



NZ Founders Society HB  
PO Box 8556  
Havelock North 4157

# BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY



Wairarapa 1942 earthquake

NUMBER 82 – REPORT FOR YEAR  
2010

**Front cover photograph from Masterton District  
Library website**

(See page 41 for two articles about the 1942 earthquake)

**New Zealand Founders Office**

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Our website is [www.nzfounders.org.nz](http://www.nzfounders.org.nz)**

New Zealand Founders  
Society Inc  
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**NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC**  
**National Council**  
**(as from June 2010)**

**National President**

Mr Michael Norris

**National Vice-President**

Mrs Beryl Gentleman

**National Immediate Past President**

Mrs Neni Beres

**National Councillors**

Mr W.N. Sheat (Past President)

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

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

Mrs J. Dickens (National Executive)

Mrs S Norris (National Executive)

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr J.P. Webster (Auckland)   | Mr J. Wake (Bay of Plenty)  |
| Mr J. McSweeney (Canterbury) | Mrs N. Roberts (Hawkes Bay) |
| Mr O. Greensill (Taranaki)   | Mrs K. Townsend (Waikato)   |
| Mrs J. Dickens (Wairarapa)   | Mr M. Norris (Wanganui)     |
| Mr R. Beauchamp (Wellington) |                             |

**Branch Secretaries**

| <b>Auckland</b>      | <b>Waikato</b>    | <b>Bay of Plenty</b> |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Mrs C Rhodes         | Mrs C Smith       | Mrs A Henderson      |
| 193 Princes Street E | 6 Burleigh Place  | 10 Park Rd           |
| Otahuhu, Auckland    | Bramley, Hamilton | Rotorua 3015         |
|                      | 3210              |                      |
| Tel: 09 276 5532     | Tel: 07 854 4068  | Tel 07 348 1471      |

| <b>Taranaki</b>     | <b>Hawkes Bay</b>  | <b>Wairarapa</b>  |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Mr O Greensill      | Mr J Garland       | Mrs A. Woodley    |
| 21 Rogan Street     | PO Box 8556        | 43 Iorns Street   |
| New Plymouth        | Havelock North     | Masterton         |
| Tel: 06 758 5138    | Tel 06 835 4549    | Tel 06 377 1524   |
| <b>Wanganui</b>     | <b>Wellington</b>  | <b>Canterbury</b> |
| Mrs S. Norris       | Mrs J Robinson     | Mrs S. Ward       |
| 10 Hillside Terrace | PO Box 17 126      | 6/324 Stanmore Rd |
| Wanganui            | Karori, Wellington | Christchurch      |
| Tel: 06 348 8401    | Tel 04 472 4282    | Tel 03 379 0259   |

**National Secretary/Treasurer:**

Mrs Janet Robinson

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## THE SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The highlight for me this year was our trip to New Plymouth and our participation in the re-Blessing of the Founders' Memorial on the waterfront after it had been relocated. There was a great turnout, complete with music and singing. The weather had turned a little blustery by this time but it was still a memorable occasion.

Prior to the Blessing, we (my husband Ian and I) had enjoyed lunch hosted by the New Plymouth Branch. Thank you so much to our Taranaki friends.

Ian and I had arrived the day before and had had an opportunity to look around the new museum on the waterfront. There were some wonderful displays and stories of the history of Taranaki and the Maori Wars. Then the following day getting further history from the Pakeha perspective. So rather than a Tale of Two Cities, this seems to me to be Two Tales of One City. I need to learn more.

Our web site is bringing new applications for membership slowly but surely. Any thoughts of our being rushed off our feet for new applications have been subdued. It must be said that we as a national society are struggling to maintain our membership levels. We have spent many an Executive Meeting thrashing around the subject of just how we can increase our members. Sadly we must face the fact that our depleting membership is simply a result of our members getting older. This is certainly the case' of Wellington and when I go through the reports from the Branches and note the number of deceased it is really



very, very sad.

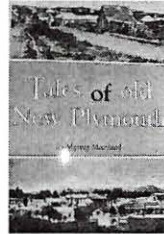
Specifically this year here in Wellington, we lost Elisabeth Anderson who held the position of National Secretary from 1957-1992, a total of 35 years. Mary Buick-Constable was another stalwart from Wellington but who died in Auckland.

From Waikato we learned of Lynley Hyams sudden and premature passing. She had been a Founder since 1989 and initiated the Gisborne Branch where she served as chairman for two years and was the National Council representative. In 1997 Lynley was elected Waikato Branch National Council representative and became chairman of Waikato Branch in 2007.

Nola Jones from Wairarapa Branch was another sad loss after her involvement of 28 years holding office in every position over that time.

Two ladies from Wanganui also died, Mrs Dorothy Marks was Branch secretary for 14 years and chairman for five and reached the grand age of 104. Vera Thrush held the position of Branch secretary for a number of years.

On a positive note, the Society provided financial assistance for the reprint of Murray Moorhead's book 'Tales of Old New Plymouth' which is being under-taken by the Branch. The author's widow was at the aforementioned blessing.



