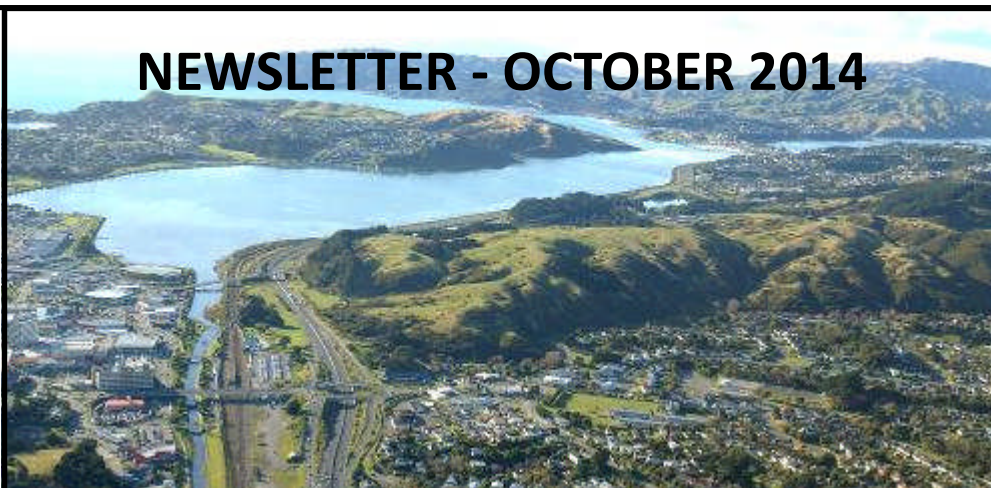


## PORIRUA BRANCH



[www.poriruagenealogy.org.nz](http://www.poriruagenealogy.org.nz)

## NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2014



### From the Editor's Desk

Convenor Helen is on holiday and doing research in the UK. She has asked me to provide some comment on her behalf.

Our research night held in the Porirua Library on 13 August was very successful with 30 members in attendance. Some photographs of the night are included in this newsletter and a small collection have been added to the branch website.

Two new members joined the branch at that research night, and three members of Wellington branch visited us to see the Porirua Library genealogy section in action.

Mary Skipworth from Palmerston North was our guest speaker on 10 September on the subject 'Using Maps in your Genealogy Research'. A very interesting speaker and a great topic - something for us to consider using in our own genealogical research. Thank you, Mary, for travelling down from Palmerston North.

Five committee members attended the Lower North Island (LNI) Regional meeting in Levin on 9 August, where our two councillors gave an update on a number of matters from Council and their own areas of responsibility. Discussion at the LNI meeting included region boundaries and frequency of meetings with those present opting for no change, ie to retain existing boundaries and four meetings per year.

At its September meeting the committee made the decision to purchase some new resources for the branch library. Some old material will also be culled - all part of an effort to freshen up the collection. Pat has purchased some booklets from the "Unlock the Past" series, details of which are included on the branch noticeboard in this newsletter.

When recently reading the history of our Society 'Forty Years On ...' I was struck by comments from Verna Mossong, NZSG President 1973-76 and 1981-82, upon opening a conference. She told members to remember, and to remind others, that we are not gene-ologists. We are all gene-alogists. To reinforce that message Verna explained we all had an 'alogy' (allergy), not life-threatening but probably life-lasting.

**Peter**

### Welcome, New Members

We welcome Carol Kliem, Kevin Brady, and Mary Simpson & Bill Anderson, as new members since the issue of our last newsletter.

## Branch Meeting Programme

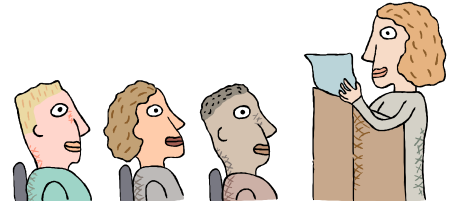
**8 October**      **guest speaker**  
**Anita West - Introduction to Irish Family Records**

5 minute talk  
Gill Knox - Dunedin Family History newsletter

**12 November**    **guest speaker**  
**Jenny Robyn Jones - 'No Simple Passage' The Journey of the Immigrant Ship London to New Zealand 1842 - a ship of hope**

5 minute talk  
to be announced

**11 February**      **Ups and Downs of Research - a group discussion**  
**sharing summer research experiences**



## NZSG Members can save \$70 on annual subscription to findmypast

Remember, as advised in the August edition of 'The New Zealand Genealogist' magazine, NZSG members can save \$70 on a findmypast annual subscription by using the promotional code that was published. Yet another advantage of being a member of the Society.

