



Family History Group News

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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 the newsletter.

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

THE THEME OF TIME

Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur et illis. “The times change, and we change with them”. No I am not a latin scholar, but I did work in the Supreme Court in Canberra for four years, and then in the Magistrates’ Court in Wellington for three years. I possess a booklet, foolscap size and thirty seven pages long of the regular latin phrases used by solicitors and barristers in the Supreme Court (of Australia) in Canberra. My job was as a sound recording reporter, and the main task was to sit at a recording console and listen on a headset (in the courtroom) to the whole of the proceedings from start to finish. The typists in the commonwealth reporting service had to transcribe from recording from a landline the exact same process I was monitoring. Those learned men standing at the bar table addressing the presiding judge frequently used latin phrases and this booklet was “our dictionary” because we had to interpret them correctly. If you come across one in your research give me a call and I will look it up. You might ask what this has to do with family history? For starters there is a potted history of part of my working life. Secondly it is important when looking at your family history documentation and you come across a legal document, and you are suddenly stalled because there is that latin phrase. Just give me call.

FamNet

The second session of our last meeting was one of the quietest sessions we have ever had – probably much quieter than one of Margaret Murton’s school classes from her past occupation. We had a very attentive group watching Robert Barnes try to guide us through FamNet, but I think many of us are still wondering! We tried our best to improve on the text on the screen, but we are at the mercy of those who put the programme together, and the short comings of the media projector and pull down screen. We also sat through a session presented to us over Skype which is unique in family history circles – the clarity could be improved if we had a giant TV screen. I do have a chart from Robert Barnes which shows not many people (we have 35 members registered with FamNet) have used Famnet since they joined.

FUTURE MEETINGS

May 28 th	<u>regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm</u>
June 9 th	(Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am
June 18th	Research Day 9.30am
June 25 th	<u>regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm</u>
July 14 th	(Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am
July 23 rd	<u>regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm</u>
Jul 23 rd	Deborah Shuker on TROVE + Australian
August 11 th	(Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am
August 20th	Research Day 9.30am
August 27 th	<u>regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm</u>
September 8 th	(Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am
©September 24 th	<u>regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm -4TH BIRTHDAY</u>

Membership Donations

My apologies for not reminding members in the last newsletter that your committee has agreed to changing the minimum donation to \$15 to secure your membership of this group. If you think you have been disadvantaged I am sure the treasurer will listen. Anyone is welcome to give more.

That Short Story

In sound recording of evidence, and my story at the beginning, everyone of note participating in a court room has access to a microphone – and one magistrate in the capital city (now deceased) was in the habit of making cryptic comments so that the typing staff where I worked could be entertained! On one occasion a couple of young budding solicitors (just out of university) were before him, one on his feet introducing their case – “Your Worship I appear for the complainant and my learned friend for the respondent!” and the muttered retort from the learned His Worship came out “Yer coulda fooled me.....!” At the same time a young woman was struggling into the public gallery carrying a baby followed by seven more “steps and stairs” of bedraggled children and H/W muttered “Look at ‘em comin’ in like bloody rabbits ...!” Naturally our reporting staff was privy to these comments on the tape but they were not audible to those in the courtroom. The “girls” – the typing staff were always eager to share his asides – if you saw a huddle of typists having a good laugh it was yet another of HW’s asides to the microphone. His parting shot to me at my farewell, for all to hear was “See ya in gaol Hanley”.

So far I have proved him wrong! The same applied in the Supreme Court where I spent my days and you will have heard of Sir John Kerr, later Governor General of Australia. He was six foot four, his Associate was Sheila Firth who was about four foot ten – and just before lunch she would turn to him over the microphone in front of him – his order was for “a pie and sausage roll thank you Sheila”, So what – but we did not get any asides from him. In case you don’t know your history, he was the Governor General who threw Gough Whitlam out of office! Historically this is probably a rare political case – where a GG asserts the authority of his high office.

WHAT CAME OUT OF OUR COMMITTEE MEETING

Apart from membership donations, there will be a clipboard at our next meeting, put down your name for a trip to ARCHIVES, and think about what is your favourite day of the week for making such a trip?

In the second session of our meetings we are looking at short talks on subjects like TROVE and Papers Past, because it is very illuminating what you can find on old newspapers: was your grandfather banned from racing his horses on the Miramar Racecourse?

SCHOOL RECORDS

At least ten of our members are participating in transcribing these records and although we don’t get any accolades from Kapiti Branch NZSG, John Glover has this to say: I'll be away for a week or so. I will still be able to answer your emails. I now have all the Paekakariki School data, so when I return I'll be distributing that to those volunteers who are waiting to begin the checking phase of the project. Waikanae data is now in progress. Raumati Beach data is already more than half entered. Thanks for all your help so far. Your collective involvement is making the project run very smoothly. Regards John Glover. John is just a volunteer member, he is not on the Kapiti Committee.

FOOD – LUNCH – SUNDAY ROAST

Just in case you have forgotten lunch is available in the restaurant of the Chartered Club after our meetings – so escape the drudgery of getting a hot meal on the Thursday when our meetings are on. You can get lunch on other days, but some of us make a point of getting together over lunch after the meeting – and many times the discussions over lunch have continued on the Family History theme.