Also in these last twelve months, under the stewardship of Bill Sheat, we are now a registered member of the Charities Commission which ensures our status as a bona fide society, with no tax implications. We also implemented the change to our Research Award which is now the Book Award and will be given to published authors.

So as I sign off on this report, I would once again like to thank my wonderful committee for their commitment to the society and their assistance to me. Special mention to Janet Robinson without whom I'm sure we would vaporize!

I had intended to serve as President for two years. I have now done three years and would like to be able to hand the mantle over to some new blood next year. Please contact me through Janet if you or someone you know is willing to take on this role.

Beryl Gentleman  
National President

*(Editor note -Mike Norris was appointed National President at the 2010 AGM)*



### **Current Membership Numbers**

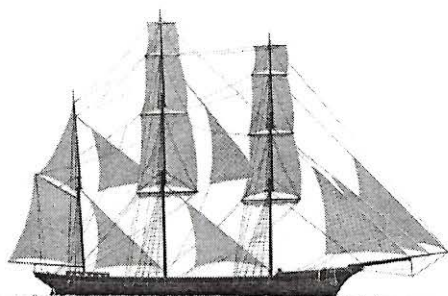
Membership as at 31st March 2009 stood at:-

|                 | <b>2008</b> | <b>2009</b> | <b>2010</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Honorary        | 274         | 247         | 212         |
| Life            | 34          | 33          | 29          |
| Senior          | 524         | 507         | 444         |
| Junior          | 5           | 4           | 3           |
| Associate       | 50          | 56          | 51          |
| Hon for service | 15          | 15          | 12          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>885</b>  | <b>839</b>  | <b>751</b>  |

|               | <b>2008</b> | <b>2009</b> | <b>2010</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Auckland      | 41          | 39          | 30          |
| Bay of Plenty | 117         | 104         | 98          |



|              |            |            |            |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Canterbury   | 54         | 55         | 46         |
| Hawkes Bay   | 154        | 145        | 136        |
| Taranaki     | 61         | 47         | 39         |
| Waikato      | 43         | 48         | 50         |
| Wairarapa    | 114        | 109        | 97         |
| Wanganui     | 126        | 132        | 118        |
| Wellington   | 175        | 160        | 137        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>885</b> | <b>839</b> | <b>751</b> |




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**FOUNDERS SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS IN  
THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS**

| Name                 | Port            | Ship                   | Date | Ancestor                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| <b>Auckland</b>      |                 |                        |      |                          |
| Ms R.H. Hemus        | Akaroa          | Comte de Paris         | 1840 | J. Adolphe FRANCOIS      |
| <b>Bay of Plenty</b> |                 |                        |      |                          |
| Mrs T.M. Lewis       | Qn Charlotte Sd | Waterloo               | 1827 | James H. & Eliza JACKSON |
|                      | Nelson          | Bolton                 | 1842 | Thomas & Sarah ROIL      |
|                      | Port Chalmers   | Queen of the<br>Mersey | 1862 | Jane ROBERTSON           |
|                      | Auckland        | Ganges                 | 1865 | Lawrence & Mary FARRELLY |
| Mr G.S. Bathe        | Port Nicholson  | Chapman                | 1864 | Edmund & Miriam MORGAN   |
|                      | Auckland        | Sir John Franklin      | 1849 | William Henry GOODWIN    |

