

Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists



News & Views

December 2015

Issue 340



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: Anne Martin 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

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



Branch Meeting Programme for December

Thursday 10 December Evening Meeting: Quiz

Test your knowledge of genealogy and local history in a fun quiz organised by Suzanne Sutton-Cummings, then socialise over the Christmas supper provided by the committee.

Also there will be a raffle of Christmas Goodies to the value of: 1st Prize \$55 & 2nd Prize \$35 Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5



Looking Ahead to February

11 February Evening Meeting:

Family Search Desk at the National Library

Jenny Martin will tell both meetings about the services provided by the volunteers at the Family Search desk at the National Library, including how to order films.

Please Note: The 18 February Morning Meeting is cancelled due to the Cruise Speaker day – refer Page 5

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

On duty for: December & February

- **December - No Duties**
- Wednesday 3 February: - Marie Perham & Bob Vine
- Saturday 6 February: - **Library Closed**
- Wednesday 17 February: Deb Beban & Lois Bartlett

Please Note: If you are not able to do your duty please contact Diane Stinson or Marie Perham

The Roster from March for the year will be confirmed during the holiday break and contact made with those who are regulars.

Expressions of interest from new members who would like to be on the Heritage Centre Roster please phone either Diane or Marie.

Thank you: To all those who continue to volunteer.

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.

Thank You

On behalf of the committee and members of the Hutt Valley Branch we sincerely thank Lynly Yates for her work arranging the Volunteer Roster for the Heritage Centre.

Contact for the roster will now be Diane Stinson or Marie Perham.



Thank You!



What Kind of Genealogist are you?

The Hunter or Detective: This genealogist loves the research. While they want to find their own ancestors, they'll research anyone's ancestry just for the thrill of the hunt. They are easily side-tracked from their own ancestral research by the challenge of solving a stranger's brick wall.

The Gatherer or Ancestor Collector: This genealogist loves to know about their ancestors but doesn't really enjoy the hunt. He/she is happy to have others share what they have found.

The Ancestor Finder: This genealogist loves it all - doing the actual research and finding that elusive ancestor but they only enjoy researching their own family tree, not the ancestry of strangers.

The Hoarder: This genealogist does lots of research, finds new things about their ancestors but refuses to share any of the information.

The Junkyard Collector: This genealogist gets excited over online Family Trees and merges them with his/her own. He/she never verifies anything or checks their facts. Before long they have a mess of unsourced information, conflicting data and facts that don't make sense. They'll have female ancestors having children at the age of 100, or men born 50 years after their spouse or children born before their parents.

The Scholar: This genealogist lives and breathes source citations. Accuracy is everything to this research. You'll often find this person submitting articles to scholarly journals as the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. Page after page of red edit marks from the editors don't intimidate them. They'll plow through their article drafts, refining and revising and making each more accurate than the last.

The Analyzer: This genealogist finds a new fact, then studies it and analyzes it carefully before moving on to the next bit of research. They use each fact as a stepping stone to more research. They verify every piece of information they find and they view it critically, thinking about what it actually means and what other clues might be gleaned from it.

The Planner: This genealogist is a faithful keeper of research logs. He/she creates research plans and follows them. They are extremely organized in their research and meticulous about planning before they go on a research trip.

The Writer: This is the genealogist who is driven to write the stories of the ancestors. Some publish the books they write and offer them for sale, others write only for their family.

Some of us may fit more than one category.

http://news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy_news/2015/10/what-kind-of-genealogist-are-you.html

Kiwi Collection can now be ordered:

You need to be a member of the NZSG and to be signed in to the website:

http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Sales-News_474.aspx

If the link doesn't get you there, Go to NZSG <http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>

Sign in, Click Shop (near top of page), Drop down to Sales News.

Down under: 2016 Genealogy Seminar Tour

Another Unlock the Past seminar with visiting experts Judy Russell & Paul Blake

**Auckland - Wellington - Christchurch - Dunedin -
Sydney - Melbourne - Perth - Brisbane**



Wellington: - Thursday 18 February 2016

Judy Russell and Paul Blake are leading international genealogists and presenters. They are featured presenters on the 10th Unlock the Past history and genealogy cruise in February-March 2016. This seminar is one of a series in eight cities around New Zealand and Australia.

