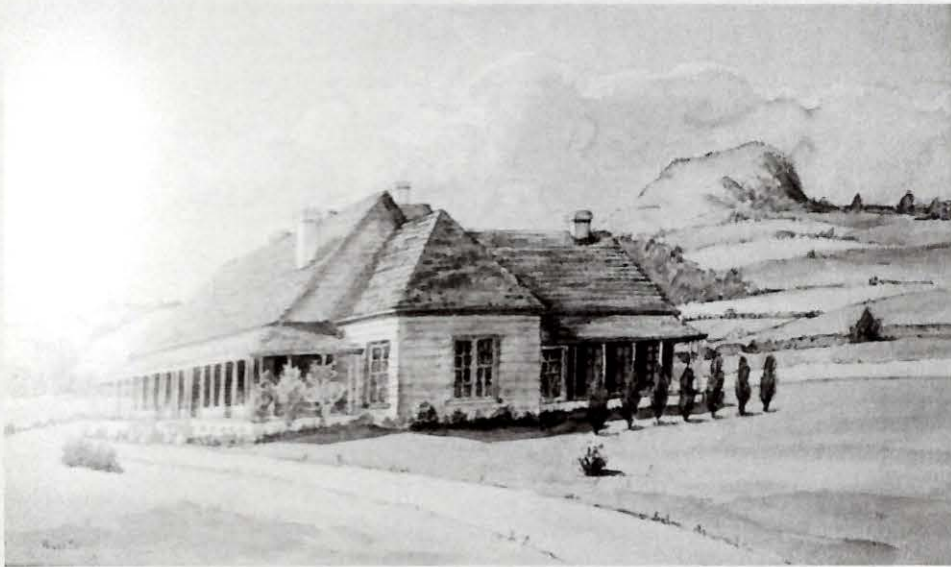




# BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY



Government House 1841-1848

NUMBER 80 – REPORT FOR YEAR  
2008

**Front cover painting "Government House  
1841-1848"**

Presented by Auckland Branch on the occasion of the opening of  
"Wakefield House" 8th April 1976.

Painted by Miss M.M. (Peggy) Spicer, Auckland Branch Member  
from 1952.

**New Zealand Founders Office**

**We have moved and are now located in the Wellington  
Bridge Club Building, 17 Tinakori Road on the first floor. Our  
PO Box is changed and is now 17-126 Karori, Wellington.  
Our telephone number remains unchanged at 04 472 4282**

# NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC

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NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC  
NATIONAL COUNCIL  
(AS FROM JUNE 2008)

**National President**

Mrs Beryl Gentleman

**National Vice President**

Vacant

**National Immediate Past President**

Mrs Neni Beres

**National Councillors**

Mr R. & Mrs C. Hurst (National Executive)

Mr G. and Mrs B. Robertson (National Executive)

Mr W N Sheat (Past President)

Mr J P Webster (Auckland)

Mrs L Hyams (Waikato)

Mr S Garland (Bay of Plenty)

Mr M Harper (Taranaki)

Mrs N Roberts (Hawkes Bay)

Mrs J Dickens (Wairarapa)

Mr M Norris (Wanganui)

Mrs B Seymour (Wellington)

Mr J McSweeney (Canterbury)

**Branch Secretaries**

**Auckland**

Mrs C Rhodes  
193 Princes Street E  
Otahuhu, Auckland  
Tel: 09 276 5532

**Waikato**

Mrs C Smith  
6 Burleigh Place  
Bramley, Hamilton  
Tel: 07 824 3775

**Bay of Plenty**

Mrs A Henderson  
10 Park Rd  
Rotorua  
Tel 07 348 1471

**Taranaki**

Mr O Greensill  
21 Rogan Street  
New Plymouth  
Tel: 06 758 5138

**Hawkes Bay**

Mr S Garland  
PO Box 8556  
Havelock North  
Tel 06 835 4549

**Wairarapa**

Mrs A. Woodley  
43 Iorns Street  
Masterton  
Tel 06 377 1524

Wanganui	Wellington	Canterbury
Mrs S. Norris	Mrs J Robinson	Mrs S. Ward
10 Hillside Terrace	PO Box 17 126	6/324 Stanmore Rd
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**National Secretary/Treasurer:** Mrs Janet Robinson

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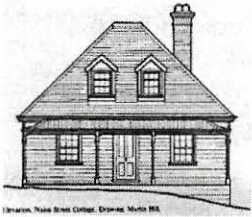
**THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY  
PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Whilst having been a member of the New Zealand Founders Society for several years, I find myself humbled by the extent of knowledge and skills of those people who I am now working with in my role as President. There is such a depth of knowledge by so many people and it plays such a big role in keeping our heritage alive.

We are all aware of the declining numbers of our Society and no doubt some are questioning our relevance and the role that we play but I think it is even more important now that we remember,

discover, and record the stories of our ancestors and the trials and tribulations that affected them in settling into this wonderful country.