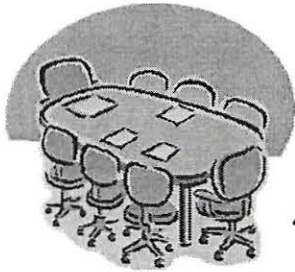
|                   |                |                         |         |   |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------|---|
|                   | Auckland       | Westminster             | 1843    | William & Amelia RUSSELL                      |
|                   | Auckland       | Shooting Star           | 1859    | Edward B. & Sarah KINLOCH                     |
| Mrs E.I. Krause   | Tauranga       | Lady Jocelyn            | 1875/78 | George VESEY                                  |
| <b>Canterbury</b> |                |                         |         |   |
| Mrs T. Parsonson  | Port Nicholson | Olympus                 | 1841    | George & Ann WILKIE                           |
|                   | Port Nicholson | Westminster             | 1856    | Charles W. HORNBLow                           |
|                   | Port Nicholson | Cossipore               | 1857    | Sarah HORNBLow                                |
| Mr N.G. Wilson    | Paihia         | Byron                   | 1833    | Rev. John Alexander & Ann<br>Catherine WILSON |
| <b>Hawkes Bay</b> |                |                         |         |   |
| Mrs G.P. Spence   | Nelson         | Indus                   | 1843    | Charles & Dinah CLARK                         |
|                   | ?              | ?                       | by 1863 | Ferdinando ANTONELLI                          |
| Mr I.G. Granger   | Auckland       | Nimroud                 | 1864    | George & Martha REECE                         |
|                   | Port Chalmers  | Strathmore              | 1856    | William & Helen BUTLER                        |
|                   | Lyttelton      | Mary Anne               | 1859    | George & Edith GRANGER                        |
| Mrs A. Mahon      | Auckland       | Bucephalus/<br>Tryphena | 1844    | Alfred & Amelia BOON                          |
|                   | Auckland       | Elora                   | 1848    | John WALTERS                                  |
| <b>Taranaki</b>   |                |                         |         |   |
| Miss K. Scott     | Port Nicholson | Oriental                | 1841    | William & Mary WILLIAMS                       |
| Mrs M.L. Bailey   | Petone         | Oriental                | 1840    | William & Ann WELCH                           |
| <b>Waikato</b>    |                |                         |         |   |
| Mrs G.M. Roger    | Port Nicholson | Olympus                 | 1841    | Job & Rachel MABEY                            |
|                   | Petone         | Bolton                  | 1840    | Abraham & Sophia HARRIS                       |
|                   | New Plymouth   | Himalaya                | 1843    | Charles SUTTON                                |
|                   | New Plymouth   | Ralph Bernal            | 1846    | Elizabeth SUTTON                              |
| Mr W.A. Stace     | Lyttelton      | Lady Nugent             | 1851    | John & Elizabeth STACE                        |
| Mr A. Gover       | Nelson         | Fifeshire               | 1842    | Joseph & Rachel DUNCAN                        |
|                   | Nelson         | Indus                   | 1843    | John & Mary FOWLER                            |
| Mrs M. Gover      | New Plymouth   | Essex                   | 1843    | Abraham & Joanna KESCEL                       |
|                   | ?              | ?                       | by 1864 | Joseph PRETTY                                 |
|                   | Port Chalmers  | Melbourne               | 1861    | John & Catherine BIGGAR                       |
|                   | Port Nicholson | ?                       | mid1850 | Edward & Hannah PRINCE                        |
| Mr J.A. Bridgman  | Auckland       | Ann                     | 1848    | Edward & Margaret<br>GALLAGHER                |

## Wairarapa

|              |                |                |      |                            |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|------|----------------------------|
| Mrs S. Brown | Port Nicholson | Clifton        | 1842 | Richard & Mary KIBBLEWHITE |
|              | Port Nicholson | Thomas Sparkes | 1843 | Henry WINTRINGHAM          |
| Mrs T. Scott | Port Nicholson | Coromandel     | 1840 | William PAWSON             |
|              | Akaroa         | Comte de Paris | 1840 | Catherine BREITMEYER       |

## Wanganui

|                  |                   |                 |      |                        |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------|------------------------|
| Mrs H. McLeod    | Wellington/Nelson | Whitby          | 1841 | James Smith CROSS      |
|                  | New Plymouth      | Amelia Thompson | 1841 | Charles HAMBLYN        |
|                  | Nelson            | Lloyds          | 1842 | Elizabeth A .S. CROSS  |
|                  | New Plymouth      | William Watson  | 1857 | Mr & Mrs P.C. GEORGE   |
| Mr J.A.B. Wilson | New Plymouth      | Gwalior         | 1852 | Thomas & Grace HIRST   |
| Mrs N.M. Wilson  | Port Nicholson    | Arab            | 1841 | William & Esther WATTS |



## AROUND THE BRANCHES

### *Auckland Branch*

Despite all the trials and tribulations of life in the big city - soon to be *Super City* - Auckland Branch continues to meet the needs of its members. Although more than half of our numbers are life or honorary life members, who no longer feel the need to travel, we still do have among them, and some financial members, enough to warrant holding our regular monthly meeting.



While we have abandoned set speakers we do present ourselves as the speakers of the day with a set theme decided beforehand so members can ready themselves for

the meeting. For instance, recently we had a theme "Your First Flight" coupled with objects collected over the years. At this meeting we saw tickets from the 1960s, airline bags and other paraphernalia of flight interest. One member also spoke of the earliest plane making in Auckland and displayed a recent book on the history of the New Zealand Air Force which, incidentally, featured one of our members. Another very enjoyable theme meeting was the display of souvenir tea-towels and the story behind how and where they were purchased and also about the objects or places, depicted on them

Another of our "out and about" meetings was to the "Old Lolly Shop" in Takapuna where members sat behind a glass screen watching the master taffy-puller stretching the sugary mixture, blending in colours, kneading and twisting until suddenly they were turned into lollipops and individual sweets. The shop makes old varieties on site and brings in specialties from other countries. There were a lot of memories shared as we watched and later purchased (at very modest prices) some of the entrancing delights.

We still meet at Kinder House (1857) as it has all that we require in facilities, room and rental. Also public transport is close at hand with stops for in and out of the city on either side of the road, and there is limited parking inside the grounds. We also continue to sponsor a guide dog and have, once again, visited the training centre at Homai just south of the city. The fact that most of us now have the Super Gold Card helps with the required public transport by bus and train.

Unfortunately, over the last year, some members have resigned because of their age or moving into





residence at retirement and rest homes which they feel restricts their travelling. Also some of our long-standing members have passed away which is always a sad event for us and the families.

