

Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand  
Society of Genealogists



## News & Views

*September 2019*

*Issue 381*



Greetings All

Many thanks to all the Hutt Valley Branch members who supported the Combined Wellington Area Branches Family History Open Day.

If you came to the open day and didn't get a job, I hope you were able to take advantage of the exhibitors' expertise or listen to some of our guest speakers.

Currently I am Branch Convenor, Newsletter Editor and I also manage the Speakers Programme. Thank you to Cheryle Dreaver who has agreed to take over as Editor of the newsletter later in the year.

The positions available on the committee for next year are Convenor, Speakers Programme Organiser, Membership and Librarian.

The committee would welcome any members who are interested in joining us as soon as possible.

This would mean a smooth transition in May 2020 from the current committee to the new one.

Only three of the current committee members will be staying on next year. If we do not have at least five committee members unfortunately there will not be enough to continue as a New Zealand Society of Genealogists Branch and we will have to close.

Regards

*Helene* Convenor

## Branch Meetings for September:



### Thursday 12 September Evening Meeting:

'Breaking Down Brick Walls'- Bring your questions to the meeting. Refer link below -

<https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Documents/Diane-Loosle-AreYouYourOwnBrickWall-notes.pdf>



### Thursday 19 September Morning Meeting:

Research Morning - Bring your laptops, internet available. If you are not able to bring your laptop, come anyway as you may be able to help others with their research.

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## Heritage Centre Volunteers Available at Petone Library

**1st Sunday 1 -3pm and the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 10 -12noon  
of each month**

### On duty for September, October & November

- Sunday 1 September: Calvin Berg /Helen Berg
- Wednesday 4 September: Deb Beban / Lois Bartlett
- Wednesday 18 September: Diane Stinson/Susan Wilson
- Wednesday 2 October: Cheryle Dreaver/Avril Roberts
- Sunday 6 October: Helene Philpott/Anne Martin
- Wednesday 16 October: Marie Perham/Bob Vine
- Sunday 3 November: Donald Smith/Judy Rider
- Wednesday 6 November: Diane Stinson/Susan Wilson
- Wednesday 20 November: Ian Fyfe/Philippa Woolf

*Please advise Jennifer Flynn, Phone 589 0544 as soon as possible if you are not able to do a 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.

## What's on at your Local Branches?

**Kilbirnie:** [kilbirnie@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:kilbirnie@genealogy.org.nz)

Thursday 3 October – Anna Cottrell – *Oral History*

Time/Venue: 9am -12pm Matairangi Room, ASB Sports Centre, Kilbirnie

**Kapiti:** <http://www.kapitigen.org>

Tuesday 24 September- Shona Riddell – *Trial of Strength*

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

**Wellington:** [https://www.genealogy.org.nz/Wellington\\_153.aspx](https://www.genealogy.org.nz/Wellington_153.aspx)

Wednesday 25 September- Gabor Toth- *History of the Wellington urban Motorway*

Time/Venue: 6pm Connolly Hall, Guildford Tce, Thorndon, Wellington

**Porirua:** [porirua@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:porirua@genealogy.org.nz)

Wednesday 11 September- Ruth Ward-*How to Research your Irish Relatives*

Time/Venue- 7pm Porirua Library, office entrance on Harvey Norman side.

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**NZSG Greater Wellington**

**Scottish Interest Group**

**Sat 28 September 2019 1.30-3.30pm**

Tawa Union Church Hall (Redwood Club) 83 Redwood Ave, Tawa, Wellington. Research Day including time for research challenges and brick walls. Do bring your challenge/s for the panel to try and answer.

*There is also the opportunity to peruse some of our library holdings.*

A wee door fee of \$3 applies to cover costs.