In 2014 the Founders Society will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary and it may be appropriate to mark this occasion on a grand scale. Already we have had a wonderful idea put forward from one of the Branches which the committee is following up on and which can be discussed at the AGM next month. Any further suggestions are most welcome.



We were dismayed to learn that the Young Founders was not mentioned in any way at the recent 150th commemoration of the Colonial Cottage. We have since written to the Wellington City Council asking them to redress this situation so that history is not changed by omission. We understand that the book *Making*

*Good on Shaky Ground* is now out of print and we will support the Colonial Cottage staff in their effort to see if another print run can be produced.

I was delighted to be invited to Wanganui Branch to speak at their luncheon in August 2007 and was able to share with them some letters written by my paternal grandmother back in 1937 which recorded family history of Litteton 100 years ago. I was sorry not to be in a position to accept an offer to visit the Bay of Plenty Branch too but hope to redress that situation maybe later this year when my work commitments have lessened.

Due to a high demand for office space in the Wellington CBD we were faced with a huge rent increase for the very mediocre space that we occupied. Luckily, we were presented with an opportunity to move to the Thorndon Bridge Club Building in Tinakori Road – a move that is proving to be most suitable and worthwhile. A splendid effort by members of the Executive and ably led by our secretary Janet Robinson meant the shift went smoothly. Thank you everyone.

With the computer age moving along at great speed we are acknowledging just what an important role the internet plays in all our lives. We have been blessed with having the talents of Glen Robertson on our Executive and he is well-advanced with plans to getting the New Zealand Founders' website up and running. We are confident that this will make a huge difference to raising awareness of the Society and could well boost our membership.

As President I was invited to the launch of the fourth book in a series regarding the settlement of Wellington by Maori in the 19th century. This occasion was held at the Wellington Public Library. Sandra Clarke was the co-author of this work.



Finally we remember those of us who have passed away or who have resigned because of age or ill-health. It is with regret that we note in particular the passing of the following members. Jack Glengarry died on 7th October 2007. He was Chairman and National Councillor for the Wanganui Branch from 2000 to 2004 when he stood down because of poor health. Jack also edited the Bulletin and agreed to be the Society's Publicity Spokesman. Vi Jolly was a committee member of the Waikato Branch of the NZ Founders Society for 16 years; Vi was Chairman at the time of her unexpected death on 14th September 2006. Priscilla Mitchell was born 7th December 1907, died Totnes, South Devon, England, 29th July 2007, aged 99. She was the great-great-niece of Edward Gibbon Wakefield and the last surviving descendant of his brother Daniel, New Zealand's first Attorney-General.

I wish to thank all the members of the Executive for their contribution to the running of the Society. Each committee member has a particular strength which has made this inaugural year for me as President to be as smooth as possible. We have been fortunate to have Joan Dickens, Wairarapa Branch and Michael Norris, Wanganui Branch attend our meetings. Also, I must thank Janet

Robinson, our National Secretary, for the sterling work she has done.

**Beryl Gentleman**  
**National President**  
**June 2008**



**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS**  
Membership as at 31st March 2008 stood at:-

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Honorary	278	291	277	274
Life	42	39	37	34
Senior	583	549	525	507
Junior	3	3	5	5
Associate	59	55	51	50
Hon for service	20	18	18	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>885</b>

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Auckland	50	54	45	41
Bay of Plenty	139	130	117	117
Canterbury	53	51	52	54
Hawkes Bay	165	165	156	154
Taranaki	65	61	60	61
Waikato	85	73	73	43
Wairarapa	120	122	118	114
Wanganui	120	122	117	126
Wellington	195	177	175	175
<b>Total</b>	<b>1127</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>885</b>





**Profile of our President, Beryl Gentleman**

*Beryl became a member of the New Zealand Founders Society in 1991. Her ancestors were Janet ALLISON and John SOWDEN. Janet ALLISON travelled on the 'Isabella Hercus', arriving Lyttelton on 1st March 1851. Unfortunately research has not yet revealed which ship John SOWDEN came on.*

*Beryl was an active committee member on the Wellington Branch Committee from its inaugural meeting on 24th January 1992 until 2000 when her work commitments increased.*

I have been involved in the NZ Founders Society since 1994 and have spent a number of years on the committee. My involvement has been minimal over recent years due to my work commitments.

I am currently running a Serviced Office business in Wellington's CBD with my daughter Carol. Also, I am a Director of a premium funding business with my husband Ian which we started back in 1985.

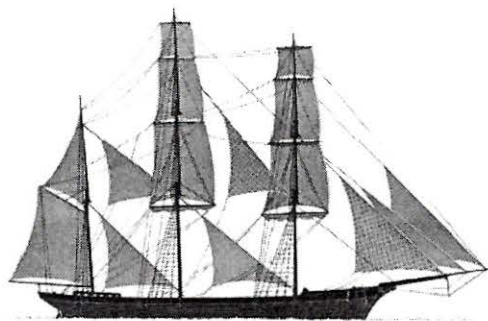


I am a keen but not terribly proficient golfer and have travelled to Australia many times with my golfing buddies particularly whilst my husband was setting up our business in the United Kingdom.