All our members (few as they may be) are committed to maintaining the Branch and wish to continue meeting in the same way as at present, feeling we are some way off from finally closing up the Branch. Auckland Branch sends its fraternal greetings to all other Branches with best wishes for now and the future.

John Webster,  
Chairman

### ***Waikato Branch***

It is my pleasure to present this 2010 Waikato Branch Report. This has been a very difficult year for our Branch with the sudden severe illness and death of our Chairman and National Councillor. Lynley was an extremely efficient and gracious hostess, with an intimate knowledge of Founders Society so her presence has been greatly missed at our meetings. We also lost Aubrey Sanford who had been a member since 1986 and worked for 17 years on our committee, with two years as Vice Chairman and one year as Chairwoman.

Bernard Tucker, a member since 2002 and Eric Warner, a member since 2005 will also be missed. On a brighter note we have welcomed six new members this year - Nancy Boyce, John Bridgman, Adrian and Margaret Gover and Warren Stace.

We have had well-attended and successful luncheons with some very interesting speakers.



Our 2009 AGM was attended by 37 members. The speaker was Max Hill, who kept us up-to-date with the progress of his book on early civilization and migration around the world, with some interesting documentation and maps.



At the June meeting 38 members attended a "Show and Tell" which involved members bringing along family heritage treasures and speaking about them. Articles covered a wide variety of very interesting topics.

Ian Day, of Waikato Coal Museum, entertained us at our August meeting on the word "Heritage" with its variable minefield of different meanings and uses.

Thirty-seven members attended our October meeting when we had an "Antiques Road Show" with members bring along a wide variety of family heirlooms. Antiques Collector and Appraiser, Roger McGirr, filled us in on the age and origin of these articles, with many surprises for the owners.

After our well-attended Christmas Luncheon meeting in November we were entertained by our member Doug Bedgood and his Flute and Strings Quartet with a wide variety of music and a presentation of the old Christmas carols.



new

At our meeting in February, Paula Clark, a Creative Memories Consultant, gave us ideas and suggestions on presenting our family albums and telling our story for future generations to enjoy.

It is very pleasing that we now have a national website up and running as a promotional tool for our organization. I would like to

acknowledge the willing support given by all the committee without whom we could not function so well. A big thank you to Max Fletcher who is retiring from our committee this year after 12 years service. I would especially like to thank Kath Townsend and Gwendoline Annan for all the help and support they have given me over the past few months.

I wish the Waikato Branch a very successful coming year.

Carolyn Smith  
Waikato Secretary/Treasurer

### ***Bay Of Plenty Branch***

Although this year has had many challenges, it has been an interesting and a rewarding experience. We, like many other groups, are finding it difficult to maintain active members or members willing to accept the duty of a position on the committee.

31st May: On a surprisingly sunny day a happy group of 44 people met at the Hotel Armitage. It was lovely to see some of the "old hands" who, because of their inability to drive, had not been able



to attend all our meetings. After the pre-dinner drinks and camaraderie we enjoyed a three-course lunch. A detailed and interesting talk was given on the Vesey-Stewarts and their many planned settlements in the Bay of Plenty but specifically in Katikati, Te Puke and Tauranga. It was delightful to hear Ethne Krause talk on her personal memories of her grandmother who was the daughter of

George Vesey Stewart

15th June: As your representative I travelled to Wellington to attend the National Council and Annual General Meetings which were held in the Wellington Bowling Club. Bob Lusk and Audrey and Ian Henderson attended as observers. Audrey also represented the NZ Federation of Historical Societies. It was an interesting experience but I question whether it was value for money.

31st July: Again despite much bad weather in the previous week the drive through to Ohope for the Whakatane meeting was quite sunny and Spring-like. However, there were quite a few apologies as many of our members had succumbed to colds and similar illnesses. Following our luncheon we had an interesting talk by the former mayor, Bob Byrne, on the development of Whakatane district and the reasons for the deep water port being built in Tauranga rather than Whakatane. We also had two "four minute talks" by two Whakatane members which gave some background to the founding family members of Colin Deed and Kath Laws. It is noticeable that as many of our members are ageing people tend to go to the meetings in their local area so we are encouraging more members to carpool.

27th September: Unfortunately there were a number of other interesting events on in this area so this was one of our smallest meetings with only 29 people attending. It was again a sunny day and we enjoyed a tasty roast dinner and a lovely dessert. After this we were given a most revealing and interesting talk by Nancy



Merriman who, with her husband Ken, own the Heritage Museum at KatiKati. Nancy is descended from founding stock in that



within her family a Frenchman married a Maori lady. Having lived in the area for over 20 years she revealed some facts about the payment for land in the area to the Maori tribes by George Vesey Stewart. According to Mrs Merriman the Maori were well paid for the land but the dissatisfaction felt by some Maoris was that they came from the original tribes that had been beaten by war with other tribes and it was the other tribes who received the money.

The actual museum requires two visits - Nancy was a fund of knowledge and an excellent dramatic artist in guiding us through the museum. Comments made suggested that this was one of the best meetings we have had.