- * four main presentations by Judy Russell and Paul Blake
- * other supporting presentations by local and sponsoring partners
- * an exhibition — including sales from seminar supporters and sponsors
- * special offers and hundreds of dollars' worth of prizes

When: Thursday 18 February 2016, 10am - 4.15pm

Where: Matairangi room, ASB Sports Centre, 72 Kemp Street, Kilbirnie, Wellington

Cost: NZ\$30 full day, NZ\$20 half day - payable on entry on the day - cash only (whilst payment is made on entry it is important to book in advance – see website)

Full Details and bookings at www.unlockthepast.com.au/Wellington or +61 8 8395 7476

Wellington program

10.00am registration, exhibition, sales

10.25am welcome and seminar introduction

10.30am **ABCs of DNA** - Judy Russell

11.15am break and exhibition

11.45am **No vitals? No problem! Building a family through circumstantial evidence** - Judy Russell

12.30pm seminar sponsor presentation

1.00pm lunch break and exhibition

2.10pm prize draw

2.15pm local partner promos

2.30pm **London genealogy: or the metropolitan nightmare** - Paul Blake

3.15pm break and exhibition

3.30pm **Origins of your Irish ancestors** - Paul Blake

4.15pm close

Judy Russell - *The Legal Genealogist* (US).

Judy is an American genealogist with a law degree. She writes, teaches and lectures on a wide variety of genealogical topics, ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing. A native of the American west with roots deep in the American south on her mother's side and entirely in Germany on her father's side, she is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society (U.S.) and numerous state and regional genealogical societies. She has attended numerous genealogy training programs including the National Institute on Genealogical Research (NIGR) at the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C., and was a Walter Lee Sheppard Jr. prize-winner in Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis at the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University in Alabama. Now on the faculty of IGHR as well as the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG) and the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), from which she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist and Certified Genealogical Lecturer. She has written for the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, the National Genealogical Society Magazine and BCG's On-board newsletter.

Paul Blake (England):

Paul is a full-time researcher, lecturer and writer, with over 20 years' experience. He holds the Diploma in Genealogy from the Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies. Based in London, England he specialises in London and military ancestry but has wide general expertise and is therefore available for commissions for all England and Wales. He is a regular visitor to The [British] National Archives and the several London record offices. He is joint author of two books, and expects to have several more published with *Unlock the Past* by early 2016. Paul lectures widely on a variety of genealogy and related subjects in England, North America and elsewhere overseas, and on cruise ships. Paul has served on many committees. He is a past chairman, of the Society of Genealogists Executive Committee and of its Lectures Committee. He was vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Family History Societies, and it's Director of Publicity. He serves on The National Archives Online Advisory Board and on the Regular Users Committees of TNA and the Family Records Centre. Paul is President of the East Surrey FHS and a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists.

www.olderfriends.co.nz will be closing down soon:

From the Old Friends team at Trade Me

Why are we closing down Old Friends?

We're always working hard to improve the experience for our members. To focus on building better products, sometimes we need to stop supporting older versions of our websites. We understand this might not be the best news for our members who use Old Friends regularly and this isn't a decision we've taken lightly.

What does this mean for you?

From early to mid-January, the Old Friends site will be closed down and you won't be able to access it anymore. Any data will also be deleted.

If you have any information on Old Friends that you'd like to keep (e.g. messages or photos), please make sure you're saving this as soon as possible. To save a photo, right click on it and select 'Save image as'. If you've forgotten your password, head over to our help page to reset it.

If you have any questions, please send us an email, otherwise we'll be in touch again closer to the time.

Snippet

"Vengeance wreaked after sexton opened buried chest"

The following occurrence lately happened in the old church-yard of Tulliallen, Perthshire. The sexton whilst digging in a grave had his attention attracted by an unusual noise underground, which increased as he proceeded in the operation, until having reached a coffin, on breaking which he was assailed with swarms of bees, which had there taken up their residence.

The breast of the skeleton was found completely filled with honey-combs, and from its quantity it appeared the inhabitants had remained in undisturbed possession of this singular station for many years previous to this discovery.

*Carlisle Patriot, 01 Aug 1818 - Scotland News, Saturday 01 Aug 1818 (p. 3, col. 5)
Contributed by Susan Wilson, Hutt Valley Branch*

My Berlin Wall

By Suzanne Sutton-Cummings

In amongst my possessions I have a small piece of the Berlin Wall. My cousin happened to be in England in late 1989, rushed over there and chipped off a few pieces. He also purchased a larger piece covered with graffiti and had it framed along with a piece of barbed wire.

For years I tried to find where exactly my German ancestors came from. To me this was bigger than a brick wall, it was my impenetrable Berlin Wall covered with barbed wire, but like the real wall, virtually disappeared overnight.

