



# Feb 2025 NEWSLETTER

**UPCOMING MEETINGS: THE HUB, 33 JOHNSONVILLE RD, 7 FOR 7:30 PM**

| WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY  | WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH  | WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL  |
|--|---|---|
| <p><i>Tracing a black sheep from Ireland to New Zealand</i></p> <p><b>Cathy Clarke</b></p> | <p><i>Looking Both Ways – Genealogy in the Past and the Future.</i></p> <p><b>Max Kennedy</b></p> | <p><i>Research Opportunities in Defence Records</i></p> <p><b>Robert Henry + others</b></p> |

**Reminder:** Pre-meeting discussion group meeting from 6:00pm to 7:15pm

**CONVENOR’S CORNER** by Geraldine Needham-Girven, Convenor, Wellington Branch

Greetings members



I trust you all had a lovely holiday period despite the cool rainy weather. A few hot days though and we are all complaining of the heat! I am going to Melbourne on Saturday and the temperatures are so far showing 36 degrees for next Sunday. Melbourne is my second home, starting from when I lived there for a year in 1970, so I am used to experiencing their weather.

My oldest son, his wife and my grandson live there, but also an aunt and three cousins and their families. Our mutual English cousins are going to Melbourne for a visit so my sister and I are going over so we can all be together for the first time ever. My family emigrated from England before the 3 youngest cousins

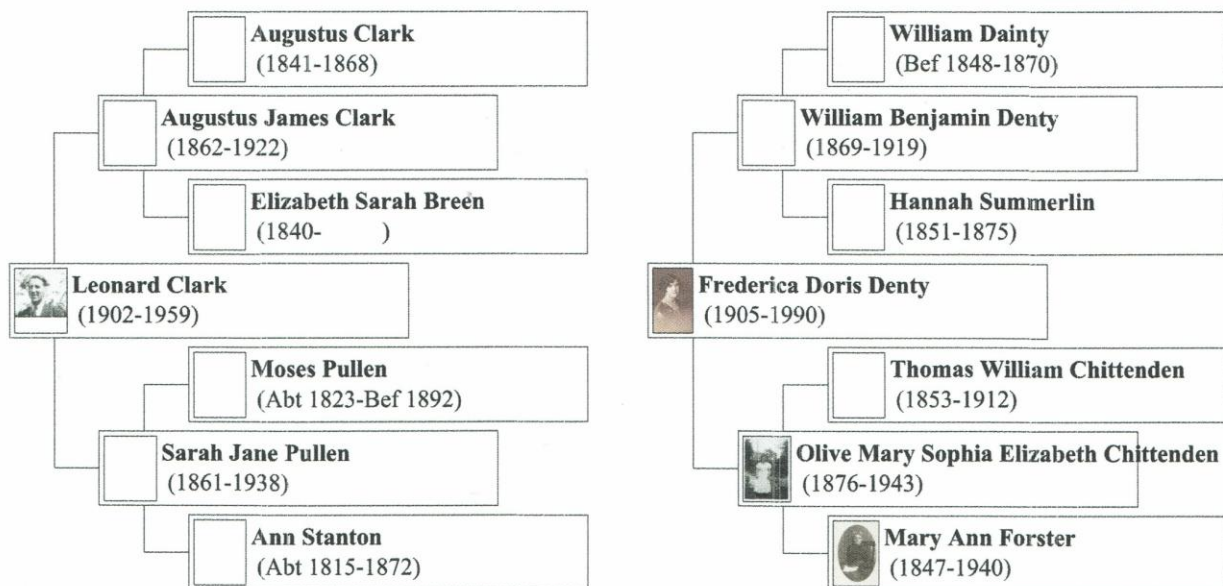

were born.

As it’s a family reunion, I thought I have to share something about our ancestors. I have found a one-page Family View Chart from the Legacy software programme I use. It has our grandparents details and photos in the middle of the page, and above 2 generations of ancestors for each grandparent. On the lower half of the report are the three siblings – my mother and her two brothers. A simple overview that I hope will be of interest. I am also going to put together the photos I have of our grandparents and their families. Hopefully we can have a photo evening, and the others won’t be too bored!