I am so lucky to have my daughter living very near me here in Wellington and being involved closely with my two grandsons who are both keen on their sports. They both attend St Marks School in the city.

My son Paul who has been living in Australia for some years now and is currently involved in building in Lakes Entrance, Victoria, which is about a four hour drive east of Melbourne. I love going over to visit him and his wife on a regular basis.

We recently bought a property in Raumati which has an extensive garden which I am anticipating spending more time in when my commercial obligations have been satisfied.



## FOUNDERS SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS

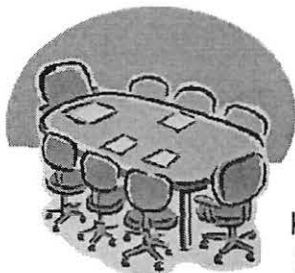
Name	Port	Ship	Date	Ancestor
<i>Bay of Plenty</i>				
Mrs D. Wiles	Dunedin	Chile	1860	Benjamin DAVIS
	Dunedin	Ben Lomond	1863	Dinah CLARKE
Mr C.V. Deed	Auckland	Viscount Canning	1865	John J. & Frances E. DEED
	Auckland	Spray of the Ocean	1859	Henry WILLIAMS
	Auckland	?	1848	Mary WALTERS
Mrs E.K. Law	Auckland	St George	1842	Isaac & Eve WADE
Mr J.M. Law				Associate
<i>Canterbury</i>				
Mrs J.C. Close	Lyttelton	Royal Stuart	1855	Capt. Thomas & Sarah HARDING
Mrs M. McMurtry	Howick	Philip Laing	1848	James & Isabella PATRICK
Mrs B. Evans	Lyttelton	Mermaid	1864	William & Mairgrie BUCHAN
Mr B.A. McMillan	Timaru	Lancashire Witch	1863	George & Janet BRASELL
Miss G.C. Searle	Wellington	Alma	1857	George WHALE
	Wellington	Alma	1857	Micaiah & Louisa READ
	New Plym'th	Blenheim	1842	Richard & Mary LANGMAN
Mrs J. Marinus				Associate
Mrs A Tapper				Associate
<i>Hawkes Bay</i>				
Mr AH Duncan	Lyttelton	Zealandia	1859	Charles & Annie CHIVERS
Mrs KA Bishop	Wellington	London	1842	Samuel & Hannah DOCKRAY
	Timaru	Strathallan	1859	John Albert & Emma YOUNG
Ms H. Martin	Petone	Bolton	1840	Isaac & Elizabeth LOVELOCK
Mr H.J. Campbell	Dunedin	Melbourne	1861	David & Margaret WEMYSS
Mrs K. Campbell	Dunedin	Sarah M	1862	Margaret McHARG
Mrs J.E. Allen-Cardo	Howick	Sir Robert Sale	1847	Richard EUSTACE
	Howick	Minerva	1847	Michael MULLANY
Mr T.M. Cardo				Associate
Mr B.D. Liley	Napier	Rangoon	1864	George & Mrs BEE
Mrs J.M. Duncan	Dunedin	?	1862	Edwin TOWNSHEND
Mrs P. Dick				Associate
Mrs J.A. Anderson	Auckland	Clifton	1848	John & Ann CORRIGAN

	Wellington	Levant	1846	Sgt. Peter GANLEY
Mrs N. McAulay	Petone	Duke of Roxburgh	1840	Hart & Jane UDY
<i>Taranaki</i>				
Mr D.G. Clare	New Plym'th	Timandra	1842	Charles & Hannah CLARE
	New Plym'th	Timandra	1842	Robert & Elizabeth GOLLOP
<i>Waikato</i>				
Mr D.O. Bedggood	Paihia	Currency Lass	1836	John BEDGGOOD
	Paihia	Minerva	1828	Charles & Hannah BAKER
<i>Wairarapa</i>				
Mrs D. van Gerven	Wellington	Sir Robert Peel	1847	George William & Ann GRAY
	Petone	Bolton	1840	George & Mary SPACKMAN
	Wellington	Alma	1857	Thomas & Phoebe WAGG
Mr A.J. McKenzie	Wellington	Birman	1842	Samuel MAXTON
	Wellington	Birman	1842	William & Mary DUNN
Mrs G.J. Robinson	Lyttelton	David G. Fleming	1863	Michael RYAN
Mr G.L. Eaton	Auckland	Sir George Seymour	1847	Colonel John GRAY
	Manukau	Brilliant	1841	Charles LAWLER
	Auckland	George Henderson	1860	Levi Woodworth EATON
Mr H.W. Peters	Auckland	Elphinstone	1845	Michael & Hannah HANLEN
Mrs J.B. Stokoe	Petone	Bengal Merchant	1840	Thomas & Mary Ann REID
<i>Wanganui</i>				
Mr B.K. Dean	Nelson	Clifford	1842	Thomas & Mary VERRY
Mr H.M. Ramage	Port Chalmers	Storm Cloud	1860	Thomas & Margaret RAMAGE
Mr J.P. Wooding	Lyttelton	Joseph Fletcher	1856	Thomas Percival WOODING
	Lyttelton	Egmont	1856	Mr & Mrs H. GIBBS
	Lyttelton	Maori	1858	Thomas & Caroline HARDCASTLE
Mrs B.A. Collier	Dunedin	Bernicia	1848	John & Helen ANDERSON
Mrs Z.M. Dear	Auckland	Annie Wilson	1863	Edward Dalby COLLISION
	Napier	?	1864	Sarah COLLISION
Mr T.A. Judson	Lyttelton	Maori	1858	Mark & Ann JUDSON
Mrs H.A. Julian	Nelson	Thomas Harrison	1842	James & Mary Ann MARSHALL
<i>Wellington</i>				
Mr A.C. Gyles	Nelson	Fifeshire	1842	Thomas & Rebecca BERRY
	Nelson	Phoebe	1843	Francis & Sarah GROOBY
	Nelson	Phoebe	1843	Thomas & Ann GOODMAN