SUNDAY ROAST is available from the Sunday 19th April and every Sunday now (12 noon to 2pm), only \$14 for the main, and you will be offered white board choices for other courses. So why cook dinner, get some friends or family together, you should book 293 5915, press three. However in small groups of three or four you could just drop in, preferably before 12 noon. At the Club you must be signed in, see the bar staff – it is a licensed premises and you can have your favourite drink with your Sunday dinner. However it is close to home and convenient, with plenty of parking. Do try it, you will not be disappointed.

FINDMYPAST

The team at FMP are saying “we’ve added millions more new records”. See who you can add to your family tree with our [Findmypast](#) membership you get priority access to all the new resources.....this week we’ve added 2.6 million records including

- [Victoria Parliamentary Papers, 1852-1899](#)
- [Australia BillionGraves Cemetery Index](#)
- [New Zealand BillionGraves Cemetery Index](#)
- [BillionGraves cemetery indexes for England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales](#)

Now I suggest that you try these because there must be something there for you, I however could not find my hometown cemetery of Young in NSW. If you have success let me know.

LostCousins News

Irish registers will be online from 8th July

According to [Irish Genealogy News](#), the excellent blog written by LostCousins member Claire Santry, Wednesday 8th July has been named as the day when 390,000 images of Catholic parish registers from 1,091 parishes across Ireland will be made available online - and they'll be free!

The images have been scanned from microfilm, so they'll be in black and white - and no transcriptions or indexes will be available at the time of launch, so you'll really need to have some idea where to start looking. Courtesy of Peter Calver - LostCousins

FAMILY HISTORY NOTEBOOK

Here at Waikanae we have developed a more user friendly A4 size family history notebook, it is in ring binder form and has the flexibility of being a ring binder, only 16mm across the spine. It contains notes on usage, on note taking; it has ruled paper for note taking and plastic pockets all of which are removable, or the number can easily be increased. More importantly it has blank family group sheets, a large fold out A3 size pedigree chart It also contains Census and Electoral Roll check lists. There is also a copy of the Chapman Codes for your reference.

There are at least two “commercially made” A5 size booklets on the market which look good but both are badly designed especially in the area of space available for example, if a person has three given names, the space available is barely enough for two. Some members of our group are using “The Waikanae Family History Notebook” – at a giveaway price of just \$10 – if you are a brand new member we may even discount that price. [On sale or to view \(or haggle over the price\) at the next meeting.](#)

Breaking News

Just had an email from my first cousin Hanley Armstrong, Dubbo NSW, his son downloaded Jean Mary O'Reilly's (Armstrong) WAAAF file from her service during WW2, and ho ho ho, Auntie put her age up because she was not 21, needing parents consent, she was only 20. But wait there is more! The National Archives of Australia staff has withheld some information which they did not think that Hanley (number two) or Philip, his son should see. So an appeal has been lodged seeking access to that info and they say that there will be a reply on or about 12th June. Fast service! So watch this space. As I am the oldest grandchild of Thomas Hanley O'Reilly & Amelia Ann Beazley, my cousin is asking why my Aunt would have avoided having to get parental consent to enlist. I won't go into a long explanation here suffice to say that Amelia was a very controlling mother, she would have refused to consent, I knew her well. She lived just two miles away, and I was boarded out to her every time another one of my five siblings was born. These are the things that make family history fun – I can't wait!

SHORT STORY SUBSTITUTE

At one of our recent meetings Stella Sharp produced this list and distributed it, Margaret Brown has now submitted it – if you are contemplating writing your LIFE STORY – here are some suggested chapters: **Think of each number as a chapter:-**

1. The first thing I can remember
2. Our house
3. The neighbours

4. My mother
5. Going to school
6. The main thing I remember about school
7. Coming home from school
8. My father
9. Games we played
10. Visiting our grandparents
11. What we did for entertainment
12. An important occasion
13. My best friend
14. The best day of the week
15. Sundays
16. Something I'm ashamed of
17. My first love (could include first dance, first kiss etc)
18. Shopping
19. Something very sad
20. The river/the sea/the bush
21. The time Mr Maxwell went mad (or whatever)
22. Higher education
23. First job
24. My life career
25. Meeting my husband to be
26. Courtship
27. Deciding to get married
28. Smells of childhood
29. My family (at time of courtship)
30. My wedding
31. Early days of marriage
32. An important decision
33. First pregnancy

NOTE: if some of these headings are not appropriate for you then change them.

TIP When you first go through this list, jot down anything that springs to mind in note form and without too much thought. It's amazing what memories come flooding back! Don't forget humour!

Editor's note.

This is a very good first list if you are contemplating writing, and certainly a good one to help you create your own. Thank you to Margaret and Stella. It is written from a female point of view, so it would not be difficult to turn the phrases to the opposite sex. When it comes to writing, this reflects a very good principle of setting up an outline, plan or a "skeleton" before you start.

FOUR YEARS – FOURTH BIRTHDAY

Yes we are well into our 4th year of operation and in September should we have a celebration luncheon – think about this and we are happy to have some suggestions – and should we have some sort of competition. No one has yet volunteered to tackle a hard copy of their family history/data, so please – I need someone's inspiration!

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[Waikanae Family History Group Committee](#)

Secretary (Vacancy: New Secretary required) *One may be coming up!*

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

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

Gerald Twiss, Team Leader (off Committee)

Aileen Wood, Team leader (off committee)

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[Research Officer](#), ask the committee

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