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<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals>

Latest additions to Magazines & Journals (August 2019):

- [Canterbury Police Gazette](#) (1863-1877)
- [New Zealand Police Gazette](#) (1877-1945)
- [Otago Police Gazette](#) (1861-1877)

## **Family History Month Open Day Websites & Contact Details:**

### **Static Displays:**

Eastbourne Historical Society [eastbournehistorynz@gmail.com](mailto:eastbournehistorynz@gmail.com)

Shetland Society <https://www.shetlandwellington.org.nz/>

Porirua Hospital Museum <http://poriruahospitalmuseum.org.nz/>

NZ Railway and Locomotive Society <https://railsoc.org.nz/>

Port Nicholson Packaging Petone, Archive Supplies  
<https://www.pnp.co.nz/archival-storage/>

### **Exhibitors, Guest Speakers and Interest Groups:**

NZDF <http://www.nzdf.mil.nz/personnel-records/default.htm>

Archives New Zealand <https://archives.govt.nz/>

Digital NZ <https://digitalnz.org/>

Alexander Turnbull Library and National Library <https://natlib.govt.nz/>

Hutt City Archives <http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/Leisure--Culture/Archives-and-heritage/Archives/>

Hutt City Libraries, Petone Heritage Centre  
<https://library.huttcity.govt.nz/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/PETONE-HERITAGE>

Upper Hutt City Libraries <https://uhcl.recollect.co.nz/>

Wellington City Archives <https://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/archives>

USA Interest Group- Carolyn Gratton [cftlg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cftlg@xtra.co.nz)

Australian Interest Group – Deborah Shuker [shuker@xtra.co.nz](mailto:shuker@xtra.co.nz)

English Interest Group – Ann Ball [Ball@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Ball@xtra.co.nz)

Scottish Interest Group – Max Kerr [jennyandmax@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jennyandmax@xtra.co.nz)

Irish Interest Group – Jenny Martin [jenmartin945@gmail.com](mailto:jenmartin945@gmail.com)



## **Member Survey Results:**

Recently we sought feedback from you about our branch meetings and newsletter. Fifty-eight members responded to our survey, which was very pleasing. There was a good mix of members who usually attend morning and/or evening meetings, as well as those who don't regularly attend. Most members responded through the link to SurveyMonkey and a few replied by post.

### **Branch Meetings:**

Members surveyed who don't usually attend our branch meetings have a variety of reasons. Some have other commitments on Thursdays, have health issues, or decide not to go if the weather is bad. Other members won't attend if the topic doesn't interest them. A small percentage of members surveyed (16%) would attend more regularly if meetings were held elsewhere in the Hutt Valley.

The five meeting topics which would interest surveyed members the most are:

- Brick wall / help sessions (73%)
- 'How to' demonstrations (68%)
- Online websites e.g. Ancestry, Findmypast, FamilySearch (63%)
- DNA (50%)
- Recording/writing research (50%).

Members surveyed who attend morning meetings are also interested in photographs/documents (58%) and members' research (58%). Some members commented that they would like more interaction and discussion at our branch meetings. Others would like to be shown how to use a research tool or application or have more one-to-one help to overcome problems.

### **Branch Newsletters:**

The content which surveyed members would find most useful in our branch newsletters are:

- Brick walls and suggested solutions (80%)
- Hints on various genealogical topics (77%)

- Links to online resources (75%).

Overall, surveyed members enjoy reading our newsletter, but feel members could contribute more.

Most members surveyed did not want to replace the newsletter with a Facebook page. However, some would like to see both. If anyone would like to set up or maintain a Facebook page for our branch, please let one of the Committee members know.

Thanks very much to everyone who completed our survey. Your feedback will help us shape our meeting programme and newsletter content for the next year to ensure it better meets your needs and interests. Some members indicated that they could share knowledge at a meeting or contribute to our newsletter, which we appreciate.

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## **Heritage in the Hutt September 2019:**

<http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/Leisure--Culture/Archives-and-heritage/hutt-heritage-month/>

See what exhibitions, talks, and tours we're holding for Heritage in the Hutt, 8-30 September 2019.

- [Exhibitions](#)
- [Talks and tours 9-15 September](#)
- [Talks and tours 16-22 September](#)
- [Talks and tours 23-29 September](#)

During Heritage in the Hutt 2019, we're examining the history of our city's architecture, industry, environment and social history.

All talks and tours are free to attend, unless otherwise stated.

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

Latest additions to Newspapers (August 2019):

- [Ashburton Guardian](#) (1922-1950)
  - [Industrial Unionist](#) (1913)
  - [Wairarapa Daily Times](#) (1920-Mar 1938)
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### **Tea Roster for the Evening Meetings: September & October:**

- Thursday 12 September – Ian Fyfe
- Thursday 10 October – Maureen Goodwin

*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*

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**Evening Meeting:** 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, February to December

Doors Open: 7pm

**Day Meeting:** 10.00am 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](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)