

Hibiscus Coast Branch of NZSG established 28 November 1989



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Convenors Chat



There has been a lot happening over the last few months, so I have not been doing a lot of my own genealogy.

I have always put off trying to write about myself as there seemed to be too many years and places to cover at my age. Now that I have decided to focus only on my childhood, I have started writing, which seems much more achievable. I attended our Writers Group as this memoir will be in first person, whereas

I have usually written family histories in third person. It was interesting to learn what others were writing and to find a place where I can get help and feedback.

I also read an extensive article on writing memoirs in the July issue of *Famnet*, a free newsletter I subscribe to with many interesting articles. Writing my memoir has also given me a way to use some of my childhood photos by placing them in context, making them far more meaningful.



<https://www.famnet.org.nz/>

I was briefly distracted by Cameron Wright's, *In Times of Rain and War*, an absorbing novel that provided wonderful background reading on wartime London.

With a huge brick wall always lurking in my research that I hope DNA might help me overcome one day, it was a pity I missed Sandra Metcalfe's talk on our Research Day. Maybe I will front up when John or Chris is on duty with my laptop and get a new pair of eyes to look at my DNA and help me make better use of the available tools. I learn much better by being shown than by reading instructions. How I wish everyone would include at least a basic tree with their DNA results, as the lack of one can be so frustrating.

When I delivered Carol's morning tea to the Shamrocks meeting, I found the discussion most interesting and just wished my gg-grandfather had put more than "Irish" on an American census or been given a more helpful name than John! Still, it was an enjoyable morning and you always learn something.

Last month Garry, as a Board member, and Phillippa and I, as HBC committee members, attended the NZSG Regional meeting at Panmure, where representatives from Branches and Interest Groups in the Auckland area meet several times a year. It was great to see how much sharing of ideas now takes place. One idea I have noticed in other Branch newsletters is something like "speed dating"—except it is genealogy rather than dating! It sounds like fun, so I must find out more.

Wendy

From the Committee

August and **Family History Month** means the committee have been busy planning for it and as usual the aim is to let people know that we are there to help people discover their family history.

For the first 2 weeks of August we will have:

At Whangaparaoa Plaza a display of old local photos and volunteers on hand to chat with visitors. This venue is chosen as it is indoors and situated outside a supermarket with parking.

A large raffle will also be there, and at our St Chads meeting. A big thank you to members who donated articles for our raffles and to local generous businesses.

At the Orewa Library we will extend the volunteer chat sessions to two a week – Saturday & Wednesday.

Our volunteers will also continue to assist people with their research four mornings a week in our Research Area at Whangaparaoa Library. For those who have a DNA question or query and want to chat about it they will be able to do so with John or if you want to know more about 'Painter' then chat with Chris, (see Library Duty Roster, p 18).

Magazines



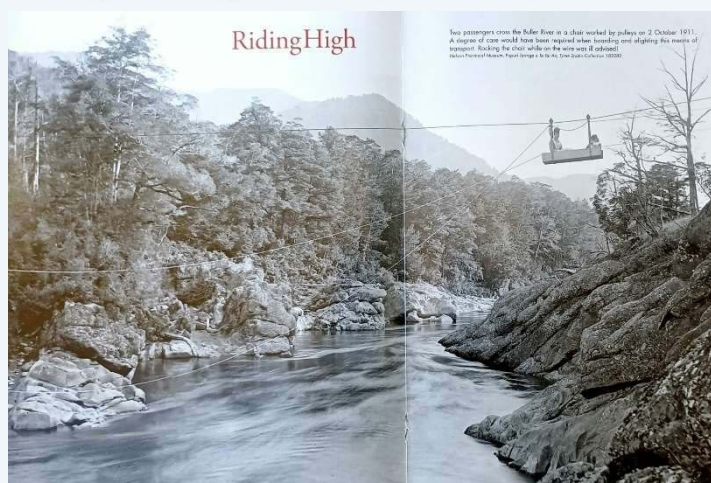
I've received a new **WDYTYA** magazine which will be heading into the Round Robin shortly; we have 10 people on our list for this magazine.

If you want to be on the list to receive this, or the **Irish Roots** magazine that comes once every three months, please let me know by emailing me at pg.long@xtra.co.nz.

We've received a donation of a number of **Memory Magazine** which are now on the library shelf. These have some very interesting stories and photos. I noticed in one I brought home, a photo of a cage/chair crossing

on the Buller river, which made me remember that I had come across a story in my own family research. So, I searched the **Papers Past** and found the article where two of my aunt's cousins plunged to their death in 1889, when the rope broke while crossing the Fox river in flood, they were 5 and 15. A friend was with them as they were not strong enough to pull themselves across. They were on the way to milk the cows. Their mother watched helplessly from the shore; none of the bodies were recovered despite a significant search.

Regards **Mandy** (See pg10 for Papers Past article related to Mandy's family story.)



1. Image: Nelson Provincial Museum, Pupuri Tuonga o Te Toi Ao, Tyree Studio Collection 182282.

Two passengers cross the Buller River in a chair worked by pulleys 2 October 1911

We Remember

Margaret Pool RIP July 2026



Margaret Pool was a made a lifetime member of our Hibiscus Coast Branch in recognition of all that she has done over so many years for the group, starting back in the early 1980's when our subscription was just \$5!

In March 1987 Margaret was one of 20 people who turned up at Orewa College for a genealogy course run by a well know genealogist at that time, Verna Mossong and she always said that this was the beginning of her genealogy journey.

