



# BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY



**Homewood - Wellington**

# NUMBER 83 – REPORT FOR YEAR 2011

**Front cover photograph of Judge Chapman's house  
in Wellington – now currently the British High  
Commissioners residence.**

(See page 45 for article about the Chapman family)

## **New Zealand Founders Office**

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New Zealand Founders  
Society Inc  
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**NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC**

**National Council**

**(as from June 2011)**

**National President**

Mr Russell Hurst

**National Immediate Past President**

Mr Michael Norris

**National Councillors**

Mrs Neni Beres (Past President)

Mrs C. Hurst (National Executive)

Mr G. Robertson (National Executive)

Mrs J. Dickens (National Executive)

Mrs A Woodley (National Executive)

Miss S. Clarke (National Executive)

Mr J.P. Webster (Auckland)

Mr G. Tapper (Canterbury)

Mrs D Osborne (Taranaki)

Mrs J. Dickens (Wairarapa)

Mrs C Hurst (Wellington)

Mr J. Wake (Bay of Plenty)

Mrs N. Roberts (Hawkes Bay)

Mrs K. Townsend (Waikato)

Mr M. Norris (Wanganui)

**Branch Secretaries**

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193 Princes Street E

Otahuhu, Auckland

Tel: 09 276 5532

**Taranaki**

Mr O Greensill

21 Rogan Street

**Waikato**

Mrs C Smith

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Bramley, Hamilton  
3210

Tel: 07 854 4068

**Hawkes Bay**

Mr J Garland

PO Box 8556

**Bay of Plenty**

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Rotorua 3015

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**Wairarapa**

Mrs J Dickens

The Maples RD5

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Wanganui	Karori, Wellington	Christchurch
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**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**

New Zealand is our country too and we must demand respect for our values and aspirations. We must object to the anti-colonial writing wherever possible, the anti-settler bias of many "historians" is appalling.

All Branches have an age situation which is self-rectifying itself by attrition and some Branches are rebuilding but this will be a slow process, the Branches that are rebuilding are doing this by lots of enthusiasm, energetic input, fantastic outings, events and above all, friendship. We still have the struggle to connect with our younger

generation to become members, but I believe we must not call it quits and give up, the answer does lie out there somewhere.

The one thing Branches can easily do is promote the Society to their friends, relatives, local community, newspaper reporters, local libraries and museum staff. Celebrate anniversaries of local historical events; promote the achievements of our forebears at every possible moment.

One very exciting project Wanganui Branch has been involved with was the restoration of a glass plate panorama photo or series of photos taken in 1874 of the market gardens, Wanganui. This has been digitised and can be viewed on a screen, can be zoomed in to look closely at any item at will, the resulting vision is so clear. This technology is so incredible and to think that Wanganui Branch was able to provide the funds for this to happen. The Branch has other donated photos etc in the Alexander Heritage library, a HW Kirkwood painting, the library staff are gradually sorting through this archival material and there will be other photos that will be digitised with the same amazing results. To be able to share these photos with our local community makes one proud to be a member of Founders.

In 1974 the then Chairman of Wanganui Branch, the late Hugh Ross, wrote these words for the Newsletter (41) of the Wanganui Branch.

"We are not only a historical society; we are more, for we are the keepers responsible for the Nation's memory and self-respect .... A history society is concerned with recording the past, whether it is pre Maori or but yesterday and its responsibilities are manifold and as important as anyone could wish. The Founders on the other hand are concerned with the foundation of each specific community and the spirit of that foundation, not a thing of facts and figures primarily, but of sweat and toil and tears, of immense struggle, danger and anxiety..... Of the poignant vigils by candle light at bedsides through long lonely nights of sickness by women alone while the man of the house was away. Of women again alone ringed with secondary bush fires. Of a thousand endurances long forgotten now, almost forgotten. These we must remember, these are the treasures of deeds of fortitude, courage, suffering and deep faith. God indeed knows how they needed it. We

must remember how that faith carried them through..... We must never forget our duty to the past in memory of fine deeds. In very truth we must instil it in our children and our children's children for who knows when we shall need it."

