to be conscripted into the armed forces. For the author of True To Ireland, Peter Burke, this is a deeply personal story because his father was one of the leaders of a group set up to persuade the government to allow the men to stay in New Zealand but not serve in the army. This is the untold story about a group of brave patriotic Irishmen.

A special guest at all the functions will be Fr Eamon Aylward who was invited to come out from Ireland especially for the launch week. Fr Eamon has been a major contributor to the content of the book and he represents one of the main characters in the book – his uncle Maurice Leo Aylward.

Family historian Fr Eamon Aylward from Dublin and genealogist, Geraldene O'Reilly and Lynette Wharfe who worked on the book as researchers and editors will also be present.
After the talk there will be a walking tour – approximately one hour to visit some of the places in Wellington mentioned in the book.

Thursday March 14, 12.10pm – 1.00pm

Venue: Te Ahumairangi (ground floor), National Library, corner Molesworth and Aitken Streets, Thorndon.
Event is open to the public

Saturday March 16, 2.00pm 3.30pm

Venue: Te Takaretanga o Kura-hau-po (**Levin Public Library**), Levin.
Event is open to the public.

Talk by Peter and others including Fr Eamon about the book and researching in Ireland and New Zealand.

https://natlib.govt.nz/events

Preserving Family Books and Floppy Disks:

- **Date:** Tuesday, 19 March, 2019
- **Time:** 12:10pm to 1:30pm
- **Cost:** Free. You don't need to book.
- **Location:** Te Ahumairangi (ground floor), National Library, corner Molesworth and Aitken Streets, Thorndon
- **Contact Details:** ATLOutreach@dia.govt.nz

Find out about preserving your family collections:

Join us to learn about the preservation of your treasured family collections from physical books and papers to digital materials.

Family books, photographs and papers connect us to our ancestors, their lives, and thoughts. They are an invaluable resource for future generations. The family photos and documents we create now will connect our descendants to us — but how should we care for these records?

Presentations about preserving physical and digital treasures:

This session will focus on the preservation of your treasured family collections whether they are physical books and papers or in a digital format.

There will be two short presentations by Vicki-Anne Heikell from the National Preservation Office, and Valerie Love, Senior Digital Archivist, followed by an opportunity for one-on-one conservation advice on your treasured family items.

Attendees are welcome to bring in a family book or a 3.5 inch floppy disk or CD-ROM for assessment (time permitting).

Please note: if you are bringing a CD-ROM or computer disk, you may also wish to bring a USB drive to transfer the files on to it (if possible).

https://natlib.govt.nz/events

Real Spin **Spin, the Australian Way**

No matter what side of the political fence you're on, **this is Funny and very** telling! It just all depends on how you look at the same things.

Judy Rudd, an amateur genealogy researcher in south east Queensland, was doing some personal work on her own family tree. She discovered that ex-Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's great-great uncle, Remus Rudd, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Melbourne in 1889.

Both Judy and Kevin Rudd share this common ancestor.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows at the Melbourne Jail.

On the back of the picture Judy obtained during her research is this inscription:
'Remus Rudd horse thief, sent to Melbourne Jail 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Melbourne-Geelong train six times. He was caught by Victoria Police Force, convicted and hanged in 1889.'

So Judy e-mailed ex-Prime Minister Rudd for information about their great-great uncle, Remus Rudd.

Believe it or not, Kevin Rudd's staff sent back the following for her genealogy research:

"Remus Rudd was famous in Victoria during the mid to late 1800s.

His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Melbourne-Geelong Railroad.

Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad.

In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the Victoria Police Force.

In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honour when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

Now: That's how it's done, Folks. ***Thanks to John Fraser***