29th November: This was the last meeting of the year and we were surprised and delighted to have 61 attend our Christmas luncheon. Unfortunately, two members never made it to the venue Kiwi 360, Te Puke, - they intended coming but went to last year's venue and spent some time trying to locate us and ended up back in Tauranga. The moral being do read your newsletter carefully. The venue was attractively decorated for Christmas and the Te Puke members were fully prepared for the meeting. Athol Stace did a marvellous job on the raffles for which there were six prizes and we made \$230 in profit. The tables were attractively laid out with crackers and individual Father Christmas chocolates.

Jo Wake organized a Christmas Quiz - ten lines from Christmas carols and members had to name from which carol they came. This was done in pairs. At first and everyone thought it was easy but only one couple got the ten correct carols! We had a delicious luncheon where we (mostly all) wore our Christmas hats. We were then entertained by Gregory Brownless who regaled us with his "Memories of being a Tour Guide for Kontiki Tours"



some years ago. He added a musical note by playing on his accordion excerpts from music of the countries of Spain, Italy and France. Members thoroughly enjoyed his humorous tales and the luncheon ended with the drawing of the raffle.

A bouquet of Christmas lilies was presented to the secretary, Audrey Henderson, for all the work she does selflessly throughout the year. It was appreciated when one of the newer members acknowledged the work put in by the Te Puke members and others to make this such a successful event. The Chairman advised members that the next meeting in March would be held at Tauranga at the request of some members. We are saddened by the recent deaths of our members. I'd like to thank Bob Lusk who reluctantly took over the role of treasurer and now hands over to Sandy Garland.

Thank you to all the area representatives - Barbara Comiskey, Moina Garland, Margaret Carter, Thea Still and Nola Gosling.

Jo Wake,  
Chairman Bay of Plenty Branch

### ***Taranaki Branch***

The attendance at our meetings for this past year has been similar to previous years. Thank you to those members who come along regularly, however, we must acknowledge that members are not always well enough to attend. We have endeavoured to contact members who have not been well and supported members who have had bereavements.

This pattern seems to be the same with so many Founders Branches, finding it difficult to get younger members interested.



It is pleasing that we had three new members over the year - one in Auckland, one in Normanby and one in Stratford. Hopefully the ones living close by may get to some meetings. (Maybe we could arrange a meeting at Stratford - just a thought.)

Your committee has endeavoured to arrange interesting programmes for you each month. Our committee meetings have been held at Dawn McKenzie's home, thank you Dawn for your hospitality.

The trip to Purangi was great, the weather was unkind but those who went thoroughly enjoyed it. Mel Harper is arranging another trip, planned for this year, thank you Mel.

I feel the end of year gathering needs to be discussed with all members, some comments indicate to me that it does not suit everyone.

Our Dinner and Memorial Service was attended by 23 members and our New Zealand President, Beryl Gentleman and her husband Ian, attended. She spoke of the declining membership throughout New Zealand, then shared with us a back-ground account of her forebears early years in Lyttelton. Beryl was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Our Service was taken by Rev. David Pearce, he had printed service sheets which were very appropriate. We joined in a hymn and heard a reading of loneliness, of being away from family and friends. Very good. The bible used was similar to that which our forebears would have used. The reprinting of "Memories of Old New Plymouth" by the late Murray Moorhead are selling steadily which is pleasing. My sincere thanks for the support and help extended to me by all members.

Dale Osborne,  
Chairman

## Hawkes Bay Branch

It is with pleasure that I present my 2009 Annual Report for the NZ Founders Soc. Hawke's Bay Branch. Another successful year for the Branch with pleasing attendance at the various outings and luncheons. I am very grateful for the input from my committee and members to allow us to have such interesting and appealing programmes each year.

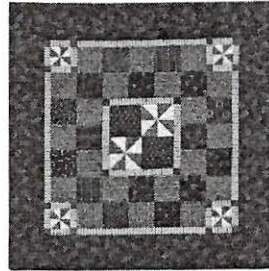
Our membership as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 was Senior 72, Associate 19 Honorary Senior (80 years +) 43 and Life member 1. It is with sadness that we have noted the passing of the following members Audrey Campbell-Lash, Alice Cody and Audrey Gillam . Sympathy was extended to their families. Unfortunately we have had 10 resignations for various reasons, mainly inability to continue because of failing health. However we have welcomed 5 new Members and 2 Friends of the Society. Membership Application Forms have been distributed to several interested and eligible persons and we must follow these up.

We welcome the regular letters we receive from the NZ President Mrs Beryl Gentleman with Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Committee and bringing us up to date with her involvement with the various branches. It was announced that the Founder's Society now has a registered official web site [www.nzfounders.org.nz](http://www.nzfounders.org.nz) containing information including passenger ship data, application forms etc. and of Branches.

The National Council in Wellington have enacted a new rule that members who now attain the age of 80 year will no longer be exempted from paying the capitation fee. The Annual subscription rate remains the responsibility of the Branch and will remain at \$25.00. The report of the various meetings held during the year 2009.