Back in 1974 there was concern about the future of Founders, I believe that back then Hugh Ross was trying to show that Founders was becoming irrelevant to our country's history and those who were or are intent on rewriting history do not want the history that Founders stand for and wish to preserve to be maintained for future generations.

This is sad because the words Hugh Ross wrote are about the spirituality of our community; they are words that remind us of the trials and tribulations our forebears endured that we today would have the opportunity to a better life.

We visited Bay of Plenty Branch in Ohope on Sunday, 25 July, then on 21 October went to the Waikato Branch meeting, on 26 November met the members of the Taranaki Branch, 3 April we flew to Christchurch and joined the Canterbury Branch members for lunch at the Charlotte Jane Restaurant. John McSweeney kindly drove us around Christchurch to view the devastated areas and we arrived back home that evening. Then on 18 April we drove to Masterton to the Wairarapa Branch function. Susanna and I enjoyed meeting all the members at these various Branches, all with their distinctive styles. 16 May we visited the Wellington Branch, they have some interesting ideas, then Sunday 22 May, we drove to Havelock North and visited the Hawke's Bay Branch which was held in a very nice old house. We have not yet been able to visit the Auckland Branch; the geography of Auckland city does make having a Branch there difficult. Perhaps Thames could be a better site for a Branch in that locality; Thames does have an interesting historical background and families who have lived in the Thames area for generations.

2010/2011 was not a startling year and unfortunately we have suffered further a further decline in our membership. All Branches are reasonably financial and now could be the time to consider ways of advertising and promoting Founders, by becoming involved with local

libraries, library staff, museum staff, local body politicians, central government politicians, local council district plans, making Founders' views known with Treaty settlements. Questioning those authors who demean our ancestors, rewriting history in a biased manner. All those things that are contained in the Objects of Founders' Constitution 7 (a), (e), (f), (h) and (i) but always keeping in mind Rule 8.

**MICHAEL NORRIS**  
National President



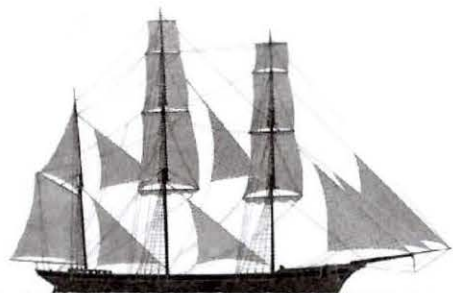
**Membership as at 31st March 2011 stood at:-**

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Honorary	247	212	205
Life	33	29	28
Senior	507	444	412
Junior	4	3	3
Associate	56	51	51
Hon for service	15	12	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>710</b>

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Auckland	39	30	30
Bay of Plenty	104	98	98
Canterbury	55	46	46
Hawkes Bay	145	136	136
Taranaki	47	39	39
Waikato	48	50	50
Wairarapa	109	97	97
Wanganui	132	118	77



Wellington	160	137	137
<b>Total</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>710</b>




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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>Ship</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Ancestor</b>
<b><u>Auckland</u></b>				
Mrs J.D.P Khor	New Plymouth	Amelia Thompson	1841	William & Sarah PAYNTER
	Nelson	Thomas Harrison	1842	George & Hannah CASTLE
	Nelson	Sebastion	1858	William & Sarah GREEN
Mrs P.H. Rundle	Kororareka	Diana	1839	Frederick HANNKEN
Mr S.R. Rundle	Port Chalmers	Larkins	1849	John & Mary NICHOLSON
<b><u>Hawkes Bay</u></b>				
Mr I.O. McGregor	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	Peter Facey HOSKIN
	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	John & Ann LYE
	Nelson	Mary Anne	1842	Edward & Ann FAIRHALL
	Wellington	Lady Lilford	1840	William Gordon & Alziere BELL
	Wellington	Lady Lilford	1840	James WALLACE
Mrs L. Gillard	Lyttelton	Cameo	1859	Thomas & Mary SUMMERTON
	New Plymouth	Amelia Thompson	1841	Arthur & Eliza HOSKIN