Mrs J.R. Jones	Wellington	London	1842	John & Rebecca REMINGTON
	Lyttelton	Huntress	1863	Thomas Raymond JONES
Mrs J. Kidd	Wellington	Arab	1841	Thomas & Delia RICHARDSON
	Wellington	Blenheim	1840	Duncan & Marjorie FRASER
Mr CDA Ellen	Lyttelton	Matoaka	1862	William & Susan ELLEN(Overseas)
Mr JTA Ellen	Lyttelton	Matoaka	1862	William & Susan ELLEN(Overseas)
Mr CJW Ellen	Lyttelton	Matoaka	1862	William & Susan ELLEN(Overseas)
Mr B.L. Adams	Auckland	Commodore Perry	1860	Samuel & Eliza KING
Mr J. Gilberthorpe	Lyttelton	Mary Ann	1859	Charles & Ann GILBERTHORPE
	Lyttelton	Tiptree	1864	John & Juliana E. WILLETTS



## AROUND THE BRANCHES



### *Auckland Branch*

This year has been particularly interesting as we branched out into 'travel days' - these being held instead of our normal monthly meetings at Kinder House, Parnell. On one occasion we visited the major international exhibition "Egypt" at the Auckland Museum and again taking in the changes to other galleries there. Members were able to use one of the two cafes in the museum for lunch.

By train we visited, at different times & dates, Papakura and Pukekohe. In both places we had conducted tours to their museums - in fact at Pukekohe they opened just for us. At these places we also indulged in looking at the shopping centres, visiting

antique shops and bookshops in one case and a 'cheese only' establishment at another. Members had their lunch at various places in each town and on both trips non-member friends came along with everyone being happy to pay their own way, and though members



gave to the donation boxes, we also gave a donation to each museum from our funds.

The End-of-Year-Lunch was held at the Langham Hotel, Auckland, and to assist members we were able to subsidise some of the cost of this happy occasion.

2008 started with our normal February 'picnic' luncheon at Kinder House being held indoors due to the heat and sun of the day in the abnormally hot weather conditions.

In March we had our Pukekohe trip followed in April by a guided tour of historic sites in Takapuna, North Shore City. Despite the very wet weather it went ahead ending up at the "Lake House" Art Centre - a two-storied house built in 1880, removed from Takapuna Beach and placed on a city reserve to serve as an art centre - which includes working art studios inside (plus in outbuildings as old as the house) and exhibitions. The café here was used for our lunch break.

May (the Branch AGM) and June (a report on the National Council and AGM) meetings will be held at Kinder House.

However, in the future we intend to continue our 'travel days' and have plans to visit the Tip Top ice-cream factory at Mt Wellington, and go on one of the regular behind-the-scenes tour of the Auckland Public Library. A trip to the newly re-modelled observatory, with full screen 3D effects is being considered, before we once again finish the year. We will also explore some options presented during the Auckland Heritage Festival in September and

the Kauri  
We would like to  
that may not  
explore their  
little historical



will consider a trip north to Museum at Matakoho.

encourage other Branches have monthly meetings to own countryside adding a touch to each along the way

as it has been enjoyed by our hardy and loyal band of members who attend the activities.

John Webster,  
Chairman, Auckland Branch

### ***Waikato Branch***

The Waikato Branch continued without a Chairman following the sudden death of Vi Jolly in September 2006. Past-Chairman, Peter Hyams, chaired the committee meetings.

Although there was a Secretary/Treasurer and committee of seven elected at the 2007 Annual General Meeting, there was no Chairman forthcoming until June 2007.

Due to the ill-health of the Secretary/Treasurer, that position was divided between committee member Carolyn Smith and the Chairman Lynley Hyams. With complete re-organisation of the membership records and financial system, this has worked particularly well and the Waikato Branch is in a good position to move forward. The committee has worked well together and members remark on the very good value they receive from our luncheon meetings held at the Te Rapa Racecourse.

We have been fortunate in attracting interesting and diverse speakers to our meetings as well as new members and visitors through word of mouth and publicity. Our committee publicity person, Kath Townsend, has managed to get our meetings reported in several different Waikato publications.