## Which one is it?

### The origin of the term 'Nobby Clark(e)':

1) The origin of "Nobby Clark(e)" is an ancient one. The name "Clark(e)" is an occupational surname, and derives from "clerk", that is, a person who could write. Clerks were more often than not servants to a member of the nobility, and were introduced in Old English as "the noble lord, his clerk". Over time "noble" became corrupted to "nob" (most of you would know the use of this word to be slang for an "upper-class person"), and "nob his" to "nobby".

OR

2) The explanation given for the use of this nickname is that clerks (pronounced "clarks" in British English) in the City of London used to wear Nobby hats, a type of bowler hat. Alternative spellings include "Knobby" and "Clarke".

OR

3) An alternative explanation for the name Nobby attached to the surname Clarke is thus: 16th century monks wrote letters for the illiterate. These monks were referred to as "Clerks". The outcome of so much writing causes calluses on the fingers "nobs" and therefore "Nobby Clerks" was born.

OR

4) In England the term "nob" is used to refer to a member of the aristocracy and by extension a posh person. A clerk would deal with the common people but would be better educated, better paid and in a position of relative power. To the uneducated, clerks were posh and therefore considered to be "nobs". Hence, Nobby Clark. Clerks were also required to maintain a high standard of dress, and were paid a clothing allowance. The result was that they always appeared smart. Both the Oxford English and the English Dialect Dictionaries list nobby as being of a rich man, a nob or toff, or "smart", and gives it a wide distribution, so smart persons were "nobby".



## Research Matters

### A New Centre for the Huguenots

Due to open in Kent in summer 2015, the Huguenot Heritage Centre will tell the story of the flight of the Huguenots to Britain in the 16th and 17th centuries. The centre will explore issues around refugees, immigration and integration that relate to the Huguenots experiences. Between 60,000 to 80,000 Huguenots settled in England in the South East (Canterbury, Greenwich, Rye, Sandwich), in the West (Bristol, Southampton, Plymouth), in East Anglia (Ipswich, Norwich), and in London (the City, Soho, Spitalfields, Wandsworth, Westminster).

The inspiration for the centre came from the directors of the French Hospital which was founded in London in 1718 as a charity, offering sanctuary to poor Huguenots. For further information about the centre see [www.frenchhospital.org.uk/huguenot-heritage-centre](http://www.frenchhospital.org.uk/huguenot-heritage-centre)

### Papers Past Tip

(From the Family History Month talk at the National Library in August)

If you want to remove the highlighting from an article in Papers Past before printing or copying, remove the query term from the end of the URL and press enter and your article will appear without the highlighting.

## Self Publishing - easier & cheaper than ever before (Part 2) - Suzanne Sutton Cummings (Hutt Valley Branch)

### Review of three websites

[N.B. These organisations often upgrade their software so it is possible my info may be a little out of date]

#### [www.my-books.com](http://www.my-books.com)

- Copy your images into a separate folder before uploading as it makes irreversible changes to the images
- Download the software
- This package is the best for lots of photos and only small amounts of text

#### Advantages

- Software free to download
- Don't have to be on the internet when you are working on your book
- In this system there are 2 folders for your images – used and unused so you don't put things in twice
- Can move, rotate, crop images
- Can easily resize your images
- Easily add, delete or move pages. You can lock 2 pages together so they stay together
- Excellent selection of page themes and backgrounds
- Can imprint an image onto a page
- Very good selection of fonts
- Quality books made locally in Wellington

#### Disadvantages

- Too much text in a text box can disappear. A whole page of text may have to be put into at least 2 text boxes
- Text is hard to see on a small computer screen
- Can't delete images from the photo folders
- Doesn't save as you go but asks you to save your work