Mr D.S. Belcher	New Plymouth	Oriental	1841	Joseph & Mary STREET
	Dunedin	Wickliffe	1848	John Edmund SMITH
	Wellington	Ann Wilson	1857	Richard BELCHER
Mr G. Morgan	Kaiwharra	Blenheim	1840	Hugh & Catherine MCKENZIE
Ms F. Morgan	Kaiwharra	Blenheim	1840	Hugh & Catherine MCKENZIE
Mrs L. Whitfield	Kaiwharra	Blenheim	1840	Hugh & Catherine MCKENZIE
Associate Member				
Mrs R.J. Morgan				
<b><u>Taranaki</u></b>				
Mr J.S. Putt	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	Richard & Elizabeth PUTT
	New Plymouth	Timandra	1842	Joseph & Mary HART
Mr G.M. Cowling	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	William COWLING
Mr N.G. Richards	New Plymouth	Blenheim	1841	William & Mary RICHARDS
	New Plymouth	Amelia Thompson	1841	James & Ruth OLIVER
Miss R.F	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	Richard & Agnes CHILMAN
Robertshawe				
	New Plymouth	Gwalior	1852	Thomas & Grace HIRST
	?	?	1863	George Morris ROBERTSHAWE
Miss C.M.N	New Plymouth	William Bryan	1841	Richard & Agnes CHILMAN
Robertshawe				
	New Plymouth	Gwalior	1852	Thomas & Grace HIRST
	?	?	1863	George Morris ROBERTSHAWE
<b><u>Waikato</u></b>				
Mrs M.M Johanson	Nelson	Thomas Harrison	1842	James & Mary MARSHALL
	Wellington	Clifton	1842	James & Augusta MARTIN
Mr D.S. Dixon	Auckland	Swiftsure	1864	Philip & Elizabeth MUNRO
	Port Chalmers	Mary Ann Wilson	1861	John DIXON
Mrs N.L. Duncan	Port Chalmers	Star of Tasmania	1863	Samuel & Fanny HARDLEY

Mrs C. Reynolds	Auckland	Inchinnan	1852	Andrew & Mary QUINLAN
	Auckland	Inchinnan	1852	William & Sarah BALDWIN
	New Plymouth	Oriental	1841	Joseph & Mary STREET
Mrs B.J. Upfold	Auckland	Ganges	1865	John & Eliza CHESHIRE
	Auckland	Ramillies	1847	William COSSEY
Mr H.T. Upfold	Auckland	Ganges	1865	Patrick & Margaret COONEY

### Wairarapa

Mrs M.J. Bell	Port Nicholson	Lady Nugent	1841	Martha Brewin TURNELL
	Port Nicholson	Thomas Sparks	1843	Robert & Catherine ARMSTRONG
	Auckland	Green Jacket	1863	Henry Herbert DRIVER
Mrs J.A. Collard	Dunedin	Matoaka	1863	Henry DUCKMANTON
Mrs B.D.M Olsen	Lyttelton	Cameo	1859	John & Mary KNOWLES
	Port Nicholson	Gertrude	1841	John Ings DAYSH
	Port Nicholson	Lady Nugent	1841	John & Sophia SOUTHEY
Mrs J. Farrar	Port Nicholson	?	1856	John & Ann COOPER
Mrs S.H. Hooker	Nelson	New Zealand	1842	Robert & Margaret HUNTER
	Nelson	Fifeshire	1842	John & Janet KERR
	Nelson	Pekin	1850	Robert & Mary SIMPSON
Mrs P.W. Carter	Port Nicholson	Blenheim	1840	Donald & Christiana CAMERON
	?	?	1860	George Wm. WOODROOFE
Mrs R. Lowe	Lyttelton	Tiptree	1864	Charles BM & Jane MORSE
Mr A.J. Lowe	Lyttelton	Sebastopol	1863	William ANDERSON
Mr P. Burling	Port Nicholson	London	1842	Henry BURLING
Dr S.L. Burling	Port Nicholson	Arab	1841	John Robert & Caroline HOOPER
	Port Nicholson	Slains Castle	1841	George & Rebecca FELLINGHAM
Mrs J.J. Clarke	Port Nicholson	Arab	1841	John Robert & Caroline HOOPER