By 1989 our numbers had grown and we became a member of the New Zealand Society and at the first committee meeting Margaret was elected as our secretary. Meetings were held in the Parsonage in the Silverdale Pioneer Village which was probably very nice during the day but the path a bit of a challenge in the dark for evening meetings with no outside lighting.

1991 and Margaret was experienced enough to take a Beginners course at Orewa College, and the response was so good, a second one had to be taken, and so she helped the Branch numbers grow.

Margaret has the gift to make dry-as-dust topics interesting and absorbing. The Coaster, April 1991

Research in these early days needed a lot of patience as nothing happened quickly.

Snail mail was the method used to gather information so most of us wore a path to our mailbox - waiting for a reply to our inquiries! Overseas stamps were a service Margaret helped provide our members as a SAE (Stamped Addressed Envelope) was enclosed with each request sent off.

Myra Frew started local indexing projects and Margaret was there to help along with Vera and Jean. The first was to index the Wainui Pioneer Village resources and this was followed by the local cemeteries and then in 2000 the local school's records.

Along with projects we had stalls and raffles to fund raise as microfiche and readers had to be purchased. Research Days were held in local halls as a way of helping each other and visitors find information.

Muscles were something needed by all members to set up tables, carry the library boxes and fiche readers as we had no set storage place.

Website: www.hbcgenealogy.org.nz



We grew too big for the Parsonage and moved our meetings to the LDS in Red Beach which was a great venue, especially when they had a research library set up there and we did not have to travel to Takapuna to read films, although some people missed their coffee and tea.

When we had to move from the LDS I managed to persuade the Librarians to let us have a space there and in return we would provide volunteers to help people with their family history and as expected Margaret became a volunteer and continued to do so for many years.

The next big step forward was computers, and we applied and got a donation in 1998 to buy our first computer and printer. As a volunteer Margaret learnt along with all the volunteers how to use the genealogy programmes to help others.



3. Our first computer

played such a big part in genealogy on the Hibiscus Coast.

She was truly a Lifetime member as she and Peter were there only a week before her passing at our Research Day.

She will be remembered gratefully by all those she has helped and fondly by all who knew her.

Wendy Inskip, Convenor HBC Genealogy



2. A group of volunteers at our Library Christmas "Volunteers Thank you afternoon tea" with Margaret in the back row.

Margaret and Myra became our 'go to' people for any information on Scotland, so were very valued by our members. Ten years after becoming a formal NZSG Branch Margaret was there to celebrate the occasion.

Now after 37 years we are sad to lose Margaret who has been here from the small beginnings of our Branch and has



4. Margaret in dark green

Our website:



LIBRARY COMPUTERS

New Resources for New Zealand

By Alan J • 04/06/2026

Added some of the donated CDs from Greg & Anne Murphy

June 2026 – Added

Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory 1894-95

Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory 1901

Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory 1915

Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory 1933

Located in the New Zealand Folders on our Library Computers

Website links

[HBC Genealogy](#)Newsletters[Newsletters from other Branches & Groups](#)By [Alan J](#)

The latest Newsletters our Branch has received from other Branches and Groups

[Read More Newsletters from other Branches & Groups](#)[Research Day 23 June 2026](#)

Photos Courtesy of
Chris Ingram

By [Alan J](#)**August Speaker**

At St Chad's Church, 117 Centreway, Orewa
2.00 pm, Tuesday, 18 Aug 2026

**Simon Young**

Simon is the Vice Chair of the NZSG and a dedicated genealogist.

Simon is passionate about bringing family history to life and coaching people to create their own "unforgettable family stories".

His website "One Ancestor at A Time" is a treasure trove of family history information.

Phone Phillippa 027 697 2854 or <mailto:alpkbert@gmail.com>

July Speaker Review

Hazel Petrie has an impressive résumé as a New Zealand historian and author, and with August being Matariki month, who better to explain some of the key Māori concepts and how they relate to both Māori and European?

She began with the story of Māui fishing up the North Island. The South Island became the canoe, Stewart Island the anchor, and the North Island the fish (a stingray). She also told the story of Rata and the building of a strong ocean-going canoe, where the lesson is that we must show respect for nature.

In the 1830s, early missionaries developed a written form of the Māori language to assist in teaching Christianity.

Hazel went on to discuss specific words and concepts, such as *rāhui* – a customary ban on collecting seafood as a method of conservation – and *tapu* and *noa*, particularly in relation to food and the importance of keeping certain activities separate. She explained how Māori grew wheat and built mills for grinding flour alongside streams where people were not permitted to swim, keeping washing and food preparation apart.

Our 21 July speaker Hazel Petrie has an MA in Māori history and PhD in studies from the University of Auckland .

She also explained that the use of pronouns was not used as Māori had no concept of 'his or hers'.

There were women who signed the Treaty of Waitangi, and Māori women who later lobbied for women's suffrage.

Hazel described the colours of the Māori flag: black representing night, white clarity, and red representing mana. Red was the colour of the gods, but it was also the colour of the blankets that were traded and became a statement of sovereignty.

Her discussion of death and burial was particularly interesting, showing how Māori practices and Christianity became intertwined.

I found myself quite intrigued by these concepts, of which I, as a New Zealander, had received only a very superficial education and had misunderstood in some respects. It was enlightening to gain another perspective.

Eileen Revell

Raffle Winner



5. July raffle winner Jo
Photo courtesy of Mandy Wolstenholm

Congratulations to Joanne Robinson our July raffle winner who's been enjoying the contents of her win.