## [www.milkbooks.com](http://www.milkbooks.com)

- Software is online
- Bespoke book includes a DVD and you can play video clips
- Template – 60 pages, no more, no less
- Book comes with a case
- Printed in China (Hong Kong)

### Advantages

- Photos you have used are ticked
- Can delete photos that you have uploaded
- Text boxes easier to use
- Facility to invite others to see what you are working on
- Final product very good quality
- The book was relatively quick to put together because there were less options and a limited number of pages

### Disadvantages

- Have to be on the internet when using this software
- Have to crop photos before uploading
- Templates limit what you can put on a page
- I found it very difficult to move pages around
- Font sizes limited to one or two sizes only
- Not much room for creativity
- Can't add pages to book (template books = 60, 120 or 200 pages)

## [www.blurb.com](http://www.blurb.com)

### Advantages

- Download the software for free
- Saves as you are working on it
- Easier to read when editing
- Can add and delete photos
- Better template pages which can be changed
- Uses grids
- Can lock pages together
- Text will run onto next page or column automatically. Will even add pages to take overflow of text
- Has spellcheck
- You can sell your book on the website with a mark-up
- Can also get a pdf document for publishing in NZ. The other sites didn't have this option.

### Disadvantages

- Can't crop photos – have to do it before uploading photos
- Can't look at a whole one or two pages when previewing
- Family members may find it quite expensive to buy the book
- Quality paper but glued not sewn
- Spell check is either one page or the whole book which can take a long time
- To start it again you have to start the spell check at the beginning
- Have to buy a hard copy of the book which is printed in California to get a pdf copy at US\$5.95.

### **Local Options for Publishing and marketing**

- Publishing businesses in the region are very competitive
- Shop around – Wakefield Digital, Pronto Print, Apex Print, Excel Digital Print ... to name a few
- Can use whatever format you have to publish the book – e.g. Word
- Can buy your own software e.g. Photoshop - more expertise may be needed
- Cheaper to buy in bulk but lumped with dozens of books under your bed collecting dust.

*Thanks again to Suzanne for allowing us to reproduce this article – Editor*



## Research Night 13 August



## Websites:

<http://ireland.anglican.org/about/128>

The Representative Church Body Library in Dublin has just released a list of the Church of Ireland parish registers and where they are held. This resource is now complete for the Republic of Ireland and the RCB Library is working with PRONI to finish the list for Northern Ireland. You can find out if parish registers existed for the parish you're looking at, and then whether they survived the 1922 fire in Dublin, or copies had been kept elsewhere. Users should be aware that it doesn't include additional records held by PRONI. For example, Carrickmacross shows the marriage records only from 1845-1951 but PRONI has both marriage and baptism records from the 1830s.

<http://digital.nls.uk/100261716>

The National Library of Scotland has put on line Rolls of Honour from World War I. These are lists of casualties and those who died while on active service. The collection includes rolls from schools, universities, clans, businesses, churches and towns. Some of the Rolls of Honour contain detailed biographies of the soldiers. The collection can be searched by keyword, such as name. Access is free. (*Otaki Branch Newsletter*)

## News from NZSG Councillors Gill and Peter

It has occurred to us that one way of keeping branch members informed of our activities as Porirua-based NZSG Councillors is to provide a report via our branch newsletter from time to time. We stress, though, that no decisions of the NZSG Council will be reported to Porirua branch ahead of official advices to all branches via the usual NZSG channels or ahead of region meetings.

We attended our first full council meeting in Auckland over the weekend 26/27 July, with a few hours of induction the day before. Areas of responsibility were allocated at the meeting. Gill has involvement with liaison and communication, marketing and publications, and is the council representative for the Lower North Island region with Peter as back-up; Peter's involvement is with governance policies and procedures, finance, and rules review, and is representative for Taranaki region with Gill as backup. The provision of backup councillors is something new to Council and has been applied to all regions.

Since that July meeting we have been busy. We both attended the Lower North Island regional meeting in Levin on 9 August, and then represented NZSG at Family History Month events over the weekend 16/17 August - Gill at the Kapiti branch commemoration of the centenary of World War 1 on Saturday (pictured staffing the NZSG stand); and Peter at the Horowhenua Family History Group's "Weekend of History" in Levin the same day, and then Kapiti's event the following day. Peter attended the Taranaki regional meeting in New Plymouth on 13 September. Then it was a return to Auckland for a council meeting 27/28 September.