Port Nicholson	Slains Castle	1841	George & Rebecca FELLINGHAM
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**Wanganui**

Mrs N. Souter	Petone	Oriental	1840	Thomas Urquhart McKENZIE
	Port Nicholson	Blenheim	1840	Duncan & Marjorie FRASER
	Port Nicholson	Slains Castle	1841	William & Margaret HAIR

**Wellington**

Mrs D. Beban	Port Nicholson	Lord Wm Bentinck	1841	William & Ann DEW
	Port Nicholson	Lady Nugent	1841	John & Eliza STOODLEY
	Port Nicholson	Alma	1857	John Fisher HARRISON
	Port Nicholson	Oliver Lang	1856	William & Mary Anne ROBINSON



**AROUND THE BRANCHES**

***Auckland Branch***

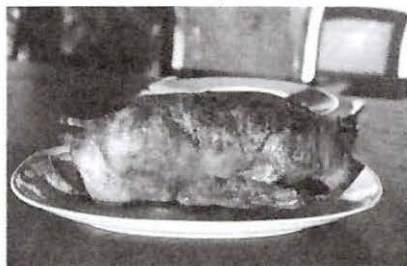
Looking back to last year's report it appears that the Auckland Branch has continued steadily despite having a fairly low membership. Luckily, since Christmas, our membership did increase with the reception of four new members. Since joining one has maintained regular attendance at the meetings, while the other new members, being full-time workers, find it difficult to come to the day time gatherings.

With the National Council and AGM being a month late last year this report still covers the normal June to June of each year. As in the past we have continued to have monthly meetings at the

venue we find the best for our purposes, namely historic Kinder House (1857) in Parnell.

The year commenced with a talk about the New Zealand Costume and Textile Conference which had been held in Lower Hutt in November. An outstanding feature of this event was the visit to the factory which produces the textiles used in the "Lord of the Rings" films, and which, at the time, was gearing up to produce more for an unnamed film which we now know is "The Hobbit".

As in the past we went away from our usual venue at least twice - once it was to partake of a special deal put on by the Langham



Hotel for their celebration of "Renaissance of the Roast". A great meal enjoyed by members including one member we had not seen for almost twenty years. Another outing was to see the special Sir George Grey exhibition

at the Auckland Central Library. After this viewing members had their luncheon at the nearby Smith & Caughey's café.

2010 ended with our "End-of-Year" luncheon meeting in November during which each person displayed a special Christmas ornament from their past and spoke about it.

The New Year started with our Picnic on the Lawn, which included our secretary telling about her recent exciting trip to Europe and the great snow storms. Since then the programme has continued with a series of single talks by members about one particular member on their family tree. After discussion last year we found that a number of us have experienced difficulty in tracing one ancestor due to lack of information and other necessary details, including photographs. So far we have covered Mr Claridge who founded several newspapers in the

North Island; the 1839 arrival of Frederick Haanken and another supposed 1839 arrival, the mysterious Captain Joiner.