So unfortunately, that means I will be away for our February meeting. Ann will be convening the February meeting, which I am sure will be interesting. Cathy is a core member of the Hutt Valley branch and helped us organise our Family History Month event last year. See you all in March.

# Family View Chart for Leonard Clark and Frederica Doris Denty

1







**Leonard Clark**  
 Born: 5 Apr 1902  
 Waltham Cross, Cheshunt,  
 Hertfordshire, England  
 Died: 2 Oct 1959  
 Ramsgate, Kent, England



**Frederica Doris Denty**  
 Born: 1 Jan 1905  
 Waltham Cross, Cheshunt,  
 Hertfordshire, England  
 Died: 7 Jul 1990  
 Ramsgate, Kent, England

**Marriage Information:** 25 May 1931: Parish Church of Holy Trinity, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, England

| Children   | Born:   | Died:   |
|--|---|---|
|  <b>Beryl Lena Clark</b>    | F 8 Apr 1933<br>Waltham Cross, Cheshunt,<br>Hertfordshire, England  | 5 Jun 2023<br>Johnsonville, Wellington, New Zealand |
|  <b>Brian Leonard Clark</b> | M 11 Mar 1936<br>Waltham Cross, Cheshunt,<br>Hertfordshire, England | 19 Aug 2000<br>Ramsgate, Kent, England              |
|  <b>Raymond Derek Clark</b> | M 5 Jul 1939<br>Waltham Cross, Cheshunt,<br>Hertfordshire, England  | 3 Jun 2018<br>Yambulla, New South Wales, Australia  |

## Experiences as a Genealogy 'Newbie'

By Mhairi Thompson

As someone who started family history research at high school in the late 1980s, and then picked it up again 18 months ago, I've had a lot to catch up on! I thought I'd share some of the main developments I've seen since I've picked up the genealogy bug again.

### Technology is amazing

In the 1980s, I was mainly working with physical documents, family recollections and microfiche during a school day trip from Timaru to Christchurch. Nowadays, the world has expanded (and commercialized) with various family history sites that can provide the structure for huge amounts of research. The technology behind these sites is stunning, particularly the ways they can read and match scanned documents. It's wonderful to see how artificial intelligence is utilised and how it can automate many tasks. For my New Zealand research, Papers Past in particular has been an invaluable tool. However, I've also learnt that, as with many technologies, there are gaps, errors and hallucinations, and so I need to keep a critical and sceptical eye on my research.

### Goals and focus are helpful

Initially I was so excited by the information available, I pushed a few generations back with basic family history. This became less rewarding and definitive, so, following advice from other Society members, I pivoted and started to think about what I wanted to achieve and the questions I wanted to answer. I've found that focus on particular families or generations can be more valuable than breadth of information, and have been prioritising filling in the 'gaps' of my NZ based family since the first ancestors arrived in the 1850s. This has also meant that I can better validate information, and can start writing up specific parts of the family history to share.

### Context is fascinating and meaningful

I have always been interested in history, but didn't have much personal connection to various events. Over the last 18 months I have found ancestors who were transported as criminals to Australia in the 1830s, served in the army during the NZ Land Wars in the 1850s, and the Boer War, as well as a great grand uncle who died while serving in a Cyclist Battalion in France in 1918. I have also found one branch of the family who had several generations of criminal offending, which resulted in children being sent to industrial schools - a sobering realisation of the grim upbringing and lifestyle my ancestors went through.

### Genealogists are incredibly helpful and community minded

I have learnt so much by coming to the society meetings and from chatting to the other group members. There is a wealth of help and advice available from some amazingly experienced colleagues, as well as learning available through conferences and online learning. This is also enhanced by family history becoming mainstream through TV programmes and magazines.

# Ancestors who arrived in NZ prior to 1845

At our November 2024 meeting, as an icebreaker, we lined up based on the date of our first ancestors' arrival in New Zealand. There were quite a few with very early European arrivals (prior to 1845) in New Zealand. Several of our members have sent in notes about their early arrival ancestors. These paint a picture of life in the early days of European arrival in New Zealand. Thanks to those who sent them in. If any members have additional stories, pls send them to [wellington@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:wellington@genealogy.org.nz).