A special thanks to



Unichem Life Pharmacy Silverdale Clinic

Bunnings Warehouse - Silverdale

Kiki Seeds Crackers

Pure Delish Muesli

Mirabelle Fruit Winery, Warkworth

Brook and Bridge Gift Shop, Puhoi

Get Pickled Preserves, Wellsford

Sneak Peek

August Raffle

Welcome to our new member:

Sheryl Pawson

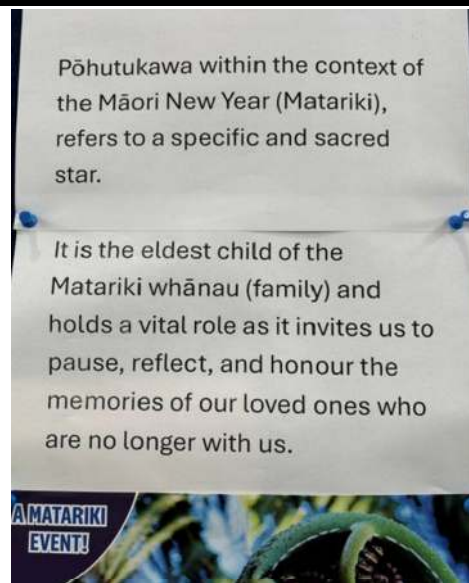
Please offer a smile and warm welcome when you see her



Celebrating Matariki



6. Our Research Area Display



On July 14th, Carol along with Joy as her helper took a school holiday session - Matariki crafts, in our Research Area at

Whangaparaoa Library. The children (and some of the parents) had a lovely time making and decorating stars or colouring Māori patterns.

The young lad, at the front of the photo below, showed a lot of talent with colours, and the young boy across from him burst into a song at one stage. A happy group

15th July There was a combined Library, Genealogy and local Marae event for those people interested in tracing their Māori heritage held in our Research area. Wendy and Diane provided the information on researching and Holly from our local marae provided protocol we should be aware of.



Feedback from a few of our readers, and various members who attended our recent 'Show and Tell', made us ask Rhonda-Joy S. to share her family story ...

A large circular Family Tree, handwritten circa 1970, linked two of my maternal families, Dreaver from Orkney and Leal from Morayshire, Scotland. Included was a citation for a Jonet Drever [a.k.a. Janet] who was tried as a witch in Kirkwall, Orkney, on 7 June 1615.

Could I be related to Jonet, and, what was her story?

Read Rhonda-Joy's story on page 9

Can you help?

A request from Vicky Adin

Short history:

Heinrick Fuhrmann was born in Prussia in 1865 and came to New Zealand in 1875. His father, Edward was a labourer on the Douglas Block in Foxton cutting flax. His mother died in Palmerston North in 1883. Edward remarried in 1887 and moved to Halcombe. He died penniless and estranged from the family in 1893 when Heinrick was 28.

By 1903 I'm finding numerous newspaper reports that Heinrick, now known as Henry Fohrmann, is described as 'a cripple', and more often as 'the Halcombe invalid'. In one report, he crawls on his knees and left hand as his right hand is useless. In another report in 1904 and 1905, he's had his left leg amputated below the knee and the other leg is paralysed. He never married and is cared for by a Mrs Hasse and her daughter. I have not found any article or reports prior to these dates that say how or when he became disabled. There are no family stories about him being different or having a disability. He died in 1908 aged 42.

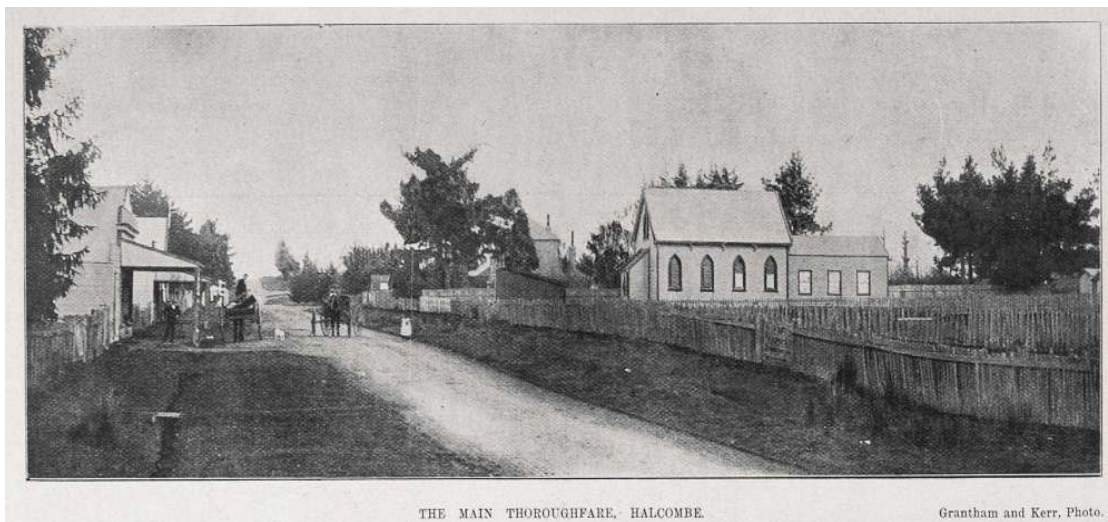
To make ends meet he collected used stamps. There are several newspaper articles asking children, in particular, to send him stamps so he can make a living. Can anyone explain how he would make money from used stamps in the early 1900s, please?

Many thanks, Vicky Adin [mail to: vicky@adin.co.nz](mailto:vicky@adin.co.nz)

'Where Stories Lie Buried: a Memoir of a Genealogist turned Author', Coming Soon

Editor note: to help with Vicky's query I copied it into ChatGPT and received some information which I passed on to her. She has already done that herself but is looking for a more New Zealand specific answer, especially in a small town like Halcombe.