Earlier this year we gave a donation to the Mayor Fund of the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal. Forthcoming meetings will include an outing to the newly re-opened Royal New Zealand Navy Museum (not to be confused with the National Maritime Museum) with its on-site café, and later, possibly, the Auckland Jewish Synagogue. No doubt we will visit once again, if invited, our sponsored puppy friends at the Homai Training School for Guide Dogs. Another meeting will report on the National Council and AGM held in Whanganui, apparently only the second time in Founders' history that it has been held outside Wellington City.

After some initial fears, relating to our venue, costs and transport, our journey into being part of one large city in November has, so far, gone without a hitch, as making one super city out of seven looked to have major problems ahead.

Auckland Branch sends fraternal greetings to all other Branches with our best wishes for now and the future.

John Webster,  
Chairman, Auckland Branch

### ***Waikato Branch***

It is with pleasure that I present the 2011 report for Waikato. As incoming Chairman for 2010 I was unable to attend the very first meeting due to the arrival of a new grandson; with 'Nanna' being needed for his slightly older brother. However, it has been a very interesting year which unrolled itself in a positive way. I am also pleased to see that our membership numbers have increased. On a sadder note I must report the passing of Max Fletcher, Jo Murphy and Bill Munden.

Our Branch meets on the third Thursday of every second month at the Te Rapa Racecourse in Hamilton at midday with a reasonably priced, sumptuous lunch.

On 15th April, 32 members attended our Annual General Meeting. Except for one member, all of the committee agreed to continue through to 2011. Max Fletcher was thanked for his contributions to our committee in the past.

(Sadly Max passed away in June.) Following the meeting Bruce Murcott, Bunny Mortimer, Jim Phillips, Norman Smyth and Winton Mackintosh told of their experiences in the Forces during World War II, both at home and abroad.



Those with a flair for writing were encouraged to apply for the Founders Book Grant. (This was followed up at all meetings until October.)

On 17th June, 30 members attended a talk by David Wallace who gave us an interesting insight into the work and extensive maintenance required to run the Maungatautari Ecological Reserve, 47 kilometres of pest-proof fencing surround a patch of Mt. Maungatautari, near Cambridge. Within its boundaries native flora and fauna are living and multiplying undisturbed. (Unfortunately, there has been a lot of argument about the governance of the reserve lately, with the result that the whole concept seems to be in jeopardy.)

On 19th July, our Secretary/Treasurer, Carolyn, and I visited Wellington for the Founders Annual General Meeting at Wilton Bowling Club. It was lovely to meet the members from other parts of New Zealand and get an update on what is happening at National level.

On 19th August, 45 members attended a revisit from Max Hill who gave us an update on his research and progress with his book

about early civilizations in New Zealand, including the Mororis. We were fortunate to have the editor of a local newspaper join us and he produced in his newspaper an article accompanied by a very clear photograph.

On 21st October, 43 members attended to hear our National President, Michael Norris, speak of his vision for the future direction of the Founders under his leadership. Michael had family connections in this area and spent happy times in Hamilton when he was young. Some of our members joined in the discussion, speaking of their visions for the future, including ways to get new members.



On 25th November 66 members (including members of the Waikato Historical Society) attended a lively celebration of the festive season. Cambridge Ladies Lyceum Literary Circle presented a short pantomime 'Hansel and Gretel' written in verse by Olive Cooper of the Literary Circle. Several of our members performed items, followed by Santa's arrival with a big basket of lollipops. Added to the mix we had a selection of carols. Everybody went

home full of Christmas cheer.

On 17th February this year, 49 members attended an 'Antiques Road Show' hosted by Roger McGirr. Members brought along treasured items for display. After the luncheon Roger gave us his expert opinion on the age and origin of each item.

Mention was made of an upcoming trip to Waiuku in March, planned by the Waikato Historical Society. Those attending will



visit Wright's Water Gardens, Glenbrook vintage Railway, Glenbrook Farm and Waiuku Museum.