A family member gave me a family tree of the MUNDTs which stated they sailed to Australia on the *SS Karlsruhe* and from there on the *Maseman* to New Zealand. My Ancestor Anna stated on her marriage certificate that she was born at sea on the voyage to New Zealand. It did not take me long to find that they actually left Hamburg, Germany on the 1st of April 1875 and arrived in Wellington NZ on the 11th of July 1875 on the *Lammershagen* and little Anna, the first of Friedrich's children from his 2nd marriage, was 1½ years old when they left Europe.

The *Lammershagen* immigrants to New Zealand included Scandinavians, Italians, Germans, Swiss and Austrians invited during the Vogel administration – New Zealand's first 'Think Big' project aimed at fast-tracking New Zealand's infrastructure and clearing land for farming. The ship was mostly filled with farmers and their families.

The shipping list held in the Wellington branch of Archives New Zealand has them listed as: MUNDT Friedrich age 40, Johanne age 35, Wilhemine 13, Bertha 11 ½ Franz 7 and Anna 1 ½. Their country of origin is listed as Denmark and Friedrich's occupation agricultural labourer even though he was already a farmer. Looking closer at the New Zealand version of the shipping list, I see a lot of errors very likely due to the language barriers of the immigrants. However, the Mundts aware of the anti-Prussian feeling after the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, may have lied about their country of origin.

Three more children were born to Friedrich and Johanne after they settled in Taranaki and they were all given German names: twins Maria Sophia and Augustina born 30 Jun 1876 and Friedrich Wilhelm born 21 Apr 1880. They very quickly anglicised their names to cover their German origins. Mundt is not an obviously German name, in fact it appears to be an occupational surname of Yiddish origin meaning, "someone who minted coins".

I purchased all the NZ birth, marriage and death certificates for this family and gleaned the following information:

- Friedrich (Frederick) born in West Prussia son of a farmer
- Johanne (Hannah) nee Laffen (or Laffin or Lavin or Leffin) born in Berlin
- Wilhelmine Henriethe Caroline born in Wasterberth, Prussia
- Carolina Bertha born in Wasterbarth Prussia
- Carolina Fredriche Henriette born in Germany
- Carl Franz (Charles Frank) born in Stettin, Pomerania (now Szezecin, Poland) or Berlin Germany or Bewall/Benhoul/Benmoor?, Germany
- Anna Maria Helena born at sea, in the Atlantic Ocean on the way to New Zealand – NOT!

It appears Johanne's maiden name is of Huguenot origin.

Berlin took in about 20,000 Huguenot refugees in the late 17th century and at the start of the 18th century it was estimated that 1/5th of all Berliners were of Huguenot origin.

Whenever I came across someone with a bit of knowledge of Poland or Germany, I tried picking their brains for clues as to where Wasterberth, Prussia might be. One native Pole told me that Catherine the Great of Russia, who was German, settled German farmers in Prussia to teach the locals how to farm. "OK, so my ancestors were farmers, why did they leave?" He said that these farmers knew how to get as much as they possibly could out of the land. They knew about composting etc. but it reached the point where they could no longer earn a living off the land.

Recently I found Frederick's naturalisation papers in Archives New Zealand which state he was born in Lasback, Prussia but it wasn't until I found transcripts of the passenger list held in the Hamburg National Archives on www.findmypast.com and scans of the original pages on www.ancestry.com that I finally saw my Berlin Wall come down. My problem was that these two place names had been spelt wrong!

- MUNDT Ferdinand 40 Landmann (farmer) Zülkenhagen Pommern (Pomerania)

By googling Zülkenhagen (now Sulikowo), I came across a German map of Pomerania and found that not all that far from Zülkenhagen were Lasbeck and Wusterbarth, all in present day Poland.

Lasbeck (now Łońnica) is about 10km north of what was Bad Polzen (now Połczyn Zdrój). Wusterbarth (now Ostre Bardo) is south east of Lasbeck. Wusterbarth is

also the name of the administration district that included Lasbeck so Fred's older daughters could also have been born there.

Lasbeck was a huge farming community with tens of thousands of small farms. These farms were passed from father to son. However, after World War 2, the Germans were expelled, their land combined and made into collective farms. By googling, I was able to travel via "YouTube" through the area in a big old car grinding through the gears through huge areas now covered with grain fields as far as the eye can see.

Frederick (or Ferdinand) Mundt, a farm (or station) manager, was able to acquire his own farm near Inglewood and he passed it on to his oldest son before he retired. They would have lost everything had they stayed in West Prussia.