<https://www.halcombecommunity.co.nz/early-halcombe.html>



7. Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections AWNS-19040714-06-02

Thank you to Dick Mogridge for picking up the Shipping Project Team Leader position for our branch.

And, many thanks to our nine volunteers transcribing our branch allocation of the shipping project:

Cathy B, Liz B, Judy C, Grant H,
Chris I, Raewyn I, Treve K,
Dick M, Eileen R

Member Contribution

By Rhonda-Joy Sweeney

My 1970 Circular Family Tree

*A large circular Family Tree, handwritten circa 1970, linked two of my maternal families, **Dreaver** from Orkney and **Leal** from Morayshire, Scotland. Included was a citation for a Jonet Drever [a.k.a. Janet] who was tried as a witch in Kirkwall, Orkney, on 7 June 1615.*

Could I be related to Jonet and what was her story?

Andrew Dreaver [my great-great grandfather] arrived into Port Chalmers, Otago, early 1860's. His spelling of Dreaver included an 'a' whereas the previous three generations in Orkney, all also called 'Andrew Drever',^[1] were without the 'a' and spelt the same as Jonet Drever.

According to witch trial reports, Jonet confessed to having conversed with fairies 26 years earlier, and that she left a child in the care of the fairy folk. Interestingly, over a series of witches' trials which took place in Orkney in 1615-1616 the same mingling of 'fairies' beliefs are recorded.^[2]

The Court Books of Orkney and Shetland 1614 – 1615,^[3] records that Jonet was charged with "*the abohminable and divelische cryme of witchcraft*". She was sentenced to be "*scrudgit fra the end of the said toun to the uthar, and thairefter to be banished the cuntrey and never to retorne, under the pane of death*" [pp xxvi and 20]. Scrudgit was to beat a person severely with a scourge; to flog, whip. Chiefly in public, and by way of punishment [Older Scottish Tongue].^[4]

At this stage, I am unable to provide any direct link to Jonet, but as Drever is a surname closely related to Orkney it certainly remains a possibility. The end of her story is also an unknown and not expected to be good. However, I have become increasingly interested in this dark period of history for Orkney, and Scotland.

A campaign, WITCHES of SCOTLAND,^[5] is dedicated to seeking justice for the nearly 4,000 individuals, predominantly women, who were accused of witchcraft in Scotland between 1563 and 1736. The campaign was founded on International Women's Day 2020 by advocate Claire Mitchell KC and writer Zoe Venditozzi.^[6] As part of their campaign, they have officially registered a WITCHES of SCOTLAND tartan. The meaning of the weave includes black and grey to represent the dark times and the ashes of those who were persecuted, with this large black section of 173 threads marking the 173 years during which the Witchcraft Act was in force (from 1563 to 1736) with both years included in the thread count itself. The pink and red signify the legal tape that bound the fate of the accused, and the white check is formed of three threads, standing for the campaign's three aims:



Pardon. Apology. Memorial.

I have been particularly moved by the wording on Orkney's memorial to the victims of the witchcraft trials:^[7]

“They Wur Cheust Folk”
(“they were just folk”)

(I wear the tartan scarf as an act of remembrance, and it is very warm!)

»«

Supporting resources:

1. North Isles Family History
<https://www.bayanne.info/Shetland/pedigree.php?personID=I438820&tree=ID1>
 2. Folk-Lore/Volume 32/The Mingling of Fairy and Witch Beliefs in Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century Scotland.
[Link: https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Folk-Lore/Volume_32/The_Mingling_of_Fairy_and_Witch_Beliefs_in_Sixteenth_and_Seventeenth_Century_Scotland]
 3. Barclay, R. S. (1967). *The Court Books of Orkney and Shetland 1614-1615* (Vol. Fourth Series). T. And A. Constable Ltd. [Link: <https://deriv.nls.uk/dcn23/1276/3944/127639442.23.pdf>]
 4. Dictionaries of the Scots Language [Link: <https://dsl.ac.uk/our-publications/a-dictionary-of-the-older-scottish-tongue-dost/>]
 5. Witches of Scotland [Link: <https://www.witchesofscotland.com/about>]
 6. Mitchell, C., & Venditozzi, Z. (2025). *How to Kill a Witch: A Guide for the Patriarchy*. Monoray.
- The Memorial Project Commemorating the Victims of the Orkney Witchcraft Trials [Link: <https://scottishpf.org/the-memorial-project-commemorating-the-victims-of-the-orkney-witchcraft-trials/>]

Magazines	Branch Update
<i>Continued from page 2</i> Mandy's family story as reported: The Fox River Accident. Nelson Evening Mail, Volume XXIII, Issue 61, 14 March 1889, Page 3 <i>The Fox River Accident.</i> WESTPORT, March 13, The particulars of the lamentable accident at Fox river, so far as can be gleaned, are very simple. The children were in the habit of crossing in the 'chair' for the purpose of getting their parents' cows, which are kept on the Charleston side of the stream. On Saturday morning it seems they could not work the chair without assistance, and this is how it was that the man William Ryan came to accompany them. Mrs Niven, the mother, was on the river bank, and witnessed the dreadful accident which robbed her of a son and daughter at one fell swoop. If Ryan had not volunteered to go with the young people Mr Niven himself would have accompanied them. Some dozen of people went out from Charleston to assist in the search for the bodies. While engaged in dragging for the remains the chair was picked up. Mrs Niven is said to be utterly prostrated by the sudden and awful calamity that has overtaken her. The family have resided in Brighton district for many years, and are highly esteemed.	 Thistles  Scottish Interest Group We have had good turnouts. Members are taking turns to talk about their genealogy journeys. Hopefully, Marie Le Blanc will start our next meeting off with her journey. I spoke about my search for my great grandmother in Australia and the incidental finding of my great grandfather's arrival in Australia as well. Tracing crew of these immigrant ships has been an interesting journey for me. <i>Cheers, Eileen</i>

Hibiscus Coast Photograph and Visual Media Archive

The Hibiscus Coast Genealogy Group and helpers are planning to make a physical '**Hand's On**', and **Digital Archive** of Photograph's, Paintings, Sketches, Postcards of the Hibiscus Coast Area and related information.

