

News & Views

November 2006; 24th Year
Issue 240



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: Dianne Fitzgerald
Membership: Dianne Fitzgerald
Editor: Suzanne Sutton-Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

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

02 Nov: Annual General Meeting and then Gary Tonks - The Tonks Family of Early Wellington

16 Nov: Marlene Sayers - Parish Chest Records

07 Dec: Alison Underhill - 19th Century Clothing and then Christmas Supper (bring a plate)

THURS EVENING 02 NOV 7:30pm- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Nomination forms are available from the secretary. All nominees and nominators must be NZSG members.

THURS EVENING 02 NOV 8:00pm - GARY TONKS - THE TONKS FAMILY OF EARLY WELLINGTON

William and Jane Tonks and their 5 children arrived in Wellington on the Barque Birman in February 1842. They lived mostly on the Te Aro side of town and engaged in many and various social activities and businesses and employed many early colonists. There is a street named after the family which is currently being moved to make way for the motorway extension. They did live for a short while in Lower Hutt. Gary claims that the Tonks family did more for early Wellington than any other family.

THURS MORNING 16 NOV 9:30am: MARLENE SAYERS - PARISH CHEST RECORDS

What can you expect to find in a parish chest? Not only registers of births deaths and marriages but many other interesting things....

COME EARLY FOR RESEARCH AND LIBRARY - 6.30pm for evening meeting and 9.00am for the morning meeting on branch meeting days.

CUPPA AND COOKIE - available *before* the morning meeting - and *after* the evening meetings - gold coin donation please. (We are hoping the tea roster people don't forget)

LIBRARY BOOKS

- ✓ No more books will be issued after the November AGM until next year
 - ✓ **All library books MUST be returned by the 07 December meeting at the latest**
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CHAIR'S REPORT TO HVNZSG 2 NOV 2006

My report to the Hutt Valley Branch of the NZSGenealogists

Genealogy is a disease that is catching - a bit like the measles but the rash stays with us for a lifetime.

HVNZSG branch has always enjoyed a large membership with numbers close to 200 in the last few years, even with the event of the internet, we have kept good membership numbers.

I wish to say a big thanks to the committee who have supported me.

Deb Beban my secretary, Janice Price my Deputy chair,

Dianne Fitzgerald my treasurer, Lynne Gentry my librarian, Janet Ketchell former treasurer and committee, Carol Ann Mason our IT expert, Suzanne Sutton-Cummings editor per excellence, William Clark our handyman cum life member. Thank you all, it's been hard going running 3 meetings a month, but we did it, team work is what it's all about.

Meetings have included Polish refugee children, 19th century clothing, Pictorial collections, problem solving, Quiz nites, Old King Cole, Oral history, our own members, Turnbull library, Archivists, June Orr, Scottish and Irish history, Video history. Just to mention a few of the 22 speakers that your committee found to entertain and teach you about your favourite subject.

Sunday 15 October we held a wonderful research day, called A Taste of Genealogy to whet the appetite of newcomers and the experienced genealogist.

Jan Walker thank you for being available for the help desk every meeting, and for filling in as research officer and speaker.

Queens Birthday 2007 HVNZSG with Wellington branch are hosting the conference, thanks to our Lynly Yates who took on the onerous task of convenor of Conference.

Hutt members will all be helping serve the attending genealogists and lending our infrastructure. We look forward to a great weekend.

Seven years have passed since I joined the committee at HVNZSG. First, as the Secretary to Mike Guest and for several years as the chair. It is now time to retire gracefully, and get on with my own research.

It's been so much fun, entertaining and rewarding.

Thank you.

Sandra Greig JP 2/11/06

A TASTE OF GENEALOGY

Those who made it, got plenty for their money and went away very happy with answered questions.

SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP of GREATER WELLINGTON

Scottish Research at the Lounge, St Giles Church Corner Vallance St and Kilbirnie Cres, Kilbirnie

Sunday 5th November 2006, 1-4 pm wee door charge \$2

A brief AGM at 1:30 pm and discussion on programme for next year. We will have a selection of Scottish family history magazines 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

Contact: Pen Brown, penbrown@globe.net.nz

Scottish Interest Group Of NZSG - www.scotgroup.tk

PALMERSTON NORTH BRANCH RESEARCH DAY

Saturday 11th Nov 06 - 9am to 4pm

At Queen Elizabeth College, Rangitikei Street Palmerston North

Cost: \$10 Everyone welcome

Bring your own Lunch (Tea and Coffee Supplied)

Guest Speakers: Dr Graham Langton "Family History at Archives New Zealand", Peter Nash (Executive Officer of NZSG) and Sue Greene (NZSG Council)

"New Zealand Collections" & "NZSG" Selection of NZSG CD's - NZ Gazettes, Overseas CD's, Microfiche - NZ BDM's 1848 - 1990, NZ Cemeteries, IGI -, Probates, Coroner's Inquest Reports, Notices of Intentions to Marry. Eighteen computers with internet connections and readers available. Selection of Local Histories, Palmerston North Cemetery Records.

NZSG Sale Goods and Raffle available

Please Contact: Joan Bak Email: bak@internet.co.nz

CDS IN BRANCH LIBRARY

- ✓ BBS Index 2000
 - ✓ British Census 1851 Devon, Norfolk and Warwick
 - ✓ British Census 1881
 - ✓ Catholic Diocese of Christchurch - Baptism Index before 31 December 1904
 - ✓ Cemetery Transcriptions Christchurch
 - ✓ Encyclopaedia of New Zealand Volumes 1-6 (12 CDs)
 - ✓ Family history Library Catalogue 2000
 - ✓ Family History: Radio NZ 28 March 2005
 - ✓ Family Search Scottish Church Records 1600 - 1854
 - ✓ Family Tree Maker Programme
 - ✓ Genealogy: Radio New Zealand
 - ✓ Griffith's Valuations (Ireland)
 - ✓ Hereford 1891 Census
 - ✓ New Zealand Electoral Roll 1881
 - ✓ New Zealand Electoral Roll 1893
 - ✓ New Zealand Marriages 1836 - 1956
 - ✓ New Zealand War Census (WW1 Service Personnel and Reserves Index)
 - ✓ Paracensus of Australia 1788 - 1828
 - ✓ Scottish Parish Records: Scotland North
 - ✓ Scottish Parish Records: West Lothian, Mid Lothian
 - ✓ Tasmanian Pioneer Index 1803 - 1899
 - ✓ Vital Records Index (LDS) British Isles 1998
 - ✓ Vital Records Index (LDS) Australia 1788-1905
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FIRST FOUR SHIPS

In January The [Christchurch] Press published a series of articles on the first 4 ships [to Canterbury, that is, not NZ], accompanying 4 group photos taken in 1900 of surviving passengers. The aim of the project was to enlist the help of readers in finding out who these people were and what had become of them.

The Press has now published a book bringing together the original articles and the material supplied by readers. They have also launched an interactive website, www.firstfourships.co.nz. The site contains all the information in the book, and allows readers to add material, such as family histories, to aid further research. The book, \$10.00, is only available from the Press offices.

from Canterbury Newsletter Nov 06

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

Married 1949, died 1992: born 1922, married 1950, died 1990

- from the Irish Interest Group Newsletter June 2006

SPEAKER'S REVIEW - LINDA EVANS - ORAL HISTORY AT THE ATL

Linda Evans talked about the Oral History Section at the Alexander Turnbull Library. It was not until after World war 2 that portable recording instruments were available.

In Britain, the recordings were mostly of the working class, their voices becoming democratised; something not previously possible in the UK.

In America, the recorders were used to interview famous people and went into the details of life. They were very mundane but were on topics were not normally written about.

Writers also interviewed and kept the recordings. The recordings had structure and a purpose and involved collaboration between interviewer and interviewee.

Linda brought along a few snippets of recordings available at the ATL

- ✓ Fred Bettjeman (1884-1987) recorded in 1987 when he was 103 years old
- ✓ Shirley McDonald (1927-) of Canvasstown
- ✓ Dorothy (Joyce) Ockenden (1915-) of Lyall Bay
- ✓ Elsie Locke (1912-2001) talking about being in the infirmary for 2 years with TB
- ✓ Aileen Daly (1957-1987) involved in the NZ Marching Association in the late 1940s.

Recordings can be used in 2 ways:

1. to learn how to do interviewing for your own research
2. to use in your own research

Many people feel more comfortable talking into a voice recorder than talking in front of a video recorder. The most preferred recording instrument to use, as recommended by Linda, is a solid state, preferably 24 bit 48kHz. Do keep back up copies!

