

Hibiscus Coast Branch of NZSG established 28 November 1989



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Convenors Chat



Spring is here and time to tidy things up, so after Phillippa and Garry's talk I decided to revisit a 'Brick Wall' which I had left long ago in the too hard basket. Hoping of course that some new resources or sites had been added to give me more information about James MEDD? (My g-great grandfather and father of my Taranaki, great grandmother Martha TOSLAND.) I thought he died when she was about three or four, and she was an only

child who came alone to NZ so not surprisingly there is little known about her father.

All I had was the primary source, (Parish register), for Martha's birth in 1848 in North St Giles and could trace back on her mother Maria's side. Her father was named as James Medd and occupation as a groom. I found no marriage record for them but did find a possible death record for James in 1852 so wrote a little story about him using words like, possible, may have, etc. to fill the gap until I could find more information.

Time to start and perhaps prove that James was the father and not just a name Maria had made up so as not to have an illegitimate child. DNA was the new tool since I had searched. I looked at all my matches for those who had Medd in their tree, there were about half a dozen matches with low numbers of cM so perhaps I have a tiny bit of Medd in me. With the help of familysearch.org I was able to put together a tree to show our common ancestor was John 1690-1763 so it was no wonder that there were only small cM's!

Another new free tool WikiTree is one I like as the person entering the information needs to give their source, even if they have just copied another tree. So will check this out.

When first searching for Medd on the sites available back then, I found Thomas Medd, who I thought might be James's father. This was in the Old Bailey proceedings, where he was a draper and first convicted of stealing 3 handkerchiefs before other offences including embezzlement and being sent to Australia.

I had found a lady in Adelaide with Medd in her family tree, so when I was visiting my friend there, I met up with her for a coffee but we could not make the link then. Thanks to DNA I now can. That family was James's brother's family.

My story I first wrote is now proved so time to move on to the next 'Brick Wall' in my tidy up.

Wendy

Can you help?

CALLING ALL VEGE GARDENERS AND HOME COOKS OF JAMS



Jars of Jam for afternoon tea

Do you have baskets, buckets, crates, bottom of cartons that we can use as bases for raffles anything that you think suitable let Jan know



Have excess Cucumbers for yummy cucumber sandwiches bring them to Jan this summer



Are you a vege gardener? Do you have excess products to donate to our raffle. Or We can make something Savoury for afternoon tea

Send Jan an email if you can help out email.jan.goodwin63@gmail.com

From the Committee

- A friendly reminder to Library duty members: Please go through the duty volunteer responsibilities, (found beside the printer in the left-hand computer cabinet – and, even get your ‘duty buddy’ to check too, that all items are away and/or locked securely. For example: Genealogy board, Microfiche reader is off, (even if no-one used it), cabinets are in fact locked.
- Paying for raffles using debit/credit cards: Thank you to all who raised this as a payment option. The committee have looked into this and regret to advise it is not a viable option.
- Volunteers – Thank you afternoon tea: Make a diary note for Thursday, November 19th, an invitation will be sent out nearer the date in a separate email.



School Holiday idea



Website links

[HBC Genealogy](http://www.hbcgenealogy.org.nz)

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](#)

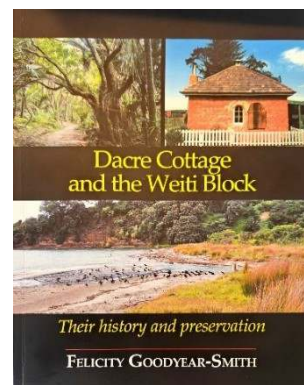
October Speaker

At St Chad's Church, 117 Centreway, Orewa
2.00 pm, Tuesday, 20 October 2026



Felicity Goodyear-Smith
on the Dacre Cottage and
the Weiti Block.

Felicity is a retired GP,
academic and public
health advocate who is an
active member of Dacre
Cottage and Reserve
Management Committee.
Dacre Cottage is about
15 km south of Orewa.



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

September Speaker Review

Family History 101 Using English Research Tools

Garry Phillips stood in for Phillippa who is busy with election preparation.