Anything Visual in other words!

This would be kept in the HBC Genealogy Branch corner of the library for easy access of all, and on the computers. Some may be included which have additional information as they are from newspapers, magazines, books and booklets etc.

The official area includes: **Hatfield's Beach** **Orewa,** **Silverdale** **Whangaparaoa Peninsul**
 Waiwera **Stillwater** **Milldale.**

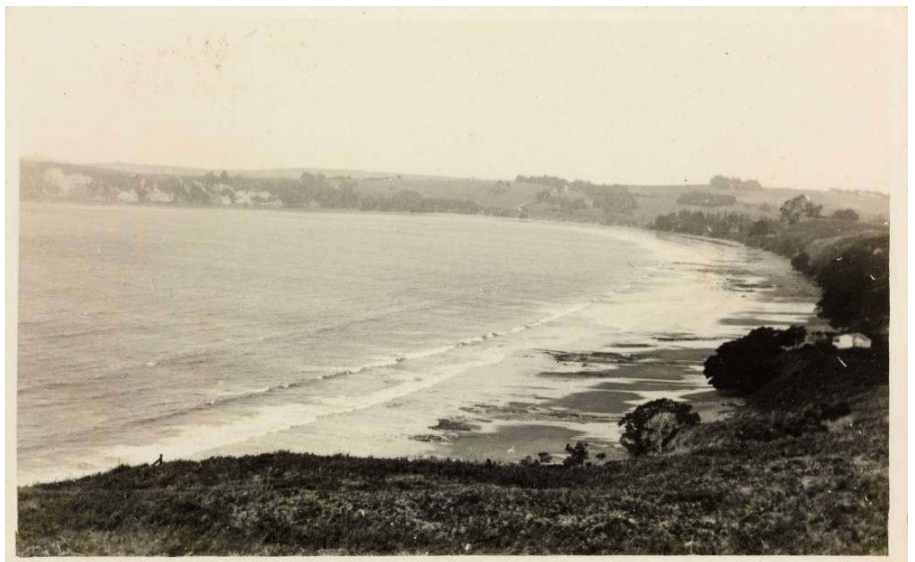
Of course, there are bound to be overlaps with adjoining areas which will be included. Many photographs of people cover other areas as they moved around to or ran a business.

This is to preserve and promote interest in the local area and people from the past to present. We are hoping to provide easy browsing access to the public, or drop in items on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday morning between 10am and noon with our Helpers at the Genealogy computer area of Whangaparaoa Library.

I am happy to come locally and copy them with my phone if they are in a physical form and difficult to bring in, or you can send them to the email below. Ensure you leave your contact details. Please label items so we know the area, names if known and time period. Otherwise, I can be found at the Branch monthly meetings 2pm to 4 pm at St Chad's Church in Orewa every third Tuesday of the month.

I have already started by adding my own personal local history file items which also include paintings and photos that I passed onto other people many years ago. I felt it was best to share with others rather than have them sitting in my file box. I will also include my slideshow on the Pinewoods Motor Camp that I did earlier in the year—in the digital file.

I recently bought a lovely old 1950 photograph of Stanmore Bay which was beautifully mounted and labelled. There was another one of the same views taken in 2015, but I could not afford both. So, I went for the old one looking across from the sea and the baches etc.



Regards Liz

If you have photos or other

content as described please contact Liz Burden through the group e mail:

HibiscusCoast@genealogy.org.nz

*8. Stanmore Bay 1930s decade
 Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections FMO-0183-P*

Book Review

By Liz Burden



Hunga Hunga School and District Golden Jubilee 1923 - 73

By J C Nicholson on behalf of the Hunga Hunga Jubilee Committee

I found a small thing book I had never seen before on the Whangaparāoa Library Display table as you come into the Genealogy Area. I was curious as to where Hunga Hunga was.

NZ 372.993 HUNG with orange sticker.

In the historical account of V M Case. It is surrounded by the settlements of Matamata, Morrinsville and Te Aroha. In a corner of about ninety thousand acres of swamp. Apparently, the literal meaning of the name Hunga Hunga is 'floating rubbish.' Repeating the word means layer upon layer which is supposed to refer to

the soft fluff from Taupo heads which built up on the water.

The book starts with the history of the area and, of course, the big problem was drainage, in fact there is a chapter on the Drainage Board and the Drain Diggers. Then the next chapter is the school history with photos of the buildings and a pupil photo. Staff and Committee members are recorded, followed by the Roll of honour of ex-pupils and a List of First Day Pupils from 1923. The pupil photos are of the years 1926, 1972. School Committee photo from 1956. There are school group photos of the years 1932, 1948, 1961, seniors and juniors and a larger one of 1954. Personal Notes start on page 27. Community Organisations and finally the Jubilee with named photos of attendees by year groups of 1923-1932, 1933-1942, 1943-1952, 1953-1962. Pupils who registered for the Jubilee are listed too. Also, residents, ex residents, visitors, teachers, and ex teachers.

Being a tiny Country School the 1973 school roll lists by name and class only a few pupils.

The book mentions the people of the area throughout the pages. Finally stapled into the back cover is the card of the Jubilee with names of those involved with the events.