Members will recall media reports of the recent disastrous fire at Paraparaumu School where the entire junior school of four classes, the library archives and resources were completely destroyed. The school still intends to celebrate its 125th anniversary in November, but will do so without many years of records including archival photos. NZSG came to the rescue when over 6000 records from Paraparaumu School, from 1889 to 1978, were handed over to the school to assist it pull together replacement records lost in the fire. At a small event held at the school on 25 August Bill McKeich, Convenor of Kapiti Branch and Peter as NZSG Councillor handed over a copy of these records on CD to the Principal of Paraparaumu School, Steven Caldwell. Paraparaumu newspaper Kapiti News covered the handover with a great article on NZSG two days later. Pictured are Peter, Bill McKeich, principal Steven Caldwell with a new school pupil of one week, and John Glover who had led the Kapiti branch team that originally transcribed the records. While Porirua branch has previously transcribed school records, there may be further opportunities to promote NZSG by encouraging schools in the Porirua area to consider preserving/transcribing their records, and/or bringing them up to date.



NZSG Family History Fair 2015 will be held at Alexandra Park located in Epsom, Auckland over Friday to Sunday, 7-9 August 2015. These date are confirmed so please note in your diaries.

President Gay is recorded as saying that trying to get branches and groups to post information about their meetings on the NZSG Facebook page, to help publicise what's going on around the place, is like pulling teeth from hens. She said that anyone would think these things are highly-guarded secrets that must not be found out, when in reality it is a free and easy way to get word out to people who might otherwise not know of an event coming up in their area. Send an email of the details you want published to [facebook@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:facebook@genealogy.org.nz) - preferably in the format (wording) you want it to appear. Posts on Facebook are plain text, so no fancy fonts or colours, but if you have an image to include all the better as it's been found that people are more likely to read a post that has an image than one that doesn't.

## Branch Committee

### Convenor

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### Secretary

Mary Beckett (04) 233 1655 marybeckett@xtra.co.nz

### Treasurer

Lesley & Peter Anderson (04) 232 4533  
lesleyanderson@inspire.net.nz  
pjand@inspire.net.nz

### Committee Members

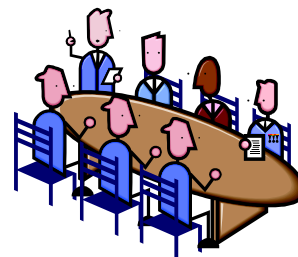
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(Resources & Library Liaison)

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(Raffle)

Peter Gibson (04) 237 8657 p.d.gibsonfamily@xtra.co.nz  
(Newsletter, Publicity & Website; NZSG Councillor)

Elwyn Goldsbury (04) 239 8431 elwyng2@ihug.co.nz  
(Programme)

Gill Knox (04) 233 8863 keith.gillknox@xtra.co.nz  
(NZSG Councillor)



## Branch Noticeboard

### Members' Interest List

The branch members' interest list contains the surnames our members are researching (currently 954 entries). This list will be emailed to members periodically. Do check your family names and, if successful, contact Cliff and Lorraine Matthews cliffandlorraine@gmail.com ph 234 7241 (quoting the contact number on the list) for the relevant member's details.

Note: Cliff and Lorraine bring forms for submitting new names to branch meetings.

### Branch Resources

The Branch resources collection is undergoing a spring-clean. So far some books have been retired and some new ones have been purchased. We know that these new resources will be popular so we ask you to make sure that you return your borrowed item after one month.

New resources from the "Unlock the Past" series of booklets:

"Scottish Church Records" by Chris Paton

"Discovering Scottish Civil Registration Records" by Chris Paton

"Tracing Your English Ancestors" by Paul Milner

"Locating Your German Ancestor's Place of Origin" by Eric Kopittke

"Cracking the Code of Old Handwriting" by Graham Jaunay

"What Was the Voyage Really Like?" by Shauna Hicks

"My Ancestor was in an Asylum" by Shauna Hicks

"Trove: Discovering Genealogy Treasures in National Archives of Australia" by Shauna Hicks.