FEBRUARY 2009: Happy Birthday — 30 Years celebration. This was a luncheon held at the Havelock North Community Centre (with appropriate decorations). We welcomed our National President Beryl Gentleman and her husband Ian and acknowledged three of our Foundation members, Judith and Gordon Yule and Joan McKinnon. Beryl entertained us with the reading of her family letters. It was a very happy occasion enjoyed by all present.

MAY: We had a a visit to Riverside Winery and the Quitters' Shop adjoining. The men enjoyed the tastings and the women were entertained by the wonderful display of machinery and quilting. A short drive to the Puketapu Hotel for a delicious roast beef dinner.



Nearby was the historic Puketapu Church and cemetery which we visited and had its interesting history recounted to us by Mrs Margaret Ashley.

JULY: We held our Winter luncheon and had an excellent meal served by the new caterers. Mr Ian Granger (a new member) gave us a power point presentation titled "Early Aviation in Hawke's Bay from 1900-1950". This was of particular interest for many of the men who had been involved in that era.

AUGUST: This was a time for us to share our cultural backgrounds . Our speaker was Mrs Sonia Mackenzie who had been Commissioner and later Lieutenant of Clan Mackenzie in New Zealand. This was a colourful afternoon and full of fun.

OCTOBER: A Mystery Bus Trip took us to Central Hawke's Bay (in the rain) This was through lovely countryside. We had lunch at Patangata country pub. (Somewhere some folk had never been)



and followed it by an interesting visit to the Waipawa Museum. We were amazed by the excellent collection of memorabilia.

NOVEMBER: Our final outing for the year was a picnic visit to Okawa Station — Pukehomoamoia just out from Hastings. It was an opportunity to view the gardens and hear Mr Tom Lowry Senior tell us about Okawa Station and his family's long association with the area. A beautiful day which concluded with wine and Christmas cake.



I take this opportunity to thank my wonderful committee for their support and input to make these meetings such a success. A lot of thought and time is spent in organization. We welcome Richard and Paddy Bayley who are new committee members and a special thanks to Andy our Treasurer who makes my job so much easier and keeps such excellent records . I ask you all to spread the word about our Founders Society and encourage people to search their family history as there must be many who would qualify to join.

Nanette Roberts

### *Wanganui Branch*

On Sunday, 15th February 2009 we held our meeting at the Infusion Centre where we had two guest speakers - Laraine Sole and Ailsa Stewart. Ailsa aided Laraine with the research for a book about Castlecliff titled "Castlecliff the Community on the Coast" a very comprehensive story about this seaside neighborhood. A very successful meeting.

22nd March was our AGM and Beryl Gentleman, our National President, and her husband Ian arrived from Wellington in time

to meet the committee members for lunch at the Rutland. Beryl talked about her aims and aspirations for New Zealand Founders and visits to other Branches and the opportunity was available for our members to talk to our President.

26th April: Members enjoyed a coach trip to the Coach House at



40 Bowen Street, Feilding, where we viewed the types of early transport in this well set-up museum. The local people associated with the museum

made us very welcome.

31st May: Local author Felicity Campbell was our guest speaker who spoke on her book "No Epitaph" an interesting local history about the murder of a local mother in the 1920's.

28th June: Susanna Norris gave a talk entitled "A Tourist in Wanganui 1884-85". The story of George Anderson, a visitor from England who gave a vivid account of her visit to her brothers in Makirikiri Valley. Susanna also spoke about the coffin ships that sailed from Southern Ireland to the USA.

26th July: Members were asked to bring along an article of historical interest and say a few words about it. There was a great response and we enjoyed a most interesting and informative afternoon.

30th August: This meeting was held at the Alexander Library where Gillian Tasker showed us the digital photographs from Founders' Collection and Founders' items in the heritage library, also a diary from World War I. Afternoon tea was provided.



24 September: We travelled to Eltham Museum where Judith Rogers of the Historical Society showed us some historical sites, such as the Town Hall and an old shop building. Unfortunately it rained hard all day but all who went really enjoyed themselves.

There was no meeting in October as we were concentrating on the Christmas visit to our Patron, Merle Higgies' property at Denlair Road, Fordell. It proved a most popular occasion. The Fordell School PTA served up a delicious afternoon tea before we went to a local church, St Johns at Matarawa, where local resident Maureen Naldrett-Jays gave an excellent talk about this early pioneer church. This was the final event for the year.

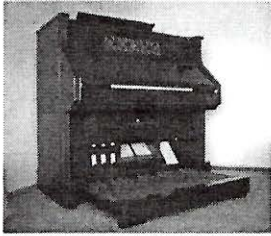
Michael Norris  
Chairman

### *Wairarapa Branch*

Our Branch is in good heart, and continues to be one of the larger and more active Branches in the Society. We have 117 members, 2 resignations, 9 deaths and some new members which is great. We think of those who have died, especially our stalward member Nola Jones, who held office in every capacity in the Branch, knew so much local history, and was an extremely valued and loyal friend. We send our sympathy to all their families. Also thinking of members who have been unwell or had other problems and offer them our support.