See also <http://tapuhi.natlib.govt.nz> (and do a name search)

SPEAKER'S REVIEW - THE REGISTER GENERAL'S OFFICE

Alison Ainsworth and Eileen Kennedy of the Register General's Office spoke regarding NZ BDMs said they have been waiting 2 years for law changes to enable earlier indexes to be placed online, but are still "cleaning up" the data; there can be vetoes on supplying some information for Adoption or Domestic Violence reasons.

As well as registering BDMs, today the RGO also registers civil unions, adoptions, changes of name by Deed Poll, HART (Human Assisted Reproductive technology), post-adoptive birth details, updates marriage records after dissolution of marriage.

Regarding the placement of records online, other countries have restrictions imposed on these and the same is likely to occur in NZ. For example, BDMs online from NSW, Vic (Australia), BC (Canada) and Scotland have the following limits for access:

- ✓ Births 75 or 100 years, Marriages 50, 55, or 75 years, Deaths 20 or 50 years

Currently there are 2 charges when someone applies for a certificate:

- ✓ images of the register from 1875 on can be printed from the system (usually \$20)
- ✓ pre-1875 images are on blue paper which does not scan successfully so these have to be typed and therefore cost more than a post-1875 certificate (\$30).

On occasions there is more than one reason why an image cannot be supplied: adoption, or for a birth to 2 persons who subsequently married so a new record is later created.

NOTES

- ✓ The original image was formerly called a Micrographic when it is taken off film.
 - ✓ The term 'illegitimate' is no longer stamped on a certificate
 - ✓ Folio numbers are still used, but there is a conversion project underway whereby registrations are allocated unique numbers
 - ✓ Re-registration - new records are created and the old are not available
 - ✓ With crossmatching of death to birth information birth certificates (but not image printouts) will now say "since died" though the date is not given.
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- ✓ Since 2004 new certificates are bilingual i.e. English and Maori labels
- ✓ The occupation information has been dropped from the certificate, although it is still collected
- ✓ There are now 12 funeral directors supplying death information electronically
- ✓ All certificates are checked before mailing out - a prompt from the computer ensures this
- ✓ From 1 January 2006 a child born in New Zealand is no longer automatically classed as a New Zealander. This is advertised on overseas sites so that people do not come here specifically for a birth *to enable their child to have NZ citizenship.*

FUTURE ONLINE SERVICES:

- ✓ a legislation change is necessary
- ✓ the site must have a secure credit card facility
- ✓ must also have secure firewall systems to prevent data being accessed illegally
- ✓ all data needs to be checked carefully
- ✓ there will be restrictions for some records e.g. although privacy no longer exists after death, the spouse and children who may still be living have to be protected
- ✓ all certificates are checked before mailing out - a prompt from the computer ensures this.

From the Wellington Newsletter October 2006

TO FIND & TO ORDER NZ BDM CERTIFICATES

- ✓ 0800-22 52 52 - you can order certificates using this free-phone number. Have your credit card handy.
 - ✓ Details of early certificates can be found by looking through the NZ BDM indexes which also have folio numbers. (Our library has them on microfiche up to and including 1920)
 - ✓ The folio numbers for births and deaths can be matched up to various areas in NZ, and to which quarter registered in, by looking through the 'District Keys' booklets.
 - ✓ Marriages are indexed, more or less, in chronological order.
 - ✓ If you belong to the NZSG, check first to see if they have a copy of the certificate you are after
 - ✓ The NZSG disk also has marriage matches so you can find the name of the spouse.
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TOUR NAPIER PRISON - IT HASN'T CHANGED MUCH SINCE MY GT GT GRANDFATHER WAS THERE!

While on a quick visit to Napier recently, I discovered from the Visitor Information Centre there were tours available to Napier Prison in Coote Road. It's just round the corner from Marine Parade down the Ocean Spa Pool Complex end. You go up a driveway opposite the "waterfall" at the bottom of Coote Road, which was originally the quarry the prisoners carved the prison's stone wall from, finishing in 1906 (100 years ago this year). Hard labour only ended in 1973.

The Prison, NZ oldest (gazetted 1862) is now run by Marion and Toro Waaka (and daughter) as a tourist venture - backpackers can sleep in the cells for a different residential experience or you can just do the tour. There are ghosts - Roland Edwards, the Ormondville murderer hanged in the grounds in 1884 is said to walk on his birthday and a lady has also been seen "walking" at nights!!