## **William Henry REEVE - 1810 – 1907**

By  
Jill Compton

My maternal third great-grandfather was William Henry REEVE, born in Suffolk, England. William arrived in Wellington in 1838 (he arrived on the brig Ann and Mary from Sydney. It had been fitted out to be a trading ship) but had been sailing through the Pacific prior to that on both whalers and trading ships. In early 1840 he settled, with other sailors, on Rangatira (South East Island) to grow potatoes and raise pigs to sell to the whalers. Rangatira lies south-east from Pitt Island, it is now a nature reserve managed by DOC.

In 1841, whilst in Wellington, he is recorded as saying that he boarded the Stains Castle at Petone and 'chose a wife' (NZ Mail 31 January 1906). This was Mary FAIRBRASS (1820 to 1901), who he promptly married and took to Rangatira Is. He left her there, along with one other European woman for 18 months due to being shipwrecked.

In 1846 he purchased six acres of land and built a home in what is now Johnsonville. They lived there for 25 years before moving to Foxton in 1870 where he set up a carting business. Mary died in 1901 and until his death William lived with different members of the family. Another article in the Freelance of 21 January 1905 states that he has twenty children, ten of whom were living. William and Mary are buried together in Karori Cemetery.



*William and Mary (Fairbrass) REEVE*

## **Elizabeth Anne CROSS (nee SMITH)**

By

David Stevens

Elizabeth was born 26th February 1817 in Walmer, Kent, England.; a daughter of Benjamiin Thomas and Elizabeth Smith. Elizabeth was baptised 20th April 1817.

On 6th March 1838 she married James Smith Cross in Walmer; a son of John and Mary Ann Cross. In 1839 they had a daughter Mary Anne baptised 24th February, and in 1840 they had a son James Henry baptised 20th December.

In 1841 James was invited by the New Zealand Company to join an expedition being organised to create a pioneer settlement in Nelson, New Zealand. The expedition was being led by Captain Arthur Wakefield. James was appointed warden pilot. The expedition sailed from London in April 1841 on the ships "Whitby" and "Will Watch".

The New Zealand Company had agreed that families of the expedition members would follow later. Elizabeth and their two children, and other families of the Surveying Staff, sailed from London on the "Lloyds" on 11th September 1841. This ship arrived in Nelson on 9th February 1842.

During the voyage the ship put into Cape of Good Hope on 7th December on account of illness on board. 57 infants and children, all under six years of age having died of diarrhoea; including Elizabeth's two children. A report of the voyage was published in the New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator on Wednesday 16th February.

Elizabeth and James settled in Nelson where they built a house in Mary Ann Street (later renamed Richardson Street). They had a further 10 children between 1843 and 1862. James was harbourmaster and chief pilot for Nelson up to shortly before his death.

Elizabeth died in Nelson on 9th September 1880 and is buried in the Wakapuaka Cemetery. James died in Nelson on 19th January 1882 and is buried with his wife in the Wakapuaka Cemetery. Elizabeth is the great great great aunt of David Stevens (NZSG 11874)



## Samuel and Mary Ann GASKIN, William and Anne BARNES

By

Margaret Graham

In 1841 two English families arrived into Te Whanganui-a-Tara / Wellington within two months of each other. Both families settled in Makara.

The first to arrive were my 3 x Gt Grandparents Samuel and Mary Ann GASKIN. They arrived on the Katherine Stewart Forbes on 24 June 1841 with their four children, including seven year old Mary Ann who is my 2 x Gt Grandmother. The family settled in Makara.

Two months later on 28 August 1841, my 3 x Gt Grandparents William and Anne BARNES arrived on the Prince Rupert with their 14 year old son Thomas. They also settled in Makara.

Nine years later in 1850, Mary Ann GASKIN and Thomas BARNES married in St Pauls in Wellington.