I would like to thank the following:-

Our committee for all the support they have given me this last year - each in a different way. I would especially like to thank Carolyn who helped me to understand the workings of our Society and the running of our Branch and also Committee members - Bruce Murcott and Doug Bedggood for all their help over the past four years and who are retiring this year. I wish you all the best for the future.

Members and friends who have come along to our meetings, joined in the fun and make everything worthwhile.

It is such a pleasure to have visitors from other Branches from time to time. Bay of Plenty members have visited us several times and Wairarapa has also graced us with a visit.

The speakers we have had who have given of their time and expertise to brighten our day.

Ann Huston of the 'Cambridge Edition' and Colin Vincent of the 'Hamilton News' who have seen fit to publish articles and photos for us from time to time.

I wish all our New Zealand-wide Founders a great year.

Kath Townsend  
Chairman, Waikato Branch

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

28th March, Hotel Armitage AGM. The meeting was scheduled for Tauranga (not Rotorua) at the request of the members. Forty nine members attended. Most felt a central area would benefit all members as we draw from Ohope to Waihi and across to Matamata. Over the years we sometimes find people living at

either ends of the Bay of Plenty (Whakatane and Katikati) cannot make it to these meetings. We're all ageing, many in their eighties and nineties and do not drive. The speaker was Jocelyn Hicks who is the Director of Guiding for The Elms and is on the Board of the Elms Foundation. She spoke of the Elms (the Te Papa Mission Station) and the founding of Tauranga.



*Watercolour titled: The Elms Tauranga,  
by Col. G. J. Carey, 1864: Source: The Elms Collection*

The Elms Mission House was the original home of Rev. Alfred Brown, a church missionary for the Church Missionary Society of England.

30th May, Heritage Hotel, Rotorua, 40 present. Our speaker was Barry Grayland who is Registrar for the Rotorua and Districts Justice of the Peace Association. He gave a most interesting talk detailing the 80 year history of the evolution of this institution up to the present day duties and functions of the Justice of the Peace. Following an enjoyable luncheon the raffle was drawn by Bonnie Rodgers.

25th July, Ohope Chartered Club, Ohope, Whakatane. Driving through to Whakatane was such a pleasure - it was sunny, the paddocks were bright green with new grass, patches of pink blossom or early Magnolias and so we arrived at the Ohope Chartered Club. On inspection we could see where the creek had overflowed as inside the club the whole ground floor had been

re-carpeted. We set up the raffle and welcomed three visitors - Peter Hyams, Waikato Branch and we were extremely pleased to welcome Michael Norris and his wife Susanna from Wanganui Branch. He spoke briefly of his vision for the future of Founders - to gain new members. After a pleasant lunch we moved downstairs for our meeting. Our speaker was Teina Jordan, who was, for over 20 years, a volunteer archivist of the Whakatane Museum. She was a most interesting speaker and enlightened us on the many intricacies of the history of the museum. After the talk we then had the meeting where I presented details of the Annual General Meeting in Wellington. As a result of some discussion it was suggested that we write to Head Office re the suggestion of an answer phone or call minder to help with communication.

19th September, Kiwi 360, Te Puke. It appeared to be a good move to bring forward the date of our September meeting so that we did not clash with the school holidays. A good attendance of 50 enjoyed a most attractive buffet luncheon in the very pleasant surroundings of this venue. A glowing fire welcomed the members who were almost blown away by the very blustery conditions. An excellent selection of prizes for the raffle included 4 large bags of kiwi fruit and 1 of tangelos donated by Founders' members ensured we made a profit. ??? who had already written and published a book on the history of the Te Puke area. This she co-wrote with Marie Lewis, one of our members, and it is currently on sale at Kiwi 360 for \$45.00. Christine gave some fascinating examples of the background and family life both here in New Zealand and from the previous lives in other parts of the world. After Marie Lewis had thanked the speaker, Marie then explained her own detailed history of her ancestors. We are also indebted to Marie for beginning our

Ancestors' Board which shows the background photos of the group's ancestors. She exhorted all of the group's members to publicise the many interesting facts about their forebears. Theodora Wickham, another well-known Te Puke member, demonstrated clearly her detailed knowledge of her earlier relatives. Both these ladies were excellent examples of their earlier female relatives in that they spoke knowledgeably, forcefully and in an interesting manner about their founding ancestors.