Our Congratulations go to Beryl and Jim Cotter and Pearl and Terry Cairns on their Diamond Wedding Anniversarays, and Committee member Coie O'Brien on her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

We have had well attended meetings and outings, some of the highlights being a fascinating visit to the Woodville Organ



Museum, where we were treated to a talk on the 105 Reed Organs in their collection, and having several of them demonstrated by Rosalie Wainwright and some of our Founders members, while we joined in the Hymn singing A memorable afternoon. In

May we were given a tour of Mastertons' Pioneer Cemetary with our Archivist, Gareth Winter, and learned the history of our local Founding Fathers, and were able to contribute some information from members.

Ken Scaddens' talk on sorting and preserving family records and memorabilia was very well attended, and everyone learned a lot.



What a fabulous visit we had to Jeremy Bicknells' Furniture showroom where he demonstrated the turning of wood on his lathe to make the beautiful chairs that are his specialty. The other furniture in the showroom was equally as beautiful

and we enjoyed our visit very much. To conclude a great afternoon we partook of the delicious cakes and pastries of the Swiss Baker, and enjoyed walking in his garden.

A small number of Members travelled to the Coach House Museum in Fielding in October, to enjoy the display of coaches in the Museum.

The Paeony Gardens of Marian McWilliams were much enjoyed in November. She gave a talk on cultivation of these beautiful flowers, we saw them growing and were able to purchase blooms. Our Christmas Lunch was delicious and enjoyed at "Soul" Dining at the Services Club, where we were beautifully looked after, and will visit again! We had the privilage of having Maurice Watson as

our guest on this occasion, so lovely to see him again.

On Waitangi Day 46 members had lunch at the "Top Pub" in Greytown. This hotel is 150 years old and recently restored to it's former glory.

Anne and I have attended Executive meetings in Wellington and found the various topics discussed interesting. A website for Founders is now up and running and Branches programmes will be on it. "The Bulletin" will be available at our AGM. Any contributions for this year gratefully received!

On behalf of our members I would like to acknowledge the Legacy from Robert Millar, a long standing member who kindly remembered the Wairarapa Branch of the Founders Society, along with many other organisations, in his Will. Thank you Robert.

Thank you also to Ashly Braggins for revamping our Name tag box, works wonderfully!

I would like to thank all the members for their friendship and support, and especially thank the Committee for all the work they put in organising meetings, speakers, afternoon teas etc. Anne your work as Secretary, Jean's as Treasurer, and Lesley's as Enrolment Officer are appreciated so very much. Thank You.

Look forward to sharing outings and meetings with you this year.

Joan Dickens.  
President.

### ***Wellington Branch***

I am pleased to present my report for 2009 as Chairman of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society.

In April we held our AGM at the Wellington Bridge Club premises where Professor Lydia Wevers gave a most interesting talk on

Brancepeth Library (a private lending library mostly lending to its farm workers) outside Masterton followed by a delicious lunch.

Visits have been made to the new Bank of New Zealand Museum in Wellington which has an interesting inter-active display plus a model of an old-office which visits to the members.



The National Meeting was held at the Wilton Bowling Club. A large crowd was present for the

AGM and dinner. The speaker was Kevin Bourke who talked about his book "Kelburn, King Dick and the Kelly Gang".

In December we joined with the Wellington Early Settlers for a delicious Christmas Lunch which was held in the Board Room at the Wellington Museum of City & Sea followed by musical entertainment.

In February we enjoyed a pleasant visit to the Katherine Mansfield birthplace followed by afternoon tea.

A picture rail has been installed in the Society's Office which was a gift from the Porirua Historical Association. The result has meant that the painting of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, has been restored and now has pride of place. The painting was at a stage when it would not have lasted much longer as borer had attacked the canvas stretches causing a rapid destruction of the frame and canvas.

What Does the Future Hold? The last committee meeting spent a considerable amount of time on the future of the Wellington Branch. As the years pass, the structure of all long-standing

fashioned bank recalled earlier banks for many

Annual General held at the Club. A large present for the



groups alters significantly. We would welcome any suggestions from members to strengthen the Branch.

Suggestions so far are:

To promote Founders to groups we belong to - such as rest homes, U3A, - local to our area societies and perhaps children who are interested in history groups.

We are also asking people to donate history books for addition to the Society's library. These can be our own books (not looked at for a long time) friends who have interesting books that they can be asked to gift (these are often thrown away) and any other ideas members have.

Any ideas people have on increasing the membership (bearing in mind the Society's criteria) although we will accept Associate Membership.

My thanks to the committee members Beverly Seymour, Neni Beres, Margaret Collins, Natalie Duncan, Vera Ellen, Yvonne Lawrie, our secretary Janet Robinson and our auditor Geoff Palmer, for their hard work during the year. Their support means we are able to hold social functions that otherwise would not be possible. I, on behalf of the Wellington Branch members and committee, pay tribute to Beverly Seymour for the six years that she has been chairman of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society. Beverly's ability and skill in managing the various functions that take place has been much appreciated by those who attend them. I would like to present Beverly with an





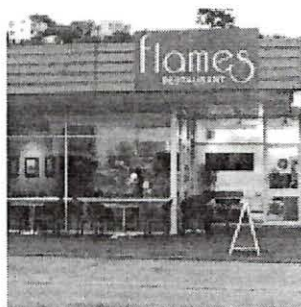
award to recognize the contribution she has made. This is the very first Award to be presented.