My 2 x Gt Grandmother Mary Ann BARNES (nee GASKIN), had at least 17 children (one was my Gt Grandmother Ellen). She died in 1930 at 96 years and is buried with my 2 x Gt Grandfather Thomas at St Mary's Anglican church in Karori Road, Wellington.



*Mary Ann BARNES (nee GASKIN)*

## Hugh and Agnes SINCLAIR

By

Dawn Chambers

There are a couple of mysteries for my Sinclair family. On 18 November 1839 Hugh SINCLAIR left Sydney on the cutter "Success" and arrived at Kapiti on 4 December. He was in service to James Coutts CRAWFORD, and they proceeded to Korohewa via Mana Island. From there they walked to Port Nicholson and paddled a canoe to Ngahauranga. The next day they returned to Korohewa then arranged to cross Cook's Strait in an open boat owned by Arthur Elmslie. The intention was to trade goods with the Natives at Nelson for large blocks of land. As the goods included spirits the transaction was declared invalid. They returned to Port Nicholson on Geordie Bolt's "Harriet" and set up camp on Petone Beach near Henry Moreing's two tents. They stayed in a low hut, into which it was necessary to crawl, in common with some uncouth-looking Australian servants, who made one think at once of bushrangers and banditti.

In Hugh's 1871 obituary it stated that he had been in residence in the province of Wellington for 32 years from which he was only absent during a seven month stay at the Chatham Islands. This is supported by family stories that said that Hugh was placed in charge of a vessel chartered for the Chatham Islands for the disposal of a large quantity of liquor for its value in pork. This he did, obtaining 28 large bacon pigs for one small barrel of rum. He also collected oil from birds and sent it to Wellington in barrels.

So far no contemporary evidence of these activities has been found. In Wellington there were unclaimed letters for Hugh in January and October 1841. Hugh's wife, Agnes, and their only son, Joseph Dickson Sinclair, were in Sydney. Joseph was buried at St Andrew's Church, Sydney on 13 March 1842 aged five years. In August 1842 there was an unclaimed letter for Mrs Hugh Sinclair in Sydney. No evidence of her arrival in New Zealand has been found.

## **Nelson Families**

By

Liz Newport

I have several ancestors who arrived in Nelson, New Zealand before 1845, all on my father's side.

My 3 greats grandfather, Samuel NEWPORT, his wife Ann WILSDEN, their 7 children, and two of his brothers, Joseph and Stephen, and their wives and children (19 people in total), arrived in Nelson on the ship "Sir Charles Forbes" on 22 August 1842. Samuel's son, Samuel Job, born later in New Zealand, was my 2 greats grandfather.

Samuel Job Newport married Mary Ann WOOLLEY, who was also born in New Zealand. Her parents William Woolley and Caroline CHIVERS and their 3 eldest children arrived in Nelson on the ship "Thomas Harrison" on 25 October 1842.

Samuel Job and Mary Ann Newport's son Edward Lionel Newport was my great grandfather. Edward married Sarah FAWCETT, whose father was Reuben KINZETT. Reuben was born in New Zealand, and his parents George Kinzett and Ann BOLTON (my 3 greats grandparents) and their 5 eldest children arrived in Nelson on the ship "Thomas Harrison" on 25 October 1842, the same ship as the Woolleys.

My great grandmother Sarah Fawcett's mother was Elizabeth FAWCETT. Elizabeth's parents, Thomas Fawcett and Mary POSTHILL (my 3 greats grandparents) came to Nelson a little later, having initially arrived in Lyttelton on the ship "Charlotte Jane" on 16 December 1850. This was the first ship to arrive of the original four ships sailing to Lyttelton in 1850. Their names are on a plaque in the Christchurch square.

Edward Lionel and Sarah Newport's son, Murray Gordon Cleveland Newport, my grandfather, married Sylvia Ella Frederica (Erica) QUINNEY. Her brother Ray Quinney, started Quinney's Bush, a camping ground in Motupiko, Tasman, which is currently run by Ray's son Mark Quinney and family. Mark Quinney is a first cousin of both my father and my mother, as Ray Quinney married my mother's maternal aunt, Marjorie ACKERLEY. Erica's grandfather William Quinney arrived in Nelson a little later also, on the ship "Emma Colvin" on 23 June 1856.