1. Where should I begin?
 - With yourself
 - One step at a time
 - Identify and search available resources
 - Look for clues within family
 - Document your research
2. Common mistakes – don't rely on family trees
3. Revisit what you have done
4. What was their name? Follow the pattern
5. Geography – maps & county boundaries.

Other items he looked at:

- FreeBMD and the GRO to find actual certificate and some tips regarding this.
- National Archives
- County sites
- British newspapers
- Military Service Records
- Social Media
- Family Search

This was great revision with helpful reminders, and if anyone is new to genealogy there were some great tips. This was followed by question time with a panel of our Branch members who have a particular interest and expertise. This took a while to flow, so thoughts for next time is perhaps to have a few set questions to start and to break the ice, and a little more time.

A really good session both for beginners and those who are down the track somewhat.

Eileen Revell

MISSING / LOST

Book - 'The Royal New Zealand Fencibles 1847-1852'

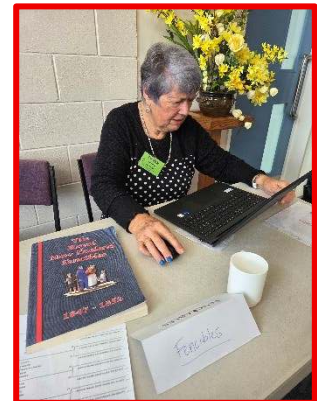


'The Royal New Zealand Fencibles 1847-1852'.

Published in 1997 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Fencibles in New Zealand. The book is currently out of print but a pdf version is available to members who pay the \$15 resource fee.

Have you seen this book?

Eileen Revell has lost her copy.



Her last recollection of it was at the Research Day in June.

Would you please check that you didn't take it home by mistake.

These books are no longer available to buy and she is desperate to get it back.

Bring it along to the next meeting, or drop it into our Branch area at Whangaparaoa Library with Eileen's name on it.

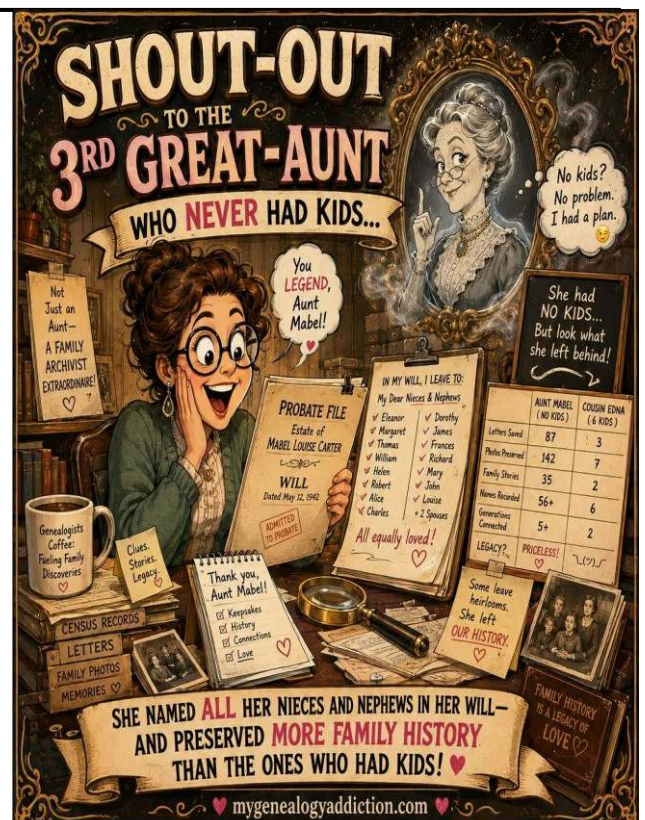
Upcoming Raffle

Sneak Peek



Be in to our **October** raffle available at our next meeting

Tickets: 3 for \$5



Interview with a Genealogist



Peter Kennard

My paternal Gt-Gt-Grandparents, William and Maria (Baker) Kennard, arrived in New Zealand at Waikouaiti in April 1840. This was a whaling settlement set up by Johnny Jones to process whales caught around the coast of the South Island.