At the June meeting Lynley Hyams spoke on Princess Te Puea and the Kingitanga Movement. Members were interested to see the Maori cloak.

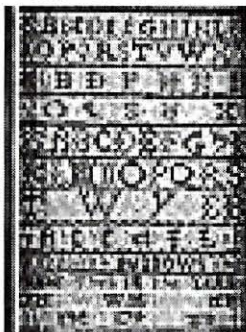
Vivien Caughley, a textile conservator and consultant for the Auckland War Memorial Museum and Historic Places Trust was our August speaker. She brought several historically interesting samplers and handmade articles which she spoke about as well as examining articles brought by members to the meeting.

We were fortunate to have James Carter from Auckland at our October meeting. He gave a power point presentation on the life of his ancestor, Charles Baker, an Anglican Missionary, who arrived in New Zealand in 1826.

Our well-attended Christmas luncheon, held at the end of November, was followed by entertainment from Miriam Farrell who accompanied herself on the auto-harp.

The February speaker was Max Hill who told us about his research into migrations across the world. There was special emphasis on the Pacific and New Zealand. Having studied mapping for close to thirty years he has made many interesting discoveries and connections.

At the well-attended 2008 Annual General Meeting all members on the past committee were re-elected with two additional members. This meeting we talked about the Study Grant with the Chairman giving a talk on the history of the grant and showing members two "Vauxhall Gardens" Dream" (Eastwood were very the concept of a preserving the our country. Although we of membership over



publications - the and "A Man's Tall Hill Arboretum). All enthusiastic about visible contribution to history and culture of

acknowledge the loss the last three or four



years, we are well on our way to rebuilding with new members coming through.

Lynley Hyams  
President

### *Bay Of Plenty Branch*

The Park Heritage Hotel, Rotorua was our venue for the Annual General Meeting on 25 March. Our guest speaker, Jan Scott, who stood in at the last minute to replace Lorraine Still, spoke about "A Founding Settler's Life in the 1840's". It was a lively meeting with considerable discussion on the proposed increase to members of the capitation levy and whether these were necessary or constitutional. Four remits were accepted to be presented at the June National Council and AGM meetings of the Society to be held in Wellington. The meeting instructed the National Councillor to do what he can at the National AGM and endeavour to follow the wishes of the Branch.

27 May: Our Tauranga meeting was held at the Armitage Hotel. Guest speaker, Colin Pettigrew's lecture "Historical Presentation of Omokoroa" with the assistance of overhead projections covering the history, growth and development of the area, was greeted enthusiastically and appreciated by the members.

The concern at the proposed increase in the capitation levy was evident at this meeting as again members reiterated that National Councillor at the National AGM follow the wishes of the Branch. The proposed increase across the board has raised a lot of controversy within the Branch.


In June I attended the National Council meeting followed by the AGM of the New Zealand Founders Society, held at the Wilton Bowling Club, Wellington. Audrey & Ian Henderson and Moina

Garland attended as observers. I thank the members entrusting me with presenting their wishes but we were completely out-manoeuvred and are now faced with the likelihood of a large increase in costs next year.

I returned from Wellington sadly disillusioned.

Our July meeting was held in Kati Kati Citizen's Club. Guest speaker, Joan Boggis, lived up to the title of her talk which made a wonderful impression "Digging up the Past to put Flesh on the Bones". A talk full of information and an encouragement to members to record and save information about their past. I was disappointed with the quality of the meal provided at this venue. Steps will be taken to rectify this if another meeting is to be held at this venue.

Te Puke hosted our September meeting where Shirley Arabin, assisted by Audrey King with a superb PowerPoint display, spoke of "Fitzgibbon Louch, Man of the Right Stamp". The history of this remarkable gentleman's involvement in the development of New Zealand, Kati Kati and Tauranga held the members' attention evidenced by the many questions asked at the conclusion of her address.

Ohope Chartered Club, Ohope Beach, was the venue for our November meeting, hosted by the Whakatane Branch. Barbara Comiskey and Audrey Henderson had worked hard to create a delightful Christmas theme. Many gifts, a delicious hot roast lunch  with a background of magnificent rolling surf was a delightful occasion. The guest speaker, Dr David Kear, CMG, PhD, FRSNZ, with his subject, "The Kears of the Forest of Dean" was indeed the icing on the cake for a memorable meeting, thoroughly enjoyed by those members present. Thank you Whakatane.

We have been saddened with the bereavement of several of our members and resignations due to ill-health, travel difficulties and re-locations.

I am extremely disappointed with the attitude of the National Executive to our concerns and feel recent decisions will have a negative effect on this Branch.

We all owe our grateful thanks to our hardworking, unpaid, secretary, Audrey Henderson, for her expertise and dedication to this Branch.

Thank you to those members who have worked hard during the year.

Sandy Garland  
Chairman,  
Bay of Plenty Branch

### *Taranaki Branch*

I have much pleasure in presenting this Annual Report.