William Quinney married Sarah BREWERTON (my 2 greats grandmother) in New Zealand. Sarah arrived in Nelson on the ship "Phoebe" on 29 March 1843 with her parents John Brewerton and Harriet Brewerton and 3 siblings. Ernest Rutherford's father, James, aged 5, was also on this ship, along with his parents and 3 siblings. Ernest Rutherford's first cousin, Jane Dron (nee RUTHERFORD), married one of Edward Lionel Newport's older brothers, Francis Ernest Newport.

Erica Quinney's father, John George QUINNEY, married Agnes Maria Mears in New Zealand. Agnes' father, Jonathan Mears (my 2 greats grandfather), arrived in Nelson on the ship "London" on 10 April 1842, with his parents John MEARS and Susannah LAKIN and 5 siblings.

Many of the descendants of my ancestors' fellow shipmates on these early voyages from England to Nelson married into my various Nelson family branches, such that I am probably closely connected to many of the early Nelson settler families.

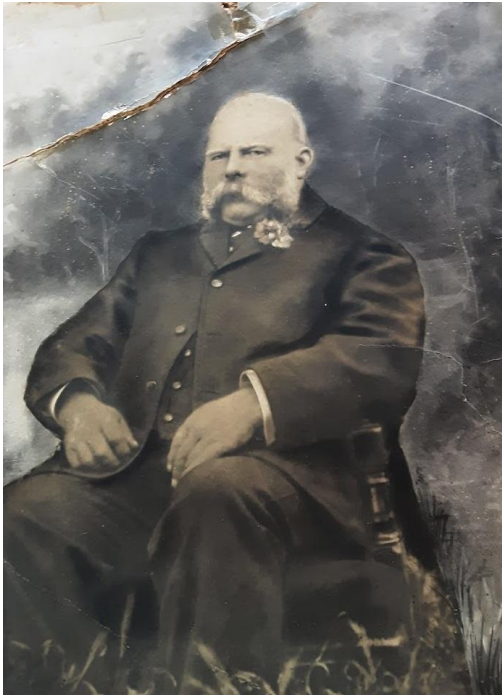
This information is all on [wikitree.com](https://www.wikitree.com), where I am an active member.



## Thomas Kennedy and Sophia Streeter

By

Max Kennedy



*Thomas Kennedy (1819-1881)*

Thomas Kennedy and Sophia Streeter arrived in New Zealand prior to the Treaty of Waitangi being signed on 06 Feb 1840, but they arrived on different ships and at different times. Thomas Kennedy was born in Ferbane, Ireland c1819 and Sophia Streeter was born in 1822 in East Farleigh, Kent, England. Thomas Kennedy went to Massachusetts, USA with his family and then crewed an unknown whaling ship arriving in Akaroa, New Zealand between 1836-1839.

Sophia was brought up in the Cox Heath workhouse in Kent. When she was 18, she married James Farrance and immediately after the wedding they left for New Zealand on the ship Aurora arriving in Wellington on 22 Jan 1840. The Aurora was the first settler ship to arrive in Wellington. Sophia and James split soon after arrival and then Sophia with her first child made her way to Akaroa in 1842. Thomas and Sophia met soon after Sophia arrived in Akaroa and their first child was born in 1843. They were married in 1847 in Akaroa and went on to have 11 children. Thomas worked at shore whaling stations around Banks Peninsula (eg Peraki, Long Bay, Oashore) and got farm work in the off season. At one time when Thomas was away whaling, Sophia lived in a cave at Price's Point and caught seals.

After the whaling trade dried up, Thomas bought a property in what is now Kennedys Bush on the Port Hills of Christchurch. He ran a timber supply operation and a quarry. The quarry supplied stones for the plinth of Christchurch Cathedral in Cathedral Square. He also owned Waterford farm in Halswell on Kennedys Bush Rd, running about 20 cows. Thomas died aged 62 in 1881. After Thomas's death, Sophia went to Taranaki to live with her daughter's family and died in Kaponga on Christmas day 1906. Thomas has Kennedys Bush named after him in the Port Hills and Sophia has the street, Sophia Gardens, in Christchurch named after her.