For such a small school they packed in most of the information and all credit to those who managed to make a living for their families in the area.

Not much Māori history but that is possibly included in books on the wider area. There is no index or maps.

Regards Liz

100
YEARS
Ago

[Editor Note: This item is
incomplete in the volume]

Untitled

Auckland Star, Volume LVII, Issue 203, 27 August 1926,
Page 6

The North Coast Road to Waiwera before reaching Silverdale, has a bugbear to motorists in a spot just past Redvale, known as the "water jump." In winter months practically all the seaside resorts north of this are isolated in consequence of this bad section of the road in low lying country. At to-day's meeting of the Waitemata County Council the engineer reported that plans and proposals for the deviation of the road at the

It was stated at a meeting of the council of the New Zealand Rugby League last evening that a cable had been

Monthly Events Schedule

Events Schedule

Event	Date	Following Date	Contact	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	18 Aug 2026: 2pm-4pm	15 Sep 2026: 2pm-4pm	Wendy Inskeep	St Chad's Church, Orewa	3rd Tuesday of the month
Thistle Group	11 Aug 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	13 Oct 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Eileen Revell	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Tuesday of alternate months
Shamrock Group	8 Sep 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	13 Nov 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Could this be you?	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Tuesday of alternate months
Legacy User Group	13 Aug 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	10 Sep 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Alan Jenner	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Thursday of the month
Family Tree Maker Group	12 Aug 2026: 1pm-3pm	9 Sep 2026: 1pm-3pm	Phillippa Kidd	Orewa Library	2nd Wednesday of the month
Writers Group	28 Jul 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	25 Aug 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Debbie Corder	Genealogy Area, Whangaparaoa Library	4th Tuesday of the month

August - Family History Month

Our volunteers will be in Whangaparaoa Plaza, and also, at Orewa Library

ready to chat with anyone about genealogy

(reminder, those visitors wanting to do their research need to pop across to the library)

We need your help

We are looking to fill in all the vacancies, especially for the afternoons at the plaza display.

This is for the first 2 weeks in August (1st to the 15th)

If you would like company and not be on your own, please let me know

Note: no experience needed with researching, just talking to the public about family history and selling the raffle

We have morning and afternoon shifts

If you would like to help, please let Jan Goodwin know by email with your name and contact details along with times and dates that suit you.

Email: <mailto:jan.goodwin63@gmail.com>

Website: www.hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Auckland Family History Expo 2026



The NZSG has a much larger Auckland Family History Expo planned for Oct 9 - 11 at King's College Hall, Otahuhu.

The move away from the Fickling Centre was driven by access, parking and exhibitor space limitations. This year will see a much larger range of exhibitors, speakers and workshops.

There is easy access, lots of parking, (or bring your mobile home!), public transport with rail next door, space for outside displays, food trucks. Overnight accommodation and meals in the College rooms for out-of-towners.

Other activities are planned at the FRC around Family History Month, but the Expo change to Oct was necessary to fit in with Kings College school holidays, and, with the Auckland Heritage Festival.

The programme for speakers etc will be finalised soon.

Garry Phillips

<https://genealogy.org.nz/Auckland-Family-History-Expo/11491/>

Exhibitors confirmed so far:

- [Ancestry](#)
- [Auckland Council Archives](#)
- [Auckland Libraries](#)
- Business Writing Services
- [Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust](#)
- [FamilySearch](#)
- [Family Tree Maker](#)
- [Mentis](#)
- [MyHeritage](#)
- [National Army Museum, Waiouru, New Zealand](#)
- [New Zealand Fencible Society](#)
- [New Zealand Micrographic Services](#)
- [New Zealand Society of Genealogists](#)— including interest groups: England, Māori, Pacific Islands, Scotland, Ireland, Asian, the Genealogical Computing Group and [NZSG Online DNA Interest Group](#)
- [Wales New Zealand Family History Society](#)

Coming through from other genealogy branch websites are some great articles.

For Instance:

North Shore Branch- After 15 years of work, they are ready to release a database for the North Shore Memorial Park Cemetery, (aka Schnapper Rock) headstones, Congratulations to their team of workers.

A mammoth task that I'm sure many people will use and be grateful for. Check our website links to other branch newsletters



<http://www.hbcgenealogy.org.nz/other-newsletters/>



Copied from Kilbirnie Branch July Newsletter

The
Dowse
Art
Museum

How to look after your precious items at home

Where should I keep them?

- ✓ Store precious items in a cool, dry place, such as the top shelf of a wardrobe or cupboard.
- ✓ Avoid damp areas or places where the temperature changes a lot, such as the bottom of a wardrobe, garage, shed, or uninsulated attic. Low spaces are also more vulnerable to flooding.
- ✓ Protect items from humidity with silica beads or moisture-absorbing products.
- ✓ Use archival-quality storage materials to protect items from light, dust, and pests.

What does archival quality mean?

Archival quality materials are safe for long-term storage and will not harm your objects.

- ✓ Look for terms such as **acid free - lignin free - pH neutral**.
- ✓ Acid free tissue, cardboard and boxes - paper products may be buffered or unbuffered.
- ✓ Polypropylene, polyethylene or polyester products - photo enclosures, Tyvek fabric or PE foam.
- ✗ **Avoid: PVC, polystyrene, regular paper products which are acidic.**

Jewellery

Wrap jewellery and metal objects in acid-free tissue or silver cloth to keep dry and dust free. Preventing tarnish is better than repeated cleaning. When cleaning is needed, use the gentlest suitable option, such as a polishing cloth or a metal-specific polish.