Johnny had bought land to establish a farm off the local Maori tribe and as his whaling crew were seamen and not farmers he went to Sydney where he hired 12 families with farming experience to return with

him to work his land.

William and Maria at that time had 3 children, the youngest born onboard the Lady Nugent between England and Australia. In April 1841 my Gt-Grandfather, Thomas Baker Kennard, was born at Waikouaiti. He was given the title and later had a book written about him called, 'The First White Boy Born in Otago'. William and Maria went on to have a total of 12 children.

Thomas's future wife Mary McNichol, as a 2-year-old, had arrived on one of the first boats of Scottish settlers who founded Dunedin in 1848. Thomas at that time would have been 7. They married in August 1863 and went on to have a family of 12 children.

In 1990 a Family Reunion was held and a book, 'With those that Came First', was produced that covered the descendants of William and Maria Kennard from 1840 until 1990.

That, and a family tree of my mother, Irene Kennard, covering her Ottley/Tregonning family back to 1575 formed the basis of my interest in Genealogy.

As I have delved into my family tree I, like many of you, have discovered that there are still more mysteries to solve, brick walls to break down and stories to write.



1. Thomas Kennard and Mary nee McNichol - Image supplied by Peter, Image credit MyHeritage

Celebrate your family story at RootsTech 2027

RootsTech is March 4-6, 2027, and is free online wherever you are:

- Beginner classes taught by expert genealogists
- Tools to help you learn more about your family story
- Inspiring keynote speakers you won't want to miss

[Register Now](#)

[FamilySearch](#)

[Interested in the in-person event? Save \\$30 when you register early!](#)

100 Years Ago This Month: October 1926

Local History: Birth of Whangaparaoa's First Transport Business



Over the **Labour Weekend in October 1926**, a massive milestone in local transport history took place right on our doorstep! Brothers Frank and Bert Neville launched their transport venture, **Neville Brothers Ltd**, on the **Whangaparaoa Peninsula**. Their very first job was a grueling one: carting metal from a scow ship at **Arkles Bay** onto local roads using just two tipper trucks—one Ford and one Chevrolet—that had to be operated entirely by hand-cranked mechanisms. This small business went on to keep our coast moving for decades!

[NZ Road Transport...](#)

This Month's 100 years ago was found and Generated with the help of Google AI.

Magazines



The latest WDYTYA magazine has great article about steerage passengers, it gives accounts of the deplorable conditions they experienced, and sometimes the abuse they received.

In the beginning they had to access their quarters by ladder, with everyone squashed into the same grimy holds that would carry animals on the return trip. They had to provide food for themselves and cook on a brazier on deck, if the weather was bad they were trapped below deck for days without fresh air or adequate sanitation. Cholera and Typhus reigned supreme. Despite these hardships their numbers grew. Between 1815 and 1930 around 60 million Europeans left their homelands. Liverpool became the busiest Emigrant port and in 1881 200,000 people left- 80% of them steerage.

Slowly things began to improve, and with legislation in 1882, came overcrowding rules, three cooked meals a day, and on board doctors, and medical facilities became compulsory. In fact some rural folk had never before encountered modern things like flushing toilets and had to be taught by the stewardesses. The conditions were so much better than home, some women actually planned to have their baby born on board. When I read this I suddenly thought, could this be why I can't find my uncle?

I could not find a birth for him in England, and he was not listed as a passenger in 1903, but was showing up in Canadian Census as being born in England. Could he have been born on board?



I took another look, as it turns out my family was travelling 2nd class, and after Garry's talk at the last meeting, I now think I've found a Birth Index for Uncle Walter, although he is definitely not listed as a passenger.

Please let me know if you want to join the Round Robin for the WDYTYA or Irish Roots Magazine.

Mandy. pg.long@xtra.co.nz



2. Image courtesy of MLFHC.org.uk

Carpooling

For the Family History Expo Oct 10 & 11

For any members who wish to attend on either Saturday or Sunday.