Our year commenced on Sunday, 1st April 2007 with the gathering of members at the Braemar Restaurant for a Luncheon to be followed by a visit to the Pioneer Memorial Monument at Moturoa for a short service to commemorate the arrival of the first settlers to New Plymouth on 31st March 1841. Unfortunately, inclement weather prevented the visit to the Pioneer Monument. Our guest, Rev. Des Turnbull, conducted a brief service in memory of the pioneer settlers following lunch. Guest Speaker at the Luncheon was PukeAriki CEO Bill McNaught who gave an interesting talk on his work history leading up to his appointment at the Taranaki Library/Museum complex (PukeAriki).

At the AGM in April, all incumbent Committee Members agreed to stand for office for the ensuing year and were re-elected. Judith White resigned from the committee during the year.

Our finances, although showing a small loss for the year, remain sound and we once again thank the TSB Community Trust for their continuing support. In lieu of our usual grant, we applied for and received the sum of \$3,000, which, along with a grant from our own funds of \$500, was given to our member Adrienne Tatham to assist her in the publishing of a book

she has written featuring the first 100 years history of "Nukuhakere", a large sheep and cattle property, formerly owned by the Newton King family,

Adrienne's grandparents.

Meetings were held on a monthly basis from March to November, and we were fortunate to host many varied and interesting speakers. We are always grateful to those who give their time to speak at our meetings. The numbers attending our monthly meetings on occasions has been disappointing.

On 6 July our members were invited to inspect the historic Gentlemen's Club building in central New Plymouth, which has recently been converted into three luxury town houses. The grandeur and integrity of this iconic building has been maintained to comply with the category B listing by the Historic Places Trust. Thanks go to the developers and Orm Greensill for organizing this visit.

Our Secretary/Treasurer, Orm Greensill, represented us at the National AGM held in Wellington on 17 June 2007.

Our Christmas meeting held on 30th November was not as well attended, however, enjoyed by those who did. Our guest for the



evening was pianist Cathy who contributed with a rendition of popular Christmas carols.

My thanks to the committee for their help throughout the year, particularly our Patron, Trevor Bright, who still plays a very active role in the success of the Branch. Thanks also to Secretary/Treasurer Ormond Greensill for his contribution and our Social Convenor Beryl Lawrence for her organization of our social events.

I have been chairman of the Branch for the past four years, and due to health issues, I will not be seeking re-election for the 2008/09 year. I would therefore like to wish the incoming Committee a successful year.

Mel Harper  
Chairman  
1st April 2008

### *Hawkes Bay Branch*

It is with pleasure that I present my Thirteenth Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Hawkes Bay Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society Inc.

Once again we have had many varied and enjoyable activities and were fortunate to have wonderful weather for all our outings. Where possible we have reduced costs by using private transport instead of public transport. As the average attendance has been 70, we feel that this arrangement is appreciated by members.

At the National Council Meeting and AGM of the NZ Founders Society held in June, I represented our Branch and reported on our year's activities. I enjoyed meeting up with the delegates of other Branches. At the meeting the President, Mrs Neni Beres,

tendered her resignation and Mrs Beryl Gentleman, past member of the Executive Council, was elected unopposed to the position. On behalf of our Branch I issued an invitation to her to visit us in the coming year.

April: Our AGM was held in the charming Ormond Chapel on Napier Hill. The Reverend John Williams gave us a talk on the early parish history of this historic church. Later we were welcomed by Mrs Judy Siers for afternoon tea, a talk and tour of her lovely "Louis Hay" home.

May: Clifton Beach, 20 km from Hastings was our destination to visit Clifton Station's woolshed where we were entertained with a "farming show" and talk by Mr Angus Gordon, descendant of the founder, Mrs James Gillespie Gordon.



*Clifton Station*

July: Our annual winter luncheon was held at "Ormlie Lodge", another historic homestead, now open to the public. Our speaker was the noted historian, Mr Patrick Parsons, who spoke to us on the early establishment of nearby Otatara Maori Pa, Taradale.

August: Fifty-three members attended our "members meeting" with interesting contributions. Mrs Sheila Belshaw and Mrs Barbara Smith, presented a reading of "Fire in the Hold" the store of the demise of the "Montmorency" whose wreckage lies off the Napier foreshore. Mr Les Hewett spoke of the paddle

boat steamer service that brought mail, cargo and passengers from San Francisco to Sydney and ports of New Zealand in 1860. October: Following lunch at the Hastings Golf Club, we drove to the Maraekakaho Hall, where Mr Alan Scarfe spoke on the history of the district and its early settlers.

November: Our end of year function was a bus trip to Wallingford Station, Central Hawkes Bay, where we were welcomed and dined by John and Jenny Ormond. This homestead is the largest, single-storeyed homestead in the southern hemisphere, circa 1853. On the way home we enjoyed a stopover at Waipawa for Christmas cake and a glass of wine.

February 2008: "The Mission" was the venue for our annual Founders' Day Luncheon. An excellent meal was served in the 'Chapel' followed by a talk by Mr Dan Millar, co-author of the newly-published book "Napier's Medicine Men" 1860-1950.