Further information can be found at "Thomas Kennedy and Sophia Streeter" by Margaret Cullen, NZ Genealogist, Vol 32, No 270, p246-250, Jul/Aug 2001 or

<https://digitalnz.org/stories/6690b5c2269c54002b35a0e9>.



*Sophia Streeter (1822-1906)*

## Paul and Tabitha INCH

By Jacqui Bridges

Paul and Tabitha Inch arrived in New Zealand with their three children on 30 March 1841. Born 4 December 1803, Paul was the fourth of 12 children born to Richard and Philippa (nee RUNNALLS) Inch over the space of 24 years in and around Bodmin, Cornwall. Paul Inch was a cordwainer or shoemaker.

Tabitha was born to Henry and Grace (nee ALLEN) EDWARDS, the youngest of their five children. Her year of birth has been the subject of much speculation, but it is certain that she was baptised on 25 February 1797.

Paul and Tabitha were married in St Tudy, Cornwall on 15 February 1831, at the assumed ages of 27 and 34 respectively. Over the space of ten years they had four children, one of whom (their third child, Wymond) died in infancy.

In August 1838, Paul was sentenced to spend a calendar month in Bodmin County Gaol for the offence of "running away & leaving his children chargeable to [the Parish of] St Breward". He was released on 26 September; it was remarked that his behaviour had been "orderly".



*Tabitha Inch*

It seems likely that emigration was an inviting prospect for Paul and his family. On 19 November 1840, the Plymouth Company settler ship 'William Bryan' departed Plymouth, Devon. On board were Paul (age given as 31) and Tabitha (age given as 33) and their three surviving children, Philippa Tabitha (11, my 3GGM), Louisa Levina (9) and Thomas (3).

This pioneer vessel left Plymouth Sound, England on 19 November 1840 and arrived in New Plymouth on March 30th 1841. On 2 March 1842, Paul Inch wrote to his friend back in St Tudy, Cornwall. His letter was published in "1843 - Letters from Settlers and Labouring Emigrants".

In 1860 war broke out in Taranaki, and both Paul and son Thomas joined the Taranaki Militia. On 22 February martial law was declared in the Taranaki District and the Militia and the Taranaki Rifle Volunteers were called out for active service. On 28 March, Paul was injured in the breast at the Battle of Waireka, the first time British Volunteer corps had engaged an enemy on the battlefield.

In November 1866 Paul pleaded guilty to drunkenness and was fined 5 shillings and costs (or 48 hours imprisonment with hard labour if found in default). In January 1869 Paul and a Mr Carrick were reported missing after going into the ranges prospecting for gold. They reappeared soon after, having cut a new track back out after dispatching a wild bull.

All in all, Paul was a bit of a character. It seems he and his wife parted ways some years before his death. Paul died of a stroke on 9 April 1877 at his son Thomas's home in Leach Street, a few days after being found lying out in the weather all night. He was buried on 10 April at Te Henui Cemetery.

Tabitha lived on for many years in St Aubyn Street. She died on 8 October 1889 in New Plymouth and was buried two days later at Te Henui Cemetery. Her headstone has a number of errors on it, including an incorrect date of death and giving her age as 102, but we know that she was at least 92.

## Higgie and Oliver Families

By

Barbara Marriott

Thomas and Mary HIGGIE, my 3X great-grandparents, travelled to New Zealand on the Olympus, leaving Gravesend on 11 December 1840, and arriving in Port Nicholson on 23 April 1841. In true Wellington style, there was such a strong wind blowing when the ship arrived that it was three days before the settlers could go ashore. Thomas was from Cupar, Fife and Mary from Forgan, Fife, however, they were living in Dundee before emigrating to New Zealand. Their first child was born during the voyage. Their second child, Janet (known as Jessie; my 2X great-grandmother) was born in Wellington in 1842. Two more children were born before the family moved to Whanganui in about 1848. Thomas was a carpenter and shipwright by trade and had an entrepreneurial streak. By the mid-to-late 1850s he had purchased 3,600 acres on No.2 Line, Whanganui.