Following the Branch reports, the meeting was thrown open for discussion on Michael Norris' 1st newsletter outlining his vision for the future which all members had received a copy of. Various proposals and a wide range of views were forthcoming from our members and also Kath Townsend, President of the Waikato Branch. Various ideas were suggested and a number of motions passed. One of the most important was that all the group approved the amended constitution of extending the date to 1886 BUT they wished there to be NO distinction between earlier members to 1865 and those admitted after 1866? We would all be members of the Society.

There were various proposals regarding publicity and the re-designing of the membership pamphlet and suggestions to the use of Facebook and Twitter. All these suggestions to be forwarded to the National Committee as feedback.

Jo Wake thanked all for their contributions and looked forward to seeing them at the Christmas meeting.

29th November, Christmas Meeting at Twickenham Cottage, Katikati Sixty members attended from Whakatane, Matamata, Katikati, Tauranga, Te Puke and Rotorua on a lovely summer's day. We had one or two visitors, the result of a recent article in the Bay of Plenty Times on the Founders' Society in the Bay of

Plenty. It was lovely to see, sitting outside in the luxuriant gardens, two of our oldest members - Nan Wright and Mary Pratt (over 90). After the Christmas luncheon (with Christmas crackers and individual chocolate Santa's) we enjoyed the talk on the historical background of the Haiku Trail \* which is a major Katikati tourist attraction. Sandra Simpson also discussed the format of the Haiku poems and gave examples.

(\*See page 43)

Catherine Mair, the original founder of the trail, also spoke of the support and success of the trail. The speaker was then thanked by one of the Vice-Presidents, Shirley Carswell, and presented with a small monetary gift.

Jo Wake,  
Chairman Bay of Plenty Branch

### ***Taranaki Branch***

Looking back on the past year, the programmes have been varied and I think interesting. We have had new people becoming members which is a good sign. We have had a display showing Founders' news and activities at the genealogy gathering at Hamilton and Puke Ariki. Thank you to those who attended these presentations.

The end-of-year function was attended by the President and his wife, Mr and Mrs Norris. The new format for this function seemed to prove quite popular. Thank you to the members who prepared the hall; it really added to the festive evening. The 'buzz group' which was set up to promote Founders has had meetings with people who may be interested in promoting our cause. Your committee has met three times during the year. Our thanks to Dawn for making us so welcome.

Our Annual Dinner and Memorial Service was held on 27th March. There were 22 members attending. The Reverend A. Upson arranged a very nice service and the Mayor spoke afterwards.

My thanks for the support I have been shown over the past years as your Chairman.

Dale Osborne,  
Chairman

### **Hawkes Bay Branch**

It is with great pleasure that I present the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report of the Hawke's Bay Branch of NZ Founders Society Inc. The year 2010 has been an interesting and eventful one for members and we record that we have had an average attendance of 55 members and guests to all our meetings and outings. Our membership stands at 135. We have registered this year eight new members and two resignations due to age and family commitments. Sadly, two of our members passed away Mrs E.M. Kidd and Mrs Judy Garland. Our sympathy was extended to their families and particularly to Mr John Garland (past Secretary and Treasurer). Judy was always present and supportive at all our meetings and outings and is sadly missed.

In July I attended the National Council and Annual General Meeting in Wellington. Sadly, Mrs Beryl Gentleman stood down as our President and we welcomed Mr Michael Norris of Wanganui Branch who was appointed our new National President. Mr Norris is very intent on presenting the image of the New Zealand Founders Society to the public. He has come forward with new ideas and suggestions for increasing our membership, some of which we plan to implement this coming year. We will be extending an invitation to Michael to visit our branch. This year

the National Council meeting is being held in Wanganui and I recommend members attend the meeting as Observers to meet our Executive Officers.