Frederick died in 1918 but perhaps his son Carl would have been the one who would have had his land confiscated. They were Lutheran but if any Jewish ancestry was found in them by the Nazis, they would have been rounded up and sent to a concentration camp and my story would be very different.

'Papers Past' is getting a Makeover

Papers Past was launched in 2001 as a browse-only resource. In 2007 it was updated with its present look and in 2009 all databases became searchable.

Wellington-based NZSG Councillor, Gill Knox attended a recent Family History Talk at the Alexander Turnbull Library and reports that improvements coming early next year will include better searching by Region. Not only will researchers be provided with a list of all the papers within a Region, they will also be able to select all or single papers within that area.

Gill reports that there has been a push to extend newspapers to 1920 to include WW1; Maori newspapers 1848-1913 have been included and Dunedin's Evening Star now covers 1865-1920. She says that next year's makeover will offer Central Otago papers, and extend The Press to 1945 and The Star to 1920.

Before they can go live, says Gill, *Papers Past* will be merging and updating many different databases which include A to J, Te Ao Hou and the Royal Society.

"Be patient, it will happen," she says. "From what we saw it will be worth waiting for."

- NZSG e-Kit

Lily Christina Mary Baker QSM

3555 NZSG Life Member

Born 1934 Died 2 December 2015

Lily Baker joined the New Zealand Society of Genealogists in 1982, from which time she has given more than thirty years of unselfish and committed service to the organisation and to genealogists locally, nationally and internationally. She has supported her home Branch as a committee member and as convenor on and off for a total of 16 years.



She was also a supporter of other branches in her province and around New Zealand, where her advice and skills as a knowledgeable speaker and teacher were appreciated.

Following 15 years as the NZSG Projects Coordinator and eleven years of involvement with the GRO Index Service, Lily was elected to Council in 2002. She served for six years, including four as Vice-President and held the portfolio of Education and Tours. She still serves NZSG as the Shetland Islands Contact, a position she has held since 1985.

For four years Lily represented NZSG on the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand Council and represented New Zealand on the Guild of One Name Studies for ten years.

Her significant organising skills have been demonstrated as convenor of the 1991 and 2004 NZSG Conferences, as a member of the 2009 AFFHO Congress Committee and the first New Zealand's Family History Fair Committee, as well as when pulling together volunteers to carry out the interior restoration of the 'Stoneycroft' homestead to house genealogy and heritage activities in Hastings. She has carried the NZSG's name proudly into a wide range of education and heritage activities in the Hawke's Bay community, including teaching night classes, writing histories, and volunteering at the local LDS Family History Centre.

A sound advisor on matters genealogical, she gave outstanding service to this organisation. A fine ambassador for the Society and for genealogy, both at home and in her travels throughout New Zealand and overseas, she was richly deserving of Life Membership of the Society which was presented to her at the AGM in Wellington 2014.

Lily received her Queen's Service Medal for her voluntary Service in 2000.

- *NZ Genealogist August 2014* and *'Hawkes Bay Today' 4 Dec 2015*

Cornish Memory: A Digital Archive of Cornish Life

A photo, film and audio archive documenting Cornish life has been made available online. On Cornish Memory, you can find photos, watch films, and listen to the stories of Cornwall's rich history from Victorian times to the present day.

The collection of more than 30,000 items, some dating back to 1850, have been donated by professional and amateur photographers.

The project, called Cornish Memory, received £225,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund which was used to create the website and digitise the media. Organisers plan to add thousands more images over the coming months.

Cornish Memory is available at <http://cornishmemory.com>.

- Susan Wilson, Hutt Valley branch

Statute of Westminster Passed 11 December 1931

The British Parliament passed the Statute of Westminster, granting complete autonomy to its six Dominions. Australia and New Zealand held back from adopting this status, but in 1947 New Zealand became the last of the Dominions to do so.

Although this country had moved from being a colony to a Dominion in 1907, few New Zealanders then wanted greater independence from Britain. Racial affinity, language, culture, defence and trade links bound most New Zealanders to the wider 'Britannic world', which was then at the height of its prestige.

Those feelings persisted through the first half of the 20th century, even though dominion status evolved as a label for the constitutional position of the former self-governing colonies (and the Irish Free State). In 1926, after pressure from the Irish, South Africans and Canadians, the Balfour Declaration stated that Britain and the Dominions:

are autonomous Communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

New Zealand's Prime Minister, Gordon Coates, called this a 'poisonous document'. Although the British Parliament subsequently passed the Statute of Westminster, which formally removed London's right to legislate for the dominions unless they asked it to do so, New Zealand refused to ratify it until 25 November 1947. The Constitution Act 1986 finally removed the last faint provision for the British Parliament to make laws for New Zealand.