James and Ruth OLIVER, my 3X great-grandparents, travelled on the Amelia Thompson, leaving Plymouth on 25 March 1841. This was the second voyage of The Plymouth Company heading for the new settlement of New Plymouth in New Zealand. The Olivers had six children – John (11), William (9), Samuel (8, my 2X great-grandfather), James (5), Matilda (4) and Francis (11 months). Young James died during the voyage and was buried at sea. On arrival in New Zealand there was much delay in getting ashore at New Plymouth because there was no natural landing place near the settlement. The settlers finally disembarked from 3 September 1841 over a period of days. The ship anchored some miles out and the settlers had to land through the surf in small boats onto the beach. James became a farmer and had a town property in Powderham Street, New Plymouth.

### Postscript

In October 1861, Samuel Oliver began working for Thomas Higgie. On 16 July 1862, Samuel married Janet Higgie at Blink Bonnie, the house of Thomas Higgie Esq, on No.2 Line, Whanganui.

# 150 Years Ago in Wellington

By

Martin Garcia

Selected snippets from *The Evening Post* in January and February 1875 show some of the challenges and opportunities for early Wellingtonians.



*Karori Reservoir and surrounding grounds, Karori, Wellington. Rowe, Reginald Keith. Ref: 1/1-003717-G. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/23162527*

## *Summer was here and water in short supply*

“In consequence of the supply of water in the reservoir running short, owing to the drought, the City Engineer and a body of workmen proceeded yesterday to lay a second main "through the tunnel from the Kaiwarra stream, which had been dammed back to the distributing basin, which was replenished to the extent of seven feet during last night.” The low water level facilitated a thorough cleansing of the basin and, fortunately, “no corpses were found at the bottom.”

## *Swimmers in the harbour were wary*

“It is advisable to caution all who are accustomed to indulge in bathing or boating in the harbour that just now it swarms with sharks of very large size. Several have been hooked by fishermen during the last few days, but had to be let go, being too large to do

anything with in a boat. One hooked and released near the inner buoy yesterday was over eight feet long.”

## *Workers were in demand*

People were sought for various occupations, including bakers, good joiners, thorough housemaids, good cooks, strong active lads, wheelwrights, general servants and “20 young ladies to learn tailoring and machining” by the Wellington Clothing Factory, Lambton Quay.

## *Tragedy highlighted the dangers of emigration*

News reached Wellington in January of the *Cospatrick* disaster. The wooden three-masted full-rigged sailing ship *Cospatrick*, sailing from London to Auckland, caught fire and sank off the Cape of Good Hope on the night of 17 November 1874. Only three of the 472 persons on board survived. “The fearful loss of life, and the circumstances attending and surrounding it, are fortunately unparalleled in the history of emigration to this colony. ... The disaster is in itself a dreadful one, and its



*The New Zealand Clothing Factory, Lambton Quay, Wellington, 1901. Ref: 1/2-110851-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/23219662*





*The sailing ship Cospatrick at Port Chalmers. Ref: 1/2-012556-a-G.  
Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/22877094*

effects will certainly prove injurious to the colony, by tending to deter people from making a voyage on which such dangers may be encountered. The excitement caused in the city ... was intense.” [Image 3]

*The introduction of pōhutukawa was encouraged*  
At the summer show of the Horticultural Society, "Mr. Seed exhibited a native flowering shrub, the pohutukau (sic), from Auckland, with brilliant red flowers; this shrub well deserves introduction in our local gardens. ... in Auckland ... the brilliant red flowers are the customary decorations of shops and public houses at Christmas." More on the introduction of pōhutukawa to the Wellington region may be found in an article by Donal Duthie, *Wellington's pohutukawas*, in *New Zealand Gardener*, April 1993, at

