



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

FOURTH BIRTHDAY COMING UP!

What happens on our fourth birthday – a lot more in the way of advanced communication these days I suspect. I was party to hearing a young man of about that age next door, reply to his mum's request to clean his shoes before dinner, and in a rather weary tone – “gee mum, can't you see I am just so tired, I've had a hard day!”

What happens on this group's fourth birthday is over to you, the members who attend our 24th September meeting. We are planning to have a special lunch that day.

MEETING DATES

August 11th (Tuesday)

Committee meeting 9.45am

☺☺ August 20th

Research Day 9.30am (Come for some one on one help)

☺☺ August 27th

regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

September 8th (Tuesday)

Committee meeting 9.45am

September 24th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm -4TH BIRTHDAY

October 13th (Tuesday)

Committee meeting 9.45am

October 15th

Research Day 9.30am

October 22nd

regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

November 10th (Tuesday)

Committee meeting 9.45am

November 19th

Research Day 9.30am

November 27th

regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

Christmas Lunch

2016

January 12th (Tuesday)

Committee meeting 9.45am

January 28th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

RESEARCH DAYS ☺☺

We should rename these days as “one on one” help days because that is what they really are, and they have not been well attended or did we not give them enough publicity? For the half dozen or so members who have come along we have been able to give them plenty of individual help. Now if that is what you need this will be the occasion for you, 20th August. So no structured meeting procedure that day, but do bring your laptop if you have one, remember the club has broadband and it is free, and you get a one hour slot – make the most of your membership.

TROVE

Deborah Shuker's presentation at our last meeting was excellent, some of you would have had difficulty reading the screen, but that is one of the technical hurdles we have every time we use a media projector. Have you tried Trove yet because it does have a wealth of information behind it, and once in there, it could be so exciting what you might find.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Jean Watson, Joy Lamb, Frances Cooper, Terry Kennaway, Rob Thornton. All members of our community are welcome, we are Waikanae based and we hope that you all find those elusive ancestors, if you can't, help is always available.

OUR LIBRARY OF DISKS

Linda Schager is our librarian for the collection of data disks, and you are welcome to borrow them for your own personal research. Please remember that your borrowing should be short term so that other members can access them as quickly as possible.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Russell Tether has a subscription to Ancestry.com and I have a worldwide subscription to Findmypast and you are all welcome to seek our help in doing research for you. Now the group actually pays half of our subs so that we can be encouraged to help you. From my point of view if I have been able to help you or Russell, although I don't speak for him, think about giving the Treasurer a small donation towards that help. If you deem it right to pay more than \$5 ask the treasurer for a tax receipt. Russell as our main research person has performed admirably now for two overseas persons which is wonderful, maybe we should find him some appropriate award.

RESEARCH FOR OVERSEAS MEMBERS

Russell Tether will be interested to see what you have found of the Selman family, he has almost completed the round up of family in the South Island and he will certainly make another member of the Young & District Family History Group very happy when we dispatch all the information to her. And he has found lots of living relatives here in NZ who were delighted to have the connections made with their family in NSW. Young is my home town, and because I wrote an article for their newsletter on research here in NZ it has attracted at least one "customer" wanting research done here in NZ. I live in hope that we will get another generous donation from this lucky person. I am also a member of that Y&DFHG, because it has so many local records that have been of help to me. You cannot ignore these town groups in any part of Australia because they hold a lot of records which they have "harvested locally", and you only have to ask (and offer to pay, some have set fees). I was astonished to find that Young had copies of the Catholic church records – most parish priests would have balked at letting their registers be copied.

FAMNET Next Months Important coming Attraction

Following our earlier Skype presentation we are going to have Robert Barnes visit us at next month's 24th September meeting and we are going to have a continuous workshop on the system. We will still have our usual session for those who want it. We are inviting members from other branches of NZSG and local groups to join us. This is a New Zealand system database which already hosts millions of records, and it is a facility that the whole of NZ should have embraced over the years, but politics and bad grace got in the way. Overtures have been made to NZSG to embrace the facility again and since we have ensured that all our members (up to a point last year) had free membership we need to take a concerted effort to encourage its use. We will be seeking funding again this year to give every member of our group free use and we need you to respond accordingly.

OUR FOURTH BIRTHDAY

Having the FamNet day on our birthday will mean we should have some visitors present to help us celebrate, so should we start the day with having muffins with our tea and coffee as a welcoming gesture. So we need a couple of volunteers to produce a batch and I have one who will produce some cheese muffins. Our birthday lunch will happen at 12 noon on the day and Robert Barnes is happy to have a further session after lunch to help people through the intricacies of FamNet.

CERTIFICATES COLLECTION

With a membership rising to around 50 members now there is a possibility that we could develop a good certificate collection – a good clear photocopy of any or all of your certificates, and especially those you may have purchased and they proved to be not your family. Rodney or you yourself can photocopy them on our machine.

SHARING OUR FAMILY HISTORIES

Sharing my family histories around the family sometimes comes with unexpected hurdles, as I found when I issued my Hoffmann O'Reilly tome to a cousin in Gisborne, I had previously given her a printout of just her Gowling family. She protested that I had a couple of mistakes and omissions, one of which was showing a second wife of a marriage as the first! Yes I looked in the Family Tree Maker programme, and there was the problem, I did not have a date for the second marriage – so of course the system could not establish the correct chronology. So finally here is what our mutual cousin in South Australia had to say when I asked about the marriage date – and I got a whole lot more;

Good morning Hanley,

Harry William Gowling is the father of William (Bill) Charles Gowling. Bill Gowling married Dulcie CANTLON and they had 5 or 6 children. Bill and Dulcie were travelling by car and had a terrible accident which took Dulcie's life and left the youngest child Drew severely disabled. Bill re married Anne Florence FOX. Annie was a widow or divorced and had several children from her marriage prior to her marriage with Bill. They decided some time later that Anne's children would change their names to GOWLING by deed poll which they did.

