



Family History Group News

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2575139 & Charities Commission CC49534

wfhgroup@paradise.net.nz

Tel. 04 904 3276

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Issue No 53

The Group meets at the WAIKANAE CHARTERED CLUB, 8 Elizabeth Street Waikanae, just over the Railway Crossing, 9.30am to 12 -12.30pm, on the Fourth Thursday of the month –January to November. See the dates in the body of this newsletter.

The Waikanae Family History Group is a corporate member and an adjunct of the Waikanae Chartered Club

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Do you read this newsletter? Honestly, why do we put out a newsletter – at one time the complaint was that you were not getting it! I hope that has been remedied, and I know that some don't look at their emails on a regular basis – why not – but you do look at your letterbox most days, yes I know it is only three days a week now, because for most of the population emails have become the preferred alternative. So when we ask for a response in our newsletter there is a deafening silence, mostly!

Now do you need help, with FamNet, with your Family Tree Maker programme, or your legacy programme? Rodney Foster, in my enforced absence from the meeting on the 26th had a discussion with a few about coming together at the Club with our facilities, at a mutually acceptable time, not just on the set day for research because it does not always suit, a bit like arranging a coffee morning. Why not deliver me a rude response if the above scenario does not fit you, and further more our coming together at the Club could be a coffee morning, c'mon give it a go!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Yes, it is that time again and we would like a good attendance, and this is your chance to come and have your say. We invite people to come to our committee meetings, but no extra members come, so feedback, brickbats, bouquets, beat – ups whatever you think we deserve dish it up. We can take it and we relish criticism – it is what makes us sit up and take notice. Last year we had a lively question and answer session in general business, so come prepared.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE – Shirley Elizabeth Chandler

D. 31 May 2016. This is the correct genealogy setting for dates, and we all mourn the loss of the bright little lady who was one of our members for four years now and I am grateful that I attended her funeral service on 03 Jun 2016. I used that salutation in the heading which demonstrates my "sectarian bias". She will be sadly missed by her husband Colin and her families. Those of us who shared our meeting time with her found her a bright, happy lady.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS for your diary

June 23rd - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm +AGM

July 12th - Trust committee meeting 9.45am to 11.15am

July 14th – research morning – 9.30am

July 28th - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

August 6th - Open Day (Saturday) 9am to 3pm

August 10th - Trust committee meeting 9.45am to 10.45am

August 25th - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

September 13th - Trust committee meeting 9.45am to 10.45am

September 22th - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

Group's 5th birthday celebration – lunch

October 11th - Trust committee meeting 9.45am to 10.45am

October 13th – research morning – 9.30am

October 27th - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

November 8th - Trust committee meeting 9.45am to 10.45am

November 24th - regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

End of year Christmas function – lunch

SECTARIAN BIAS

I referred to this earlier, and make no bones about being a Catholic, and when I worked in the Magistrates Courts in Wellington from 1971-1973, part of my duties was to spend time in court as the clerk to the presiding magistrate, and the man in this story was Mr Jim Wicks SM, and by some quirk of history all six magistrates in Wellington were Catholic, including the (in) famous Mr Ben Scully SM. At a particular “call over” before Mr Wicks, this particular defendant standing in the dock, slightly better dressed than usual, was having his plea made by his solicitor, who was expounding all this disreputable fellow’s family connections of nuns, and a priest of note, when Jim Wicks, who was always very fair with defendants interrupted Mr “Kent” with admonishment – “Mr ‘Kent’, please don’t appeal to my sectarian bias!”

Now I am not doing Mr Scully any disservice because he was always outspoken, but very fair, and he minced no words to let you know what he thought of you as an errant offender in the community.

NEW 1 DAY (24 HOURS) SUBSCRIPTION NOW AVAILABLE

A 1 day subscription is a subscription that runs over a continuous 24 hour period. Prices are \$11.00 or €10.00 or £8.00. You can upgrade your 1 day (24 hours) subscription to any of our other subscription options when the one day subscription ends. If you decide to upgrade to a 1, 6 or 12 month subscription within 30 days of purchase, the price you paid for your 1 day subscription will be deducted from the cost of your new subscription.