Textiles

Store textiles flat where possible, wrapped in acid-free tissue inside a drawer or acid-free box. Pad folds with rolled or scrunched tissue to prevent sharp creases.

Photographs, albums and documents

Keep loose photographs and papers separated in archival enclosures, folders, boxes, or acid-free albums. Remove staples and metal paperclips. Original albums and books can be wrapped in tissue and stored in an acid-free box.

Displaying objects at home

- Use quake wax/putty to secure 3D objects such as glass, ceramics, or ornaments.
- Dust items regularly with a soft cotton or microfibre cloth.
- Hang paintings and frames with quake-safe hooks, such as A-Maze-Ing Picture Hooks, or squeeze the hook closed.
- Use more than one hanging point for heavy items and secure them into a wall stud where possible.
- Think carefully about the light sensitive items will be exposed to.

Buffered or unbuffered?

Archival paper products can be buffered or unbuffered.

Use **buffered** materials for:
Paper, newspapers, most photographs, ceramics, most textiles and plant specimens.

Use **unbuffered** materials for:
Silk, wool, leather, parchment, feathers, horsehair, pearls, animal specimens, blueprints, cyanotype photographs, albumen prints (pre ~1910), textiles with unknown dyes, and mixed or unknown materials.

*Don't forget about pests!
Moths can ruin textiles and silverfish can quickly damage paper items. Use pest control products like moth or silverfish traps.*

Prevention is best.

Resources and suppliers

Conservation Supplies – offers a wide range of products and advice. <https://www.conservationsupplies.co.nz/>

Port Nicholson Packaging – Petone based company with a great range of archival storage products.

<https://www.pnp.co.nz/archival-storage/>

Mitre 10/Bunnings – stock quake-hold and pest control products.

Picture framers can help with display and hanging solutions.

Museum websites often have guidelines on storage.

If your objects are damaged consult a **Conservator** via New Zealand Conservators of Cultural Materials for advice or treatment <https://www.nzccm.org.nz/find-a-conservator>

FHM Duty List

Plaza Mornings: 10 am to 12 pm - flexible

Afternoons: 1 pm to 3 pm - flexible

1st Sat	1st Aug	Prue & Lorraine Holley-Fagg	Peter Kennard/ Vacancy
1st Mon	3rd Aug	Christina Macks / Christine Muir	Peter Kennard / Christine Heappey
1st Tues	4th Aug	Grant Hodgson / vacancy	Vicky Adin/ Donna Morgan
1st Wed	5th Aug	Mandy Wolstenholme / vacancy	Vacancies
1st Thurs	6th Aug	Jan Goodwin / David Shaw	Donna Morgan / Kaye Thompson
1st Fri	7th Aug	Wendy Macks / Judy Clark	Wendy Macks / Christine Muir
2nd Sat	8th Aug	Prue / Lorraine Holley-Fagg	Vacancies
2nd Week			
2nd Mon	10th Aug	Debbie Corder / Eileen Revell	Peter Kennard / vacancy
2nd Tues	11th Aug	Heather Reynolds / Wendy Inskeep	kaye Thompson / Donna Morgan
2nd Wed	12th Aug	Bev Wallace / Vacancy	Donna Morgan / Vacancy
2nd Thurs	13th Aug	Jan Goodwin /	Vacancies
2nd Fri	14th Aug	vacancies	lesley Landrey / Peter Kennard
2nd Sat	15th Aug	vacancies	Alison Cairns / Kaye Thompson

16th

Pack up display Sunday

2nd Thurs	13th Aug	Whg Library Whg Library	Peter Hill / Maggie Chan Legacy Group Whangaparoa Library
3rd Sat	15th Aug	Whg Library Duty	Chris Ingram / Vacancy Eileen Revell
3rd Sun	16th Aug	Orewa Library	PACK UP PLAZA
3rd Mon	17th Aug	Whg Library	John Curtis/ Berndette Siebert
3rd Tues	18th Aug		Monthly Branch meeting St Chads Church Orewa
3rd Wed	19th Aug	Whg Library Orewa Library	Wendy Inskeep/ Gayle Robinson Vacancy
3rd Thurs	20th Aug	Whg Library	Jan Goodwin/ Judy Clark
4th Sat	22nd Aug	Whg Library Orewa Library	Garry Phillips/ Bernadette Siebert Grant Hodgson
4th Mon	24th Aug	Whg Library	Phillippa Kidd/ Vacancy
4th Tues	25th Aug		Writers Group with Debbie
4th Wed	26th Aug	Whg Library Orewa Library	Sandi Halling / Jan Rawley Vacancy
4th Thurs	27th Aug	Whg Library	Gayle Robinson / Vicky Adin
5th Sat	29th Aug	Whg Library Orewa Library	Garry Phillips/ Estelle Cooper Mandy Wolstenholme
5th Mon	31st Aug	Whg Library	Garry Phillips/ Vacancy

We are looking to fill in all the vacancies, especially for the afternoons at the Plaza (1st to 15th August)

Jan.goodwin63@gmail.com

If you can help fill a vacancy

Ed note: Due to late alterations, please consult your latest email to ensure your dates and times are correct.

From the Editor



I find that genealogy comes at us from all sides, often completely out of the blue, and that never ceases to amaze me. This month's little discovery came unexpectedly from my father's stamp collection.

I have a shoebox of envelopes that Dad saved from the 1980s and 1990s. My sister and I both worked in business

offices where one of our jobs was opening the incoming mail to retrieve cheque payments – the good old days! Dad was retired and recovering from heart valve replacement surgery, so he needed a hobby that wasn't too strenuous.