This is just off the top of my head Hanley so hope this helps. (Bev Rowe nee Gowling)

So now I have to cope with putting in Anne Florence's previous marriage, and much blessings on them for wanting to change the children's names, what a merry mix up and how! And to think that all this was caused by my great Aunt Annie Hoffmann marrying William Mead Gowling after his first wife died. So all along this Gowling family have presented me with hurdles. But wait there is more, both Bev and I think that we have the wrong family member from my great Aunt's family marrying William Mead Gowling. Because my Great Grandfather was German and a great imbibor of fine wine, and a guttural German accent, he gave birth registrars a headache with getting his children's names right when he was registering them. So three successive girls had very similar names, and birthdates that were also, one 31 March and one 13 March. We think that the 31 March sister married William Mead but she insisted her birthday was 13 March! I deliberately did not use the girls names!!! So confusion still reigns.

FAMILY HISTORY MONTH EVENT

On 22nd August (Saturday) 10am to 4pm Family History Open Day – at the Hutt Bowling Club, 6 Myrtle Street Lower Hutt – come and try your luck at finding those elusive ancestors 15 stands representing major repositories and countries like Australia, Ireland, Scotland, greater London, Maori, Pacific and more. Tea & Coffee provided, bring your own lunch. \$5 entry fee. Deborah Shuker and I will be taking care of the Australian inquiries, hope it turns out to be a good day.

Special Historical Notice for Waikanae

Saturday 5th September 2pm Waikanae Community Centre (formerly the Senior Citizens Rooms) the **Kapiti Film Heritage Group** is screening a 70 minute film covering the years 1921 to 2000 of historical films shot in Kapiti. \$5 in the door, tea & coffee served for gold coin donation. Later screenings will be held at the Kapiti Community Centre, Sunday 20th September 2pm, and All Saints Church Hall, Otaki Sunday 27th September at 2pm.

FILING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

If you are a new member have you seen this book on the sales and display table? This book was written as a guide, as one way of filing your family history, one way of keeping what you have in order. To my knowledge there is no other publication spelling out how simply you can file your family records and at the same time bring together a family history that you can easily duplicate and distribute (publish) within your family. It also operates on the practicalities of allowing you to amend and update your family history just as you do in your computer programme – at the same time being able to produce new replacement pages. This is an inexpensive way of self publishing your family history for the members of your family and the wider family. Far more efficient than having a hard bound book which cannot be updated. You could say that principles expounded in this booklet live and grow with your family. Pick up a copy at the next meeting – feel free to borrow a copy, if you wish to own it for reference it will cost you just one of those blue notes.

EMAILS INBOX - IN THE MORNING – EVERYDAY - GOOD HABIT OR BAD – YOU DECIDE

How many people read the paragraph in the last newsletter about Emails – did you read yours this morning? Do you even switch on your computer in the morning? Do you leave your computer on all day? Have you considered that leaving it on all day will not significantly consume a lot of electricity, it is a very low consumption machine – and switching your computer on and off several times a day is not a good idea – the life of your machine, and thus the savings for you are probably more if you leave it on all day, switch off before you retire each night. I could go on – but try to develop a regular habit, especially first thing in the morning. Try. It is a good habit and of course you should develop it! C'mon, life is too short to miss the 'mail.

USING YOUR COMPUTER

Hey, I keep on at you about your computer, but is it that there are probably some little operating things about which you are hazy, what about the short cuts to doing things on the keyboard that make life simpler? You all know us at our meetings – even the Treasurer, I suspect is quite expert at manipulating his machine, much more expert than I am because he does our accounting on a programme which makes life easier for him – no accounting books, just the pages that he prints out. Now you could ask us to give you some tips – so at the next meeting take out your note book! Here's one eg, How to delete an unwanted email immediately? Answer on 27th.

Writing your family story doesn't have to be a big, intimidating project. Here are six quick ideas to help you share your clan's unique history.

Q. I want to share my genealogy research with my family. My long-term goal is to put everything into a book, but in the meantime, I'm looking for smaller projects that will engage my relatives. Do you have any ideas?

A. So you're not ready to take on writing the entirety of your clan's history, but you still want to preserve family lore or put your research discoveries into historical context. Here are six quick ways to share your story:

- Family history journal: Keep a diary of your genealogical discoveries and how you felt or what you thought about them.
- Photo narratives: Pick favourite photographs and write down everything you know about them — names of the people pictured, the event shown, the location.
- Family atlas: Put maps and photos of your ancestral towns into a book or album, and add details about the locales, ancestors who lived there and historic events that took place in the area.
- Legacy book / Family Tree Book: Fill in a pre-printed memory-prompting book with information about your life and your family tree, or use the prompts as a springboard for your writing.
- Heritage cookbook: Create a scrapbook or use a photo-gift website to record favourite family recipes. Include photos of the cooks, stories about them, and other relatives' stories about the occasions when the dishes were served.
- Website: Use your genealogy software or a blog to plant your family tree online. Include photos, scanned records, family stories and GEDCOMs.

Allison Dolan

From Barry Thomson

[Waikanae Family History Group Committee](#)

Secretary (Vacancy: New Secretary required) *Could this be you?*

Rodney Foster, Treasurer, Deputy Librarian, Acting Vice President, rodfos@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

Gerald Twiss, Team Leader (off Committee)

Aileen Wood, Team leader (off committee)

[Research Officer](#), ask the committee

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