If you are a driver with space to share,

Or

just wish to have a lift (paying a small fuel contribution),

please email your details to Dick Mogridge

randcmogridge@xtra.co.nz



NZSG presents a weekend-long event covering a wide range of topics on researching genealogy and family history.

Take advantage of free seminars, from beginner to advanced, computer-based tutorials, ask-an-expert sessions and research assistance.

Further details will be on the [Auckland Family History](#) page as they become available.

Registrations Close: 09 Oct 2026



18th AFFHO CONGRESS ON FAMILY HISTORY

The 18th AFFHO Congress on Family History
will be held 11-14 February 2027, hosted by New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

It will be held at Rutherford House, Victoria University, Wellington.

Early Bird Registrations are now open. Full details can be found on the AFFHO Congress website -

<https://affhocongress.org/>

Expo Programme

Auckland Family History Expo 2026



Friday 9 October to Sunday 11 October 2026, King's College, 41 Golf Avenue, Ōtāhuhu, Auckland 1062

Friday 5pm-8pm: Welcome Event - \$55 - *Note: Bookings for Welcome Event have now closed*

DAY ONE: Saturday, 10 October - Doors open 8.30am and

TIME	LECTURE THEATRE	ORCHESTRA ROOM	CLASSROOM 1
9am to 9.50am	KEYNOTE: Professor SallyAnn Harbison, Forensic Genetic Genealogy: Where family history and forensic science converge		
10am to 10.30am	MORNING TEA BREAK	VISIT THE EXHIBITORS	BUY RAFFLE TICKETS
10.30am to 11.20am	Simon Young, vice-chair New Zealand Society of Genealogists <i>Welcome to the NZSG – learn about the Shipping Project</i>	Jen Baldwin, professional genealogist <i>The Royal Navy in Family History: Sailors, Ships and Submarines</i>	Daniel Horowitz, MyHeritage <i>OldNews</i>
11.30am to 12.20pm	Jason Reeve, Ancestry <i>Introduction to Ancestry and What's New?</i>	Vereana Wheatley Online DNA Interest Group: A treasure trove of free resources for NZSG members - What's on offer.	Peter Reading, President VicGUM <i>Family Tree Maker – Getting Started</i>
12.30pm to 2pm	LUNCH BREAK	VISIT THE EXHIBITORS	BUY RAFFLE TICKETS
2pm to 2.50pm	Tom Nelson, FamilySearch <i>Discover What's New on FamilySearch</i>	Victoria Passau, Auckland Museum <i>Online Cenotaph: access, connection, and contribution</i>	David George Douglas: <i>Scotland's Last 500 Years - and how they impacted on New Zealand.</i>
3pm to 3.50pm	Lisa Meehan, National Library of New Zealand. <i>Family history with Papers Past and DigitalNZ</i>	Fiona Brooker, Memories in Time <i>The 5-DNA Research Steps</i>	Maggie Gaffney MG Historical Research <i>Finding your place in Ireland</i>
4pm to 4.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK	VISIT THE EXHIBITORS	BUY RAFFLE TICKETS
4.30pm to 5.20pm	Dr Phoebe Li, historian and author <i>Fungus on the Iron Road: A Forgotten Story of Colonial New Zealand</i>	Seonaid (Shona) Harvey, Auckland Libraries <i>Kura - Heritage Collection Online</i>	Allegra Marshall: <i>Cook Island connections with French Polynesia</i>
5.30pm to 6.50pm	Masterclass Workshop Jean Tennant <i>Using Family Book Creator plug in with Family Tree Maker</i> pre-booking essential \$30		
7pm to 9pm	Expo dinner buffet. Kings College student dining room. Catered by Kings College chefs. ALL WELCOME. Relax at general public. \$50 for those not staying on Campus - pre-booking essential		

Expo Sponsors












New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Te Rangapū Kaihikohiko o Aotearoa