Hangings were carried out there (the viewing places where people paid to come and watch are still there) and there are some early graves in a courtyard within the walls. The prison was only closed in 1993 and there has been little done to change the original buildings, including the wooden one where my 2xgt grandfather William HITCHINGS of Ormond/Hawkes Bay would have languished for a time for stealing a sheep (the family were simply hungry, but it was a serious crime in NZ in the 1880s). Apparently the Mongrel Mob boys bring their families around to show them where they spent 'time' (their wall etchings are still there for all to see) and the TV programme "Redemption Hill" was filmed there. Marcus Lush spoke about Roland Edwards on his programme "Off the Rails".

There were a couple of examples displayed of the information that would have been available on the early prisoners (no names) plus some historical information, but the full registers are long gone.

HOWEVER, our guide said under her computer desk in the room she uses as her office there is a well and legend has it that all the information was thrown down there. I wanted to start digging immediately, but she said it would cost money to excavate it properly and they still only lease the buildings from the Government.

They are still building up this new venture and it cost \$15 each to go through. Two daily guided tours are at 9.30am or 3pm. It's \$20 if you want to go on a scary night tour.

You can't help but be rather moved by seeing what conditions were like there - particularly if you knew someone there. In recent time it has also housed some infamous people.

For further information you can visit www.napierprison.com

Yvonne Airey

CALEB CULL (1821-1901) - submitted by Stafford Cull

Joshua Cull was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars who fought at Waterloo in the 52nd Regiment. He retired on a Chelsea Pension that kept the family until he died. It was then that his son, Caleb, aged 18 years got into trouble with the law.

There was no Social Security, few skills (except that Caleb could read and write), and wound up in Hobart, Tasmania. After 10 yrs in prison he was given a conditional release. He was not allowed to return to England and so he married and came to Wellington. He landed on 4 December 1854. On 23 January 1855 there was the massive earthquake. The N.Z. Spectator recorded an advertisement on 10 February 1855 where Caleb is offering board and hot meals. Caleb did well becoming the proprietor of at least two hotels but to understand a little of his feelings we have this statement:

Arriving in New Zealand Caleb was still pining for home and wrote:

"How happy to me now seem those days which have passed never more to return, days which I spent in my native land, my happy home, of which the poet sings so sweetly "Home Sweet Home". How sad and lonely do I now feel when I think of the past.

Everything in New Zealand looks dull to me, Nature seems not clothed so luxuriantly, the birds sing not here as they do in the Old World, with that thrilling harmony and bursting joyousness which thrills me through in the Mother Country. How bare and bleak the distant hills or when covered with foliage how dark and sombre their tints, so unlike the bright and beautiful green of the English landscape.

No majestic foil of Gothic Architecture, no splendid structure vast and grand here, towers above the surrounding habitation of man. But the mind passing by these minor details dwells with far more pain and regret on the separation from those so dear, the kind and good though sometimes stern.

Father whose strong hand and heart has guided, upheld and sympathised with us in those brighter days, but is now separated from us by the vast and mighty deep, the unfathomed ocean.

That loving, fond and gentle Mother who soothed our infant sorrow with her sweet caress and endearing words of love and tenderness, that best earthly friend who when the world forgets, will never herself forget. The world may wilfully do me many wrongs, my Mother never. The world may persecute me while living and when dead plant the ivy and nightshade of slander upon my grave. But that Mother will love and cherish me while living and should she survive this frail body, will weep for me when dead, such tears as none but a Mother knows how to weep.

Those dear and ever to be remembered brothers and sisters whose happy smiles have so often lit up our countenance with joy and gladness and with whom we have mingled together in the festive hours and in the hour of sadness have blended our sorrows into one, and seen them dispersed with the rainbow of hope just as the glorious sun chases away the black and stormy clouds, by his bright and glorious beams, and our hearts no longer dwelling on those gloomy clouds, now bask in the effervescent beams of the bright orb of day. How often have we walked, and talked, sang wept and prayed together.

Those sorrows of our hearts which have for that time such nigh overwhelmed us have been removed by the loving words and looks of sympathy which now no more fall with sweet cadence on our ears or sweetly melt our eyes with their pathetic tenderness. The troubled waves of ocean, the sublime and glorious seas, now intervene between us and those dear objects of affection.