Roger Beauchamp  
Chairman, Wellington Branch

### *Canterbury Branch*

Dear members of the Canterbury/Westland Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society; welcome to our Annual General Meeting. As always, I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report to you today, Sunday 11 April 2010.

Every year your committee decides on an AGM venue. They have always been different and we hope you find them interesting. This venue came about by a conversation with Annabel looking to arrange catering for a venue within Ferrymead Historic Park. The owner of "Flames" prepared a quote for us but then suggested that they host us entirely. We are delighted to be here in McCormicks Bay.



During 2009 we enjoyed a range of functions with members and their families. We were often joined by friends and some have joined us as a Founder or Associate.

Your small but dedicated committee members of; Shona Ward continuing to look after the books for us although not on the committee, Annabel and Graham Tapper as Secretary, June Moore and Elizabeth Wolff, with myself as Chair.

It is a sad but important duty to remember and note the passing of our members. It was especially sad to suddenly have to

farewell Elizabeth Wolff who was a very active member and for a number of years a committee member. We will remember them fondly. We offer our sympathy to all of your families and friends who have been touched by the loss of loved ones.

Functions during 2009 were:

**May:** We continued what we did the previous year with afternoon tea at St Paul's Parish Lounge in Papanui. This time we held a "show and tell". Everyone found this close to home venue and lively talk by members about interesting family nick knacks from the past a great way to spend an afternoon.

**August:** A wonderful hot lunch on a wintery bleak day at the Avonhead Tavern followed by a 2 minute drive to Kent Lodge in Kent Lodge Avenue. This house was rebuilt in the 1950's over the site of the original dairy farm house and still retained a dairy cellar which had served the dairy farm. The house is now in the middle of suburbia. The present owners have the house in immaculate order and possible piece of vast collection of teddy other types of whole home was laid out after with great care.



an extensive (read every space), given over to a bears, dolls and many household collections. The beautifully and looked

**October:** With spring weather emerging we went to the country and visited an iris garden at Motukarara and a wonderfully preserved historic cottage/home. We were served a "high" afternoon tea and looked around the extensive and beautiful grounds. Quite a few members bought samples to take home to their own gardens.

**December:** For our Christmas function we visited Annies restaurant in the heart of Christchurch's Arts Centre. It was great to welcome so many members and friends and the

Christmas food was superb. The day, venue, weather, raffles and company of friends made it a memorable occasion.

**February 2010:** We started the new year with a completely different type of function and visited the Allan Bean Centre at the Burwood Hospital Spinal Unit. We received a very informative talk about the unit's work and the history of the hospital. A few of the stories of what some early patients got up to after-hours enlightened the talk. We then had the opportunity to visit the attached library, where our complete collection of Founders Library books are held and used regularly. Then followed afternoon tea and more interesting chat.

My special thanks continue for Shona Ward for the tremendous work she has continued to do for us even though she is not a formal part of the Committee.

Our Branch financial position, continues to be very strong although our mortgage held through our Solicitors on two sections near Redcliffs has not yet resulted in a sale due to the economic times. We hoped and expected that in time the two sections may be able to be sold and the mortgage (most likely without interest), repaid. All contributors have agreed the best course is to continue to hold the property until a realistic sale price can be achieved.

Your committee wishes to continue with our philosophy of strong financial support for members functions and our ongoing community sponsorships. We continue our ongoing commitment to Canterbury Medical Research Foundation with our annual \$1,000 donation being the third of our five year commitment.

Again we continue our special sponsorship arrangement with Margaret Copeland. This continues to allow her to present her live story" to school and community groups that could not

otherwise afford to hear about a significant part of local Canterbury history in an interesting, visible and memorable way. Our local history and community founding knowledge is being preserved, and communicated to a wider community base. Our Founders Society name as a helping and caring sponsor is also being promoted in a meaningful way. This sponsorship, continues to be a practical commitment of your Society that you can all feel proud and privileged to be a part of.

My thanks also to our auditor Alan Winslade for his contribution to complete the audit of our accounts, so ably prepared by Shona, for us as at 31 December 2009.

Finally, thank you to all members, associates and friends for your support of the functions and *your* attendance here today. Your membership and support by attendance at functions, makes our Society vibrant and interesting.

Thank you for your continued support of our commitment to community financial support. Each of you may be truly proud that we are continuing to make a valuable, practical and visible contribution to the culture and education within our community, especially in continuing to do so in these difficult financial times.

Thank you for the privilege of being your Chairman and I trust you share with me, the pride in being a member of Canterbury/Westland Branch of New Zealand Founders Society.

John McSweeney Chairman