To avail of the upgrade offer you must purchase a new 1, 6 or 12 month subscription within 30 days of the purchase of the 1 day subscription. Subscriptions are non-transferable. If you have any questions please check our Help section and if this does not provide an answer, then you may contact us or one of the county centres.

Yours sincerely rootsireland.ie

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Foundation

IRELAND XO

A glance at any of our Irish news sites right now will give an idea of the glorious weather we are currently having. However, as you may know, that is not always the case. It rains here a lot.

That's why we are so green!

We Irish have always had a love-hate relationship with the weather and there is never a dull moment in Irish skies. Forecasting in Ireland continues to defy the most advanced of meteorological technologies, but our most infamous weather event happened over 150 years ago. The night of the Big Wind was a catastrophic event in Irish history and one that is still talked about today. Have you any stories passed down about the night of The Big Wind? Please [share them with us](#) so that we can add them to the relevant Parish page on Ireland XO.

Do you know someone who needs help finding out more about their Irish place of origin? Please forward them this email.

5th January 1839, did your family have any stories about this event? Abridged – Editor.

New Hybrid Grape Variety

A new grape variety has been developed which produces a wine that is anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom during the night. The new wine will be marketed as:-

PINO MORE

I heard it through the grapevine - Sorry!

MONEY! MONEY! MONEY!

Don't you hate it when the chair always goes on about money! My father used to say money always ran a good first to anything else that was running second!! There are just 17 people on our membership list who have not renewed. Now if your intention is not to renew please tell us or more particularly Rodney Foster.

New Records Online for Fingal/North Dublin Genealogy Centre

Fingal/North Dublin Genealogy Centre has added over 30,000 new records to its online database at www.dublinnorth.rootsireland.ie. The new records include St. Margaret's RC baptisms and marriages, county council interments, many new marriage records for Skerries, Balbriggan, Rush and Lusk as well as various other additions and updates to all of the databases.

The full list of available sources for the Fingal/North Dublin Genealogy centre can be viewed [here](#). If you have any questions please check our [Help section](#) and if this does not provide an answer, then you may contact us or one of the county centres.

Yours

rootsireland.ie

sincerely

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TAKEN WITH A PINCH OF SNUFF

My one and only mental picture of Eliza, my maternal great grandmother, is of a little, wizened old lady of seemingly great age, sitting upright in a hospital bed surreptitiously taking an occasional pinch of snuff, to which she was apparently very partial. How or when she acquired this habit I have no idea but her family considered it disgusting.

Apart from these brief details the only facts I knew were that she was born in Macclesfield and died around 1923 in Birmingham. She was a complete enigma. However, after leading me a merry dance for two or three years some interesting facts have emerged.

Granddad's birth certificate said – father Peter Fowler, mother Eliza Fowler formerly Lovatt. So I proceeded to look for their marriage C1876 in Macclesfield. Peter Fowler was a fairly unusual name in that period and there was only one in the relevant period at St Catherine's House.

Unfortunately there was no matching Eliza Lovatt. On my next visit I searched again, extending the period searched, in case great aunt Matilda, their first child had been a little premature. Still no luck. I then learned that Peter had died when Gt Aunt Matilda was young so I had a search done which produced Peter's death certificate, death reported by Eliza the widow. Certificates were about to go up in price so I took the plunge and bought the marriage certificate for the one and only Peter marriage. Peter had married an Eliza, but her surname was Nadin!!

I thought of several reasons why Lovatt could have cropped up on their children's birth certificates. Great grandfather could have been forgetful and when asked by the Registrar for his wife's maiden name had to be prompted by being reminded that it would be the same as his parents in law. That could mean that Mr Nadin had died and Mrs Nadin had remarried. Or perhaps GGF had been celebrating the births and was a little drunk (he was a ginger beer carter) but how do you prove that?

I followed the father's name on Eliza's marriage certificate, William Nadin, platelayer and tried to find her birth certificate. None matched. I visited Macclesfield and looked for her baptism in either name. No baptisms. I went to Chester and searched the births for the area – no luck. I wrote to several churches – nothing. I nearly gave up.