I wish to thank my committee and officers for their input and support during the year. Also, to welcome Mrs Jean Tennet and Mr Doug Searle who have joined us on the committee. Thank you all.

Another rewarding and successful year has passed and we look forward to a new and interesting programme for 2008/09.

Nanette Roberts  
Chairman

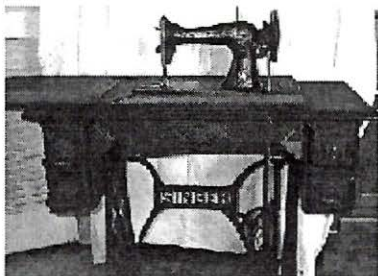
### *Wanganui Branch*

The following is the 2007 Annual Report for Wanganui Branch.

25th February, at our AGM Bruce Attwell spoke about the book he had written, "The Wharves of Wanganui".

25th March: Wendy Pettigrew took us for an interesting tour of the old shops and tearooms in The Avenue.

22nd April: Hugh Ramage spoke on early sewing machines and had models to show.



23rd May: We met at the Library carpark with Jonathon Welch from DOC who showed us around areas of interest at Queens Park mentioning the original site of the Rutland Stockade.

18th June: Susanna and Michael Norris attended the National Conference of New Zealand Founders in Wellington.

1st July: Janette Godfrey from "Lambhill" spoke about the property and the Sutherland family.

1st August: Mrs Beryl Gentleman and Mrs Janet Robinson came to Wanganui. Beryl is the incoming President and gave us an interesting talk. Also the opportunity was taken to show the President and Secretary the Heritage Room at Alexander Library.

26th August: Jean Hanna spoke about the Scottish settlers on the Wanganui River.

30th September: Felicity Campbell spoke on Impressions of Wanganui 1840-1880 mentioning the Tyler-Watt families.

28th October: Doug Ralston from the Restoration of the Tram Project gave an interesting account of their progress to date.

25th November: Our Christmas function was held with Christine Williams and friend entertaining us with songs of the 50's and 60's.

We believe we had an enjoyable year and though it had its sad



moments with the passing of so many members, it is felt we did have a full and interesting programme.

Michael Norris  
Chairman, Wanganui Branch

### *Wairarapa Branch*

I wish to thank members for their attendance at our meetings and outings held during the year and hope that you enjoyed them and each other's friendship. We have 128 members, with four resignations, two deaths and some new members to take their place.

As each year passes we remember those who have died, and extend to their families and friends our sympathy. We also think of those who are suffering ill health or have other problems in their lives, and offer them our support.

Our Annual Meeting was well attended and our own writer of Founders' activities to Peggy Armstrong, informed History of the Teacup and we learnt! Peggy's earliest was dated about 1785, and consisting of cup, saucer were not known until about



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1845.

A trip to the award-winning Richmond Gardens in Carterton was our April outing. The house was built in 1886 for the first Town Clerk of Carterton, Henry Wolters.

May saw a huge attendance hear Ken Scadden, former Director of Wellington City & Sea Museum, give an enthralling illustrated talk on the Early Immigrants and their voyages to New Zealand.

Members were particularly interested in the ships their ancestors arrived in.

At our Midwinter Luncheon at Greytown we had the privilege of hearing Bill Peters tell us of his time teaching at Cross Creek School, where the only mode of transport was by rail. Our Secretary, Ann Woodley and I attended the Annual General Meeting of the NZ Founders Society in Wellington in June, and registered our protest from this Branch at the 50% increase in capitation fees paid to the national body. This means that the annual subscription must rise to cover this cost. We will have more information on this at our Annual Meeting in March.

Lunch at "Beyond the Bridge" at Balance, followed by a visit to the Pahiatua Museum was our July outing. This museum has a vast array of local history and photographs and was most informative.

In August, after a delicious lunch at the Gladstone Inn, members visited the site of the first aeroplane flights in the Wairarapa, where there is a replica of the Fisher Monoplane.

A visit to Lake Ferry for a Fish & Chip lunch was October's outing. There is much history in this area; a large wooden board with the Toll Charges applicable in 1880 is displayed in the restaurant, as well as war memorabilia. A walk along the beach and talks with the fishermen, most of whom were whitebaiting, concluded a most enjoyable day.

Diana Stidolph's Museum of Childhood brought back many memories for us all when we visited in November. She told of her aim to preserve as much as possible of childhood material. There are bays of dolls, teddy bears, dolls' houses, etc. a wonderful collection. Our hostess then invited us to view her fascinating acre of garden which has a large oak tree planted by her grandfather in 1906, as well as a



stand of native trees to attract the birds. There were also "weta motels" attached to trees for them to shelter in!

Our year concluded with a very successful Christmas Luncheon at the Masterton Club, where one of our members, Joan Barr, was presented with flowers to mark her 90th birthday.

I would like to thank my committee, especially our Secretary Anne and our Treasurer Jean, for their support during the year, especially while I was unwell.