Family history - Preserving our past for the future



Day One: Saturday, 10 October – Doors open 8.30am – Close 7pm

TIME	CLASSROOM 2	CLASSROOM 3
9am to 9.50am		
10am to 10.30am	Check at the info desk to see if you've won a prize	
10.30am to 11.20am	Mihi Henare, Auckland Libraries <i>He Kawai Whakapapa</i>	BOOKABLE AT INFO DESK
11.30am to 12.20pm	Keith Stuart, Archivist Catholic Diocese of Auckland <i>Roman Catholic Sacramental Records – a source of Family History</i>	
12.30pm to 2pm	Check at the info desk to see if you've won a prize	
2pm to 2.50pm	Alan Cobcroft, GCG: <i>Capturing Family Stories with Technology: Preserving Today's Memories for Tomorrow</i>	
3pm to 3.50pm	Andrew Henry, Auckland Libraries <i>Family history gems in Auckland Libraries' Heritage Collections</i>	
4pm to 4.30pm	Check at the info desk to see if you've won a prize	
4.30pm to 5.20pm		
5.30pm to 6.50pm		
7pm to 9pm	Relax at the end of the day with: sponsors, Speakers, Exhibitors, Volunteers	

Classrooms 2 and 3 – Saturday 10 Oct

DAY TWO: Sunday, 11 October - Doors open 8.30am to 5pm

TIME	LECTURE THEATRE	ORCHESTRA ROOM	CLASSROOM ONE
9am to 9.50am	KEYNOTE: Dr Helen Leggatt <i>Whither Shall We Send Our Son?</i> <i>The Remittance Men of New Zealand</i>		
10am to 10.30am	MORNING TEA BREAK	VISIT THE EXHIBITORS	BUY RAFFLE TICKETS
10.30am to 11.20am	Fiona Brooker, Memories in Time and Andrew Redfern, SAG <i>Challenges of AI in Family History</i>	Nancy Bale MC - Panel discussion: <i>Lost and Found: Reuniting families with their military heritage</i>	Maggie Gaffney, MG Historical Research <i>Walking the streets: tracing Irish migrants in 19th century Scotland</i>
11.30am to 12.20pm	Alison Barnett, New Zealand Micrographic Services <i>Scoping Your Digitisation Project</i>	Garth Houltham, New Zealand Fencible Society <i>Using the Fencibles database</i>	Dr Janine Irvine, author and oral historian <i>From notes to narrative: Writing and publishing your family history.</i>
12.30pm to 2pm	LUNCH BREAK	VISIT THE EXHIBITORS	BUY RAFFLE TICKETS
2pm to 2.50pm	Dr Helen Leggatt <i>BURNING GOD'S OWN: A Social History of Modern Cremation in New Zealand</i>	Rob Henry, Archives Manager NZDF (Trentham) <i>Requesting Military Personnel Information & Medals</i>	Allegra Marshall <i>Photographing Polynesia: Two Centuries of Images and Change</i>
3pm to 3.50pm	Vereana Wheatley Online DNA Interest Group <i>DNA - Making your test work for you.</i>	Robert Mildon, National Army Museum (Waiohuru) <i>Deciphering WWI and WWI Army service records</i>	Dr Antonella Sarti, author <i>Italian immigration to NZ 1950s to 2026</i>
4pm to 5pm	Exhibitors pack down and Exhibition Hall closes		

Day Two, 11 October		
TIME	CLASSROOM TWO	CLASSROOM THREE
9am to 9.50am		
10am to 10.30am	Check at the info desk to see if you've won a prize	
10.30am to 11.20am	Duff Wilson, Family Tree Maker <i>What's new in Family Tree Maker</i>	BOOKABLE AT INFO DESK
11.30am to 12.20pm	Dr Hazel Petrie, historian and author <i>The People of the Duchess and the Jane</i>	
12.30pm to 2pm	Check at the info desk to see if you've won a prize	
2pm to 2.50pm	Daniel Horowitz, MyHeritage <i>MyHeritage Tech Update and AI</i>	
3pm to 3.50pm	Professor Russell Poole <i>Children of Flock House: Migration, Family Separation, and Lasting Legacies</i>	
4pm to 5pm	Exhibitors pack down and Exhibition Hall closes	

Classrooms 2 and 3 – Sunday 11 Oct

Our Branch Library Area

Did you know that we have old Electoral Rolls, including the Maori Roll, to view in our Branch area at Whangaparaoa Library?