During the year we have had members from other branches visit us and we say thank you as this is a wonderful way to meet and learn of each other's area and history.

February: Our Annual Founders Luncheon was held at the Havelock North Community Centre Function room (we are very fortunate to have available such a convenient and attractive venue which can accommodate up to 120 people). Our speaker was Mrs Margaret Gray, President of the Central Hawke's Bay Museum and author of the book "The History of Waipawa". She gave an insight into the history of the area and how in 2010 Waipawa would be celebrating 150 years in existence.

April: Annual General Meeting (55 present). Our speaker was Mr Ewan McGregor who spoke of the notable trees in Hawke's Bay. We welcomed Mr Ian Granger, Napier, who has joined our committee. Ian has a great knowledge of central Hawke's Bay history.

May: We visited "Stoneycroft" historical home built in 1874 as the townhouse for an early Erewhon land owner. It is now owned by the Hastings District Council under a heritage covenant. Mr James Morgan, former editor of the HB Herald Tribune, gave a powerpoint presentation of the plans to make it the most important historical archive outside Wellington. (Our committee later made a donation towards this project.)

July: At our annual Winter Luncheon, Mr Michael Fowler, a member of the Professional Historian's Association of NZ and author of five books on Hastings' history, spoke to us about the Early Movie Theatres and Personalities of Hastings and Napier

Cinemas. This was very interesting especially for those who have lived in the area for many years.

August: Our speaker at Duart House, Havelock North, was Mrs Nancy Robertson former owner of The Old Curiosity Shop in Hastings. She spoke of the importance of having our treasures seen and valued by experts, especially anything of gold, to know their proper value. Later she assessed and valued articles brought by members. A very informative afternoon.

October: Our Spring to have lunch at The Hotel which is a restored Edwardian hotel, one of only two buildings to survive earthquake. Formerly



outing was Country faithfully Art Deco significant the 1931 the home

of the Regional Council. Mr Chris Barons, owner, was our host.

November: A bus trip to Gwavas Homestead and Gardens, Tikokino, Central Hawkes Bay. One of three homesteads located on one of the oldest and most well-known stations in the region with a Category 1 Historical Society status. The expanse of heart totara panelling that covers the main hallway is one of the best examples of interior timberwork in the country and milled right on the family's land. Mrs Phyllida Gibson is committed to the preservation of her home which has been in the family for 120 years. We were privileged to tour both house and gardens and learn of its early history. An excellent light lunch followed later by Christmas cake and wine concluded a delightful and interesting day.

I wish to thank my wonderful committee who come up with new ideas and suggestions and support me 100%. Andy Duncan does a superb job as Treasurer and I welcome back Richard Bayley,



Secretary, and his wife Paddy who have returned from an extensive trip overseas. Finally, I wish to say how much I appreciate the feedback and confidence that we receive from our members. May Hawke's Bay Branch continue to flourish.

Nanette Roberts  
Chairman, Hawkes Bay Branch

### *Wanganui Branch*

We had an eventful year in 2010, several changes of venues and now have been using the St Andrews Church Hall which is proving very satisfactory. We thank Linley Fowler for her efforts with this hall.

We held our 2010 AGM on 11th April and Alan Peat spoke to us about life up the Waitotara Valley in the early days. These talks are always fascinating and this was no exception.

Next meeting was on Sunday, 23rd Hugh Ramage spoke briefly about a written on sewing machines; Hugh long career with sewing machines was most informative. This was Michael McCarthy JP who told us a little about the 800 years of history of Justices of the Peace.



May where book he has has had a and his talk followed by

On 20th June, Pam Annabell who has written a book about life beyond the Waitotara Valley - her