One 40-cent stamp featuring Grace Neill caught my eye. Her name meant nothing to me, and I don't recall ever hearing of her, so I used Google AI to identify the woman on the stamp. While the stamp itself is not particularly valuable, the story behind it certainly is. Issued by NZ Post on 16 May 1990 as part of the Heritage – The Achievers series, it honours one of New Zealand's most influential social and medical reformers.

Wanting to know more, I turned to Wikipedia to fill in the gaps. Grace was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 25 May 1846, the eldest of nine children. After marrying Dr Channing Neill, the couple moved to Queensland, Australia, in 1886. Tragically, her husband died just two years later, leaving Grace to raise their young son alone. She became a freelance journalist before being appointed to a Queensland Royal Commission investigating working conditions. In 1893, she moved to New Zealand, where she became the country's first female factory inspector and Assistant Inspector overseeing hospitals, asylums and charitable aid.

Grace's greatest legacy was championing the Nurses' Registration Act of 1901, which made New Zealand the first country in the world to introduce compulsory state registration and structured training for nurses. She later helped establish the St Helens maternity hospitals and formal midwifery training, transforming maternal healthcare throughout the country.

Her influence extended internationally through her work with the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and the International Council of Nurses. Grace Neill died in Wellington on 18 August 1926 after a long illness, but her contribution to nursing and public health continues to be recognised around the world.

Who would have thought that one little stamp could uncover such an extraordinary story?



Another great item from North Shore Branch Newsletter

[I Always Meant to Ask](#)

I always meant to ask

From Dennise Cook, North Shore Branch Secretary.



An article which appeared in the "Weekend Herald" on Saturday, 11 Jul 2026, got me thinking about how relevant this was to our family history.

Mark Sainsbury, former political editor and former TVNZ executive producer, and Antony Stevens have teamed up for a new venture called "I Always Meant to Ask". This involves capturing stories from your older family members through interviews and film. They are offering three tiers of film packages – refer to their website: [I Always Meant to Ask](#).

However, what caught my attention was that we do in fact "always mean to ask", but too often leave it too late as the person has passed on. So, one and all, make it something you do in the very near future. Family History month is August – an opportune time!

Branch Convenor

Wendy Inskip

wendyinskeep@hotmail.com**Minutes Secretary**

Eileen R

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Dick M

publicity@hbcgenealogy.org.nz**Raffles, Afternoon Tea**

Carol B

Carolcakes1442@gmail.com**Magazines / Round Robin**

Mandy W

Shipping Project

Dick M

publicity@hbcgenealogy.org.nz**Orewa Library Duty**

	Sat	Wed	Sat	Wed	Sat			
Name	1-Aug	5-Aug	8-Aug	12-Aug	15-Aug	22-Aug	29-Aug	5-Sep
Eileen Revell	Duty				Duty		NA	
Lindsey Lawton		Duty						
Lesley Landrey				Duty				Duty
Grant Hodgson			Duty			Duty		
Mandy Wolstenholme		Duty					Duty	
Raewyn Irwin	Duty			Duty				

Whangaparaoa Library Duty

1st Sat	1st Aug	Wendy Inskip / Ros Cunningham
1st Mon	3rd Aug	Dick Mogridge/ Vacancy
1st Wed	5th Aug	Eileen Revell / Grant Hodgson
1st Thurs	6th Aug	Alan Jenner / Alison Wesley
2nd Sat	8th Aug	Liz Burden / Peter Kennard
2nd Mon	10th Aug	Mandy Wolstenholme /Sandi Halling
2nd Tues	11th Aug	Thistles Interest Group Whangaparaoa Library
2nd Wed	12th Aug	Phillippa Kidd / Vacancy
2nd Wed	12th Aug	Family Tree maker Orewa Library
2nd Thurs	13th Aug	Peter Hill / Maggie Chan
2nd Thurs	13th Aug	Legacy Group Whangaparaoa Library
3rd Sat	15th Aug	Chris Ingram / Vacancy
3rd Mon	17th Aug	John Curtis/ Bernadette Siebert
3rd Tues	18th Aug	Monthly Branch meeting St Chads Church O
3rd Wed	19th Aug	Wendy Inskip/ Gayle Robinson
3rd Thurs	20th Aug	Jan Goodwin/ Judy Clark
4th Sat	22nd Aug	Garry Phillips/ Bernadette Siebert
4th Mon	24th Aug	Phillippa Kidd/ Vacancy
4th Tues	25th Aug	Writers Group with Debbie
4th Wed	26th Aug	Sandi Halling / Jan Rawley
4th Thurs	27th Aug	Gayle Robinson / Vicky Adin
5th Sat	29th Aug	Garry Phillips/ Estelle Cooper
5th Mon	31st Aug	Garry Phillips/ Vacancy

★ 15th
Chris
can give some pointers
on
Painter

17th
Looking
for DNA help?
Chat with
John

**COME AND HAVE A CHAT**



**Hibiscus Coast Branch
NZ Society of Genealogists**

**Learn more about NZ, local
and family history**

**At
St Chad's Church
117 Centreway, Ōrewa.**

2.00pm

Tuesday 18 August

**All welcome
Bring a friend**

**No door charge in August
In honour of Family History Month**

**Telling emotionally
engaging family stories**

**With
Simon Young**



Come along and hear Simon Young a dedicated genealogist, story teller and Vice Chair of the NZSG. Simon is passionate about bringing family history to life and coaching people to create their own "unforgettable family stories". His website "One Ancestor at A Time" is a treasure trove of family history information.

Enquiries Phillipa Kidd 027 6972854

All our meetings in August,
Family History Month,
 are FREE,
 so why not bring a friend along

THE COUSIN EXPLAINER