And, just around the corner, in the Public Library area is the latest Electoral Rolls (not 2026). And, are you aware that the law is about to change to have them removed from public access. Making a genealogist's job very difficult.



Recent [electoral law updates](#) and privacy modernisations are driving a massive shift away from traditional, printed public directories. As the [Electoral Commission](#) transitions to digital systems, fields like voter occupations are being stripped out, and the widespread physical distribution of paper lookup copies to local community libraries is being heavily phased out. Once these physical rolls are permanently withdrawn from open library shelves, tracking historical family addresses, movements, and missing branches of a family tree will become nearly impossible for everyday researchers. Be sure to stop by our research desk and take full advantage of our physical [Whangaparaoa Library](#) collection while these vital printed links to our local history remain fully open to the public.

In other words, let your fingers do the walking, as the old Yellow Pages advertisement used to say.

Just In

For over 20 years, I searched for a photo of WWII soldier Private John Albert Thomas (#25401). My only connection to him was a tatty, "DECEASED"-stamped Letter Card addressed to my mother, Rose. I later discovered he had frequently written to my grandmother, Vera.

Despite years of checking the [Auckland Museum Online Cenotaph](#) and *Onwards* books for an image of him, I found nothing. My sister had a planned trip to Egypt in April, now postponed again due to MFAT travel warnings reflecting today's world unrest. Before going, she offered to visit Jack's resting place. Within minutes of looking online, she found his service photo on [Find a Grave](#).

I was stunned to finally see his face. I have since submitted the photo to the Auckland Cenotaph Project, ensuring this kind, funny man is no longer faceless.

Which brings me to share this item from the **North Shore Branch, September Newsletter** received today. *Chris I*

The Onward Project

Dennise Cook, Committee Member

After hearing about the Onward books at the day meeting, Dennise looked into this project further. Here are Dennise's findings on this collaborative project.

If you haven't looked at this website yet, you are missing out on a wealth of information about members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force who served overseas during the First World War, 1914 - 18.

Purpose

Fair Dinkum Books runs the project and specialises in New Zealand military history. They seek to locate and publish a photograph of every member of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force who served overseas during the First World War, 1914 - 18.

The photos

These have been taken from a wide variety of sources, ranging from private families to institutions, museums, and newspapers.

Online portrait Index

You can see who has images by viewing the index to the six volumes [here](#). It opens a PDF file you can view on the website or download. Alternatively, click the

'Download Index' box on the Onwards project page to open it:

<https://www.onwardproject.co.nz/news-and-events>.

Portrait index hardcopy

Hardcopy Indexes are also available for purchase from Fair Dinkum Books linked [here](#).



We have the Onward book series available to view in our research area

Community engagement

The key to this project is community engagement - **your photos are needed**. If you have any photographs of individuals or groups of those who served in the NZEF, you can send them via their website 'Submit Photographs' portal:

<https://www.onwardproject.co.nz/submit-photo>

Thanks, Dennise. It's always good to see a member's curiosity sparked by a meeting topic and then followed up on

Hibiscus Coast Photograph and Visual Media Archive



The Hibiscus Coast Genealogy Group and helpers are creating a '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 Peninsular, Waiwera, Red Beach Stillwater, Milldale.**

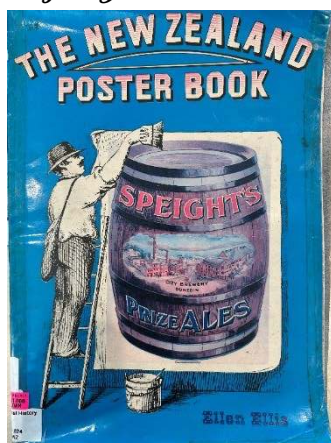
Bring your photos or other content as described, fill in

the donation form we will supply you with and contact Liz Burden through the group e mail:

picture.archive@genealogy.org.nz

Book Review

By Liz Burden



'Just saw this book lying flat on the local history shelf just around the corner from our genealogy area in the Whangaparaoa Library