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

Porirua RSA: Website Project

I'm working with the Porirua RSA developing a website that will have an individual story of the service men and women from the wider Porirua District who have served in conflicts from the Boer War through to Modern day Peace Keeping. The criteria are simply *'if they called the area home.'*

To date 26 men from the wider district who served in the Boer War have been identified. Their stories, with photos where we have found them, have been loaded up onto the website.

200+ names of men and women from World War One are also up on the website and 30 of their stories loaded with more each week.

One group of interest are the men and women from the Porirua Mental Institute who enlisted in the NZ Medical Corp and NZ Army Nursing Service. Of a staff of sixty, forty eight served with many paying the ultimate price.

A large number of the men were single men from the United Kingdom who had come to look for work. They served in the NZEF and the majority returned to New Zealand to make it their home.

If anyone has a World War One relative who has a Porirua /Plimmerton / Pukerua Bay / Pauatahanui / Titahi Bay or Tawa connection and believes they should be included we will be more than happy to do the military research for the story.

The website is www.poriruawarstories.com

E-mail contact is poriruawarstories@gmail.com

Once World War One is completed it is then the stories of the 300+ who served in this conflict so the project is very long term.

I can supply high resolution photos of men from Boer War, World War One and World War Two if required.

[Allan Dodson](#)

- *FamNet Newsletter Dec 2015*

Blenheim 175th Anniversary Kaiwharawhara Picnic

Onslow College, 159 Burma Road, Johnsonville, Wellington
Sunday 27 December 2015 11:00am – 3:00pm

Mark the 175th anniversary of the arrival of 200 Scottish emigrants on the barque *Blenheim* at Kaiwharawhara on 27 December 1840. They founded the “Scotch Village” of “Kaiwarra”; built the roads from Wellington to Petone and Porirua; and brought their traditions and culture to a new land.



Bring your picnic, wear your tartan, enjoy Scottish dancing and music, join in traditional children’s games, and view the displays. All welcome: free entry.

The Blenheim pioneers made an important contribution to the establishment of Wellington after 1840. Most critically, they were the workforce that built roads to the Hutt Valley and to Porirua that we now regard as the City’s lifelines.

Culturally, they brought with them much that we now take for granted as part of the fusion of Scottish Highland and Kiwi culture. The first set of bagpipes was carried on the Blenheim: still in working order and held in private hands. In 1848, the Blenheim “Scotch” as they were called staged the very first Highland Games to be held on these shores, replanting tradition of Scottish associationalism that endures to this day.

For most of the 1840s, the emigrants lived with the Ngāti Tama people who then occupied a kainga at Kaiwharawhara. Some, such as John Mackenzie who spent his teenage years at Kaiwharawhara, became so fluent in Te Reo that he was later engaged as a government interpreter.

The pioneers made significant economic, cultural, social, and civic contributions to the fledgling settlement at Port Nicholson, and to the lower North Island where many eventually settled land. Perhaps the feature that is least recognised today is that Kaiwharawhara was the site of the first settlement of Scots in New Zealand, 8 years before Dunedin and 14 before Waipu.

A total of 203 emigrants landed in Wellington, 20 cabin passengers and 183 steerage passengers, after a voyage of 124 days.

Most of the passengers came from the Highlands and Islands of Northern Argyll and Western Inverness, but with a large group from Paisley, near Glasgow, who joined the party at the last moment when numbers of Highlanders pulled out.

Family names included:

Brown, Cameron, Campbell, Chisholm, Dunnet, Easton, Ferguson, Fraser, Grant, Harvie, Keith, McCollsty, McConnel, McDonald, McEachnie, MacFarlane, McGregor, McHutcheson, MacKay, McKenzie, McKinnis, McKinnon, McLachlan, McLellan, McMaster, McQuarrie, McQueen, Miller, Mitchell, Morrison, Murray, Nicol, Rankin, Ross, Sinclair, Smith, Sutherland, Thompson, and Turner.

The New Zealand Genealogist - now available online back to 2009

Back copies of The New Zealand Genealogist have been available on the website. We're pleased to announce that you will now be able to access back copies to 2009.

To read archived copies of the magazine

1. Go to the website: <http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>
2. Log in as a member
3. Click on News > Our Magazine > Back Issues



- NZSG e-Kit

**The Committee wish all
A Happy Christmas and
A Restful New Year**