Separated from such we mourn and suffer on without those sweet sympathies, at hand to afford relief. But though we are removed afar off yet still we are one in heart and in the bonds of affection which still unite us all into one family, and if it please the great Father of us all who reigns above supreme and sweetly orders all that is if it be in accordance with his most righteous will, we shall once more meet together, and tread the fair and beautiful paths of family affection, and love

together in the gardens of hope and joy which will be the more fragrant and beautiful for these days of separation, and of sorrow.

Oh! that we may be permitted to meet an unbroken family in Heaven at last, where we shall part no more. Then shall we indeed find that there is no place like Heaven, there is no place like Home. Home Home Sweet Sweet Home.

ROBERT CAMMOCK

We are on our journey home,
Where Christ our Lord is gone,
We will meet around his Throne,
When he makes his people one,
In the new Jerusalem."

Caleb

WEBSITES

✓ NEW SOUTH WALES RESEARCH

A selection of images from the Maritime Services Board glass negative collection. The images record the construction of wharves and adjoining facilities in Sydney Harbour, as well as housing and buildings in the Harbour area, including many of the warehouses. Also included are images of the many different types of ships and vessels which operated on the Harbour. This selection is a small portion of the series; a full listing is available.

<http://investigator.records.nsw.gov.au/asp/photosearch/introduction.htm>

Index to vessels arriving in Sydney 1837-1925 This index relates to vessels arriving in Sydney only. It records the name and type of vessel, and date of arrival. If you know the name of the ship, this index will be useful to check or confirm the date of arrival. There are 120,133 entries in this index. The Index to vessels arriving in Sydney.

http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/index_to_vessels_arriving_in_sydney_1837-1925_10631.asp

Updates to the Gaol Photos Index. This index currently includes c.38 200 entries, listing prisoners from the following gaols: Albury (1876-1929), Armidale (1895-1915), Bathurst (1874-1930), Berrima (1883-1888), Biloela (1885-1906), Broken Hill (1904-1929), Deniliquin (1895-1929 - latest addition), Dubbo (1889-1920), Darlinghurst (1869-1914 - Now Complete!). More entries are progressively being added to this index. http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/gaol_photographs_1648.asp

New AIB's - AIB 108 Primary Application Packets - this AIB provides a helpful overview, detailing legislative background while also detailing step by step process to locating the Primary Application Packet. http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/archives_in_brief_108_10517.asp

- AIB 109 Valuation records - this AIB details the records held by State Records that relate to valuation records. http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/archives_in_brief_109_11007.asp

NRS 9856 MARITIME SERVICES BOARD GLASS NEGATIVES, C. 1870-1960

State Records holds several thousand Glass negatives taken by the Maritime Services Board. These glass negatives record the construction of wharves and adjoining facilities in Sydney Harbour; ferry wharves and passenger amenities; views of Port Jackson; different types of ships and vessels; diagrams of technical systems; shipping movements; navigational aids such as buoys and beacons; rail work, tenements; roadways, housing and buildings in the harbour area including warehouses and boatsheds; road construction; reclamation works; equipment; damaged vessels (including on slipways); harbour-side pools; and demolition sites (including wharves, to combat rats and the plague).

✓ BLUE THISTLE - www.bluehistlegenealogy.com - need a research service in Scotland - this new Family History service, based in Scotland, is happy to tackle a wide range of tasks, from compiling a full family history, to a single look-up at Register House in Edinburgh. They can

locate and photograph places, gravestones, etc., or provide you with a detailed social history of an area – in other words, not just where your family lived, but how they lived!

- ✓ ULSTER, IRELAND - For those of you interested in Ulster, Ireland, there is a free search of the Primary Valuation of Ireland 1848-1864, (better known as the Griffiths Valuation) at, <http://www.ulsterancestry.com/search.html>
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NO FOOTPRINTS IN THE SANDS OF TIME (Author unknown)

It's nice to come from gentle folks
Who wouldn't stoop to brawl,
Who never took a lusty poke
At anyone at all.

Who never raised a raucous shout
At any country inn,
Or calmed an ugly fellow lout
With a belaying pin.

Who never shot at a revenuer
Hunting for a still,
Who never rustled cattle
and agreed with Uncle's will.

Who lived life as they ought
without uncouth distraction,
And shunned like leprosy a thought
of taking legal action.

It's nice to come from gentle folks
Who've never known disgrace
But oh, though scandal is no joke
It's far easier to trace!