The New Zealand Poster Book 1839-1940

By Ellen Ellis

741.674

NEWZ

Published by A H and AW Reed
Wellington Sydney London

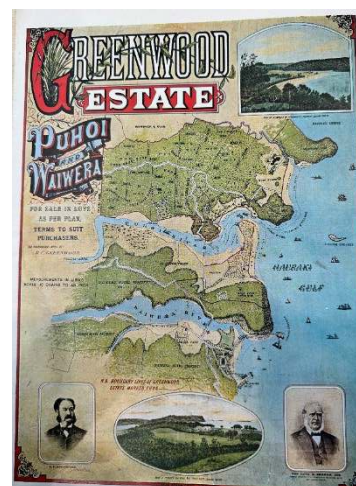
The stamp inside says Orewa Public Library and the spine is becoming detached. Soft cover about A3 size.

Not for Loan. Local History

It would be good for displays etc. I found the Greenwood Estate poster from near Puhoi that I had years ago, but have now lost.

in other parts of NZ
especially the one of Invercargill in the South Island in 1894. A great one of The Wonderful Performing Fleas on Page 22!

Well worth checking as you casually pass in the library, a real little gem.



Some lovely ones of places

Monthly Events Schedule

Event	Date	Following Date	Contact	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	20 Oct 26: 2pm – 4pm	17 Nov 2026: 2pm-4pm	Wendy Inskeep	St Chad's Church, Orewa	3rd Tuesday of the month
Thistle Group	13 Oct 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	8 Dec 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Eileen Revell	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Tuesday of alternate months
Shamrock Group	13 Nov 2026 : 10am-12pm Noon	TBA	TBA	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Tuesday of alternate months
Legacy User Group	8 Oct 2026 : 10am-12pm Noon	12 Nov 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Alan Jenner	Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library	2nd Thursday of the month
Family Tree Maker Group	14 Oct 2026 : 1pm-3pm	11 Nov 2026: 1pm-3pm	Phillippa Kidd or Wendy Paton	Orewa Library	2nd Wednesday of the month
Writers Group	22 Sep 2026 : 10am-12pm Noon	27 Oct 2026: 10am-12pm Noon	Debbie Corder	Genealogy Area, Whangaparaoa Library	4th Tuesday of the month

Thistles

A Scottish special interest genealogy group

October 13th

see above



Did you know?



Useful Tips

- **You can click on most of the underlined links in the email newsletter to be transported to a connected web page**
- **Similarly with email addresses; to send an email to the contact person in the item.**

From the Editor



I am often asked when my interest in genealogy came about, and, my usual, immediate reply is, “after my father died in 2007, when we were packing up the house and I couldn’t bear for all my mother’s genealogy research to be thrown out. I inherited it”.

I recently gave this answer pause for thought, when looking through a book in my library, which I got sometime after 1993, when I worked in Browns Bay for a local timber company which was owned by two men named Alan. I have a lot to be grateful for having worked for Alan B and Alan G because it was while working at this company, I really grew and matured.

I started working at their company in 1993 when my marriage broke down. I was heart-broken, with three children aged 8 to 15 to support and a mortgage to pay. These were healing, happy days. Working five days a week with these people not only fed us, but helped heal my heart. They gave understanding and laughter. I learned that independence was possible. I won’t make light of the fact it was hard work, but here I am now in my 60s and reflecting on the fact that I survived all that stress and turmoil with the support of a great team.

Anyway, that background brings me to a dawning on when, perhaps, my interest may have actually started. One morning Alan B arrived at work with a couple of boxes of unwanted books that had belonged to his father, who was moved into a retirement home over the preceding weekend.

As well as the two Alans, a few sales staff and a team of men in the timber yard area, I was one of three office ladies at the small to medium sized operation; we all picked our way through these boxes. I took a glimpse and one book caught my attention, *Glimpses of Old New Zealand*, by J. R. Elder. The cover of the book was pretty tatty, but upon opening the cover I saw a Wesley College label inside it which showed it was, ‘Presented to Max B. for Most Marked Improvement in Junior Matriculation Form, December 1925’, signed by PC Clark, Principal.