[https://ref.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz/site/assets/files/3096/duthie\\_d\\_1993\\_wellingtonspohutukawas.pdf](https://ref.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz/site/assets/files/3096/duthie_d_1993_wellingtonspohutukawas.pdf)

### *Road tolls were unpopular*

“Andrew Young appeared [in court] to answer an information charging him with causing his coach to pass through the Kaiwarra tollgate without paying the lawful tolls.” One of the main reasons for residents breaking away and creating, in 1890, the new Onslow Borough “was the resentment many residents felt towards a toll-gate which had been established by the Hutt County Council on the Hutt Road at Kaiwharawhara. This imposed a toll of 1 shilling on all vehicular traffic entering or leaving Wellington (the equivalent of a charge of about \$5 today) with saddled horses being charged half that rate.” See <http://www.wcl.govt.nz/heritage/onslowboroughcouncil.html>

Primary source: *The Evening Post*, Volume X, Issues 267-314, 1 January to 28 February 1875  
<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/evening-post/1875> Text quoted includes spelling, punctuation and grammar as it appeared at the time.

## Maps of London

Should you wish to see what London was like if your relatives were there, the following website <https://www.grubstreetproject.net/london/maps/> shows maps from the 1500s onwards.

## Book Inscription: Can you help?

Book inscriptions are always fascinating. Sallie Hill has found an intriguing one. "I have been clearing out old books which my late husband acquired from various places. In the process I came across one with an inscription on the facing page".

The book is "Course of Time. A Poem in Ten Books" by Robert Pollock, A.M. 14<sup>th</sup> ed. Pub William Blackwood & Sons Edinburgh, MDCCCXXXVII ?1837? Inscription in Front: "To Mary Sidey from her Affectionate Uncle James Sidey, London 26 June 1859" And in different writing "Bertha May Sidey, Wellington, New Zealand 1897"

"Having done a bit of an ancestry search it appears that Bertha May may have lived her whole life, 1880-1956, in Wellington. Her married name was REDWARD I think". Anyone with any information, pls contact [wellington@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:wellington@genealogy.org.nz).

### POSTAL ADDRESS

9 Cashmere Ave  
Khandallah 6035

### EVENING MEETINGS

Third Wednesday of the month  
February through November  
7:00 for 7:30 pm start  
Collective Community Hub  
33 Johnsonville Road

### COMMITTEE CONTACT

[wellington@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:wellington@genealogy.org.nz)

### BRANCH WEBSITE

[wellingtongenealogy.org](http://wellingtongenealogy.org)

### FACEBOOK PAGE

[Facebook.com/NZSGWellington](https://www.facebook.com/NZSGWellington)

## DIRECTORY Committee



|                                |                          |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Convenor                       | Geraldine Needham-Girven | 021 180 5166 |
| Secretary/Membership Secretary | Robin Mossman            | 021 1587848  |
| Minute Secretary               | Kaye Batchelor           | 027 2276734  |
| Speakers' Program              | Ann Ball                 | 027 6410646  |
| Member                         | Prue Theobald            | 021 2345621  |
| Treasurer                      | Liz Newport              | 021 815 846  |
| Newsletter Editor              | Max Kennedy              | 021 46 5483  |

| KILBIRNIE<br>Thu, 13 Feb, 10:00 AM                                | PORIRUA<br>Tuesday 11 Feb, 7:30 pm               | HUTT VALLEY<br>Thursday 20 Feb, 7:30 pm              | KAPITI<br>Tuesday 25 Feb, 7:30 pm                        |
|---|--|--|--|
| <i>Luke Howison on his Ancestor Search Helper and other tools</i> | <i>Chris Blair<br/>Wairau Bar</i>                | <i>Clare Warren<br/>From Poland to Jacksons Bay</i>  | <i>Bill Jorgensen<br/>Italian Family Research</i>        |
| Matairangi Room, Ākau Tangi Sports Centre, 72 Kemp St, Wellington | Helen Smith Room<br>Pataka Art + Museum, Porirua | Senior Citizens' Rooms<br>45 Knights Road Lower Hutt | Coast Community Church,<br>57 Hinemoa St,<br>Paraparaumu |