The next thought was that if Mr Nadin had died Mrs Nadin may have married a Mr Lovatt. At St Catherine's a marriage had occurred in Macclesfield in 1870 between a Mr Lovatt and a 42 year old Miss Nadin, but I didn't feel very hopeful. Then a friend and I went to Chester and she was determined to solve my problem. She did!! The Census returns for the 1861 showed an unmarried Sarah with Eliza at exactly the right age, while the 1871 Census showed the same Sarah married to Mr Lovatt with Eliza at the same address.

It then became quite easy to see how William Nadin platelayer of the marriage certificate could have occurred. William Lovatt's Christian name and occupation had been borrowed and added to Eliza's own maiden name. Her birth was found, then, quite easily, with just her mother's name and revealed that she had been born in the Union Workhouse, Macclesfield and had no father she could name.

She was only 63 when she died, so with dubious birth, a successful cover up on her marriage lines, early widowhood and young children to bring up alone, perhaps the snuff taking was not so bad after all.

Author: **Helen Kidd**

TRUST COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

Change is coming – at our future monthly meetings we will commence sharply at 10am with a gathering of all members in the north eastern corner of the auditorium. We will deal with notices, announcements, questions, and coming events – then disperse at 10.15am into our usual spots, and could I plead with members to mix and match instead of having the same members each time, in the same groups. At 11am we will conduct the AGM.

There will be a clipboard circulating for a trip to Archives – when we get your name and preferred day we will organise and circulate the date and time. Transport will probably be by the train on your gold card – just remember that from the rail station to Archives is a gentle uphill walk.

THAT AUSTRALIAN FAMILY TREE CONNECTIONS MAGAZINE

Waikanae Family History Group is now a subscriber to this publication (just as I am) and it is available at the beginning of the month for anyone to borrow. A clipboard will be circulated at the meeting and if you want to be on the list sign up.

If you have research or missing or unfound relatives in Australia this is the publication you should be looking at, and at least look to listing your name in their monthly published list of surnames. Ask for a copy of the form and then return it to me. I can assure you it works.

FAMNET

Rodney Foster has suggested to you at the last meeting that he and some helpers would spend a separate help session time at the club helping anyone who needed some help and encouragement to get on and use FamNet, after all every member of our group has free membership of this database, so if it IS free why not make use of it. So again another clipboard will be circulated – again your name and what is your preferred day?

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHARTERED CLUB

The committee is looking for more members of the group to become members of the Chartered Club, the sub fee is \$50 per year, and currently we have just 13 members and we are required to have a few more – we don't mind how many more we get, so at the next meeting we will have some information booklets on the benefits of being a member of the WCC. Our becoming an adjunct of the club, that is an integral part of its legal entity, means we have to conform to its rules and regulations. Those of us who are members attend every Tuesday and Friday evenings before dinner, participate in good sociability with our friends, buy meat raffles, participate in money draws for \$50, and the membership draw which currently is \$1250 and you must be present to win this draw. One of our members who are a WCC member was not present when that draw came out with their number when it was \$1800, and again there is a nightly draw for dinner for two in the restaurant, and again that member was not there for this either. If the winner is not there the main draw jackpots, the restaurant voucher does not. I haven't enumerated the 8 other adjuncts which make up the mainly sporting activities of the Club, there is a group called the Golden Oldies who indulge in trips, outings, and fun events on a monthly basis. Pick up a membership form next week, a couple of us will nominate and second you, all you need is your driver's license or passport photo – no money required until you are accepted.

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Sonia Coom, Minute Secretary

Rodney Foster, Treasurer, Deputy Librarian, Vice President, rodfo@gmail.com

Jo Sinclair, Meeting Registrar

Beryl Stevenson, Hospitality

Linda Schager, Committee, CD Librarian, 902 0497

May Redmond, Committee. a welcome volunteer

Russell Tether, Team Leader, Auditor. tether@xtra.co.nz

Mervyn Godkin. Committee

Gerald Twiss, Team Leader (off Committee)

Aileen Wood. Team leader (off committee)

Research Officer, ask the committee

Hanley Hoffmann, President, Editor

hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz

904 3276