I asked Alan B if he was sure he didn’t want the book, and received a firm no. Something stirred in me that this was more than just a tatty, unwanted, over 75-year-old book. This belonged to a person of importance. Not someone famous, not someone important to me. It was a family memento that Max B had treasured since 1925. I felt this should have some meaning to his own family and yet it didn’t. So, the book became mine. It’s had a home with me for the last 30 odd years. I’ve fixed the tatty cover, (learned thanks to The Repair Shop on TV and Youtube), and its now 101 years since it belonged to Max B.

Last year I went to the funeral of Alan B. It was a lovely memorial that talked about his parents, Max and Rewa, and how they shaped Alan’s life. This man, my boss; who helped me to grow into the strong, self-respecting woman I am today. Memories were triggered, great funny memories of good people.

I came home from Alan B’s funeral and did a Google search on Max. I saw he served in WW2; I also noted that there is minimal online family history on his family which made me sad, and reminded me why I love genealogy. I have a deep desire to keep my family history alive, to know my roots, to know where we come from for future generations.

Perhaps my mother’s research had stirred the interest in family history that an old book had actually given me all those years before.

Chris



Branch Convenor

Wendy Inskeep
wendyinskeep@hotmail.com

Minutes Secretary

Eileen R
minutes@hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Deputy Convenor**Speakers Programme**

Phillippa K
alpkbert@gmail.com

Treasurer

Peter Kennard
treasurer@hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Library Volunteers

Jan G
jan.goodwin63@gmail.com

Newsletter

Chris I
hbcchrisingram@gmail.com

Website & Technology

Alan J
webmaster@hbcgenealogy.org.nz
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Publicity, Members Interests

Dick M
publicity@hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Afternoon Tea

Vacancy

Magazines / Round Robin

[Mandy W](#)

Shipping Project

Dick M
publicity@hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Photo Archives

Liz B
picture.archive@hbcgenealogy.org.nz

Whangaparaoa Library Duty

Oct-26

1st Thurs	1st Oct	Alan Jenner / Estelle Cooper
1st Sat	3rd Oct	Wendy Inskeep / Ros Cunningham
1st Mon	5th Oct	Mandy W / Bernadette Siebert
1st Wed	7th Oct	Eileen Revell / Grant Hodgson
2nd Thurs	8th Oct	Legacy Group Whangaparaoa Library
2nd Thurs	8th Oct	Maggie Chan/ Estelle Cooper
2nd Sat	10th Oct	Liz Burden/ Peter Kennard
2nd Mon	12th Oct	Dick Mogridge / Vacancy
2nd Tues	13th Oct	Thistles Group Whangaparaoa Library
2nd Wed	14th Oct	Mandy Wolstenholme / Judy Clark
2nd Wed	14th Oct	Family Tree maker Orewa Library
3rd Thurs	15th Oct	Jan Goodwin / David Shaw
3rd Sat	17th Oct	Chris Ingram / Kaye Thompson
3rd Mon	19th Oct	John Curtis/ Bernadette Siebert
3rd Tues	20th Oct	Monthly Branch Meeting St Chads Orewa
3rd Wed	21st Oct	Wendy I / Gayle Robinson / Heather Reynolds
4th Thurs	22nd Oct	Gayle Robinson / Vicky Adin
4th Sat	24th Oct	Garry Phillips / David Shaw
4th Mon	26th Oct	Labour Day Holiday
4th Tues	27th Oct	Writers Group with Debbie
4th Wed	28th Oct	Sandi Halling / Jan Rawley
5th Thurs	29th Oct	Jan Goodwin / Judy Clark
5th Sat	31st Oct	Mandy Wolstenholme / Bernadette Siebert

Orewa Library Duty

Name	3-Oct	10-Oct	17-Oct	24-Oct	31-Oct	7-Nov
Garry Phillips	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eileen Revell			Duty			
Dick Mogridge			Duty			
Lesley Landrey				Duty		
Chris Ingram						Duty
Grant Hodgson		Duty			Duty	
Mandy Wolstenholme						Duty
Raewyn Irwin	Duty				Duty	