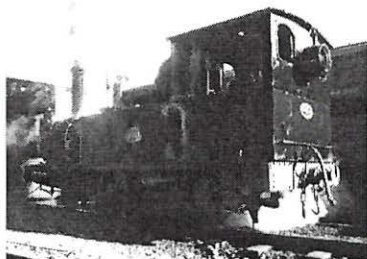
God Bless you all, and we look forward to sharing outings and meetings with you in 2008.

Joan Dickens, Chairman

### *Wellington Branch*

I am pleased to present my report for 2007 as Chairman of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society.

In March we held a picnic lunch at the Colonial Cottage Museum. The committee provided the lunch and served it as a 'Box Lunch'. This event was well attended and enjoyed by all who came. The day was perfect for a picnic and we took full advantage of the garden at the cottage.



The Wellington Annual General Meeting was held in May at St. Joseph's Church Hall. Our speaker was Colin Perfect who spoke about the early years of steam transport in Wellington.

September saw us once again at the Colonial Cottage Museum. Our speaker, Hannah Zwartz, is the gardener of the cottage and also writes the gardening

column in the Saturday edition of the Dominion-Post. Hannah answered many questions about gardening and gave a tour around the Cottage garden. This luncheon was very well attended and again we were blessed with a beautiful day.

The November lunch had to be cancelled because of a poor response. The speaker was to be Beverley Benton speaking about Antarctica.

In December we joined the Wellington Early Settlers for a Christmas Lunch. Maureen Garing spoke about the history of Christmas carols.

The Wellington Early Settlers have invited us to share alternate years to organize the Christmas Lunch in the Board Room of the Wellington City Museum. Wellington Early Settlers also give details of our functions on their brochure for which we are grateful.

My thanks to the committee members and secretary for their hard work during the year. Their support means we are able to hold social functions that otherwise would not be possible.

I have attached a copy of an Open Letter from John Webster, Chairman of Auckland Branch, New Zealand Founders Society. Please read the letter carefully and forward your comments to The Wellington Branch Secretary

Beverly Seymour,  
Chairman, Wellington Branch.

### *Canterbury Branch*

Dear members of the Canterbury/Westland Branch of the NZ Founders Society, welcome once again to our Annual General Meeting. As always I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report.

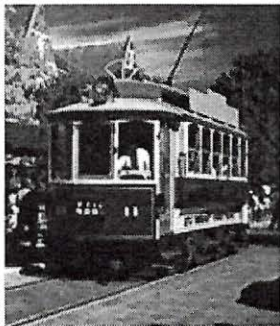
It is fitting that following our country atmosphere of last year for our AGM at Morworth Estate Winery, we return to the city to hold our AGM at the heritage location at the Charlotte Jane, Papanui Road.

During 2007 we enjoyed a range of functions with members and their families and friends. Please continue to invite family or friends and hopefully some may even decide to join Founders' as a Founder or Associate member.

Your dedicated committee of Shona Ward, Secretary/Treasurer, Noeline Hansen, Annabel and Graham Tapper, June Moore and Elizabeth Wolff with myself as Chair, has continued to provide a regular variety of functions. Our functions during 2007 were well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by all.

May: We visited Tai Tapu for lunch at The Wineshed, another gem of a location with a beautiful day.

July: The convivial atmosphere of Pomeroy's "Old Brewery Inn", Fitzgerald Avenue, on the banks of the Avon River provided a pleasant venue for lunch. This was followed by an address from Frances Ryman, local resident and historian.



October: A delightful lunch of a "square" meal at the Old Government Buildings in the heart of Christchurch was followed by a ride on the tram and the opportunity to be a tourist for the afternoon.

December: Our Christmas function for 2007 was the Brickworks Café at the foot of the Port Hills; another historical location on the site of the Christchurch clay brick

works in a modern café.

February: We travelled to Kaiapoi and revisited a previous trip on the old ship MV *Tuhoe*, and again enjoyed a wonderful

experience. The group then had a short walk and enjoyed a tour of the Kaiapoi Museum followed by afternoon tea at a local bakery.

My thanks to Shona and Noeline and the team for their work in promoting us with displays, especially during heritage week at Avebury House. To further our community support the Branch has donated an outside garden seat for the grounds of Avebury House.

Our Branch financial position, although strong has, for the first time in memory, suffered a reduction in total worth from last year by \$15.00. Our total worth is now \$80,031 down from \$80,046. I trust that you will agree with your committee that we are pleased with this result considering the support we give to our local community.

We have also made our commitment to Canterbury Medical Research Foundation with our annual \$1,000 donation being the first of our five year commitments.

We have continued our annual sponsorship arrangement of \$600 with Margaret Copeland who presents a live presentation to schools and community groups of an immigrant family arriving at Lyttelton and moving to the Papanui area. This sponsorship promotes the NZ Founders Society and takes our local history to the wider community.

Sadly, we reflect on members, family and close friends who have passed away over the year. Our sympathy is extended to you and your families over your loss.

My thanks again to your dedicated team of committee members; your personal time and support continues to be much appreciated. Thanks too to Shona for her hospitality in allowing us the use of her home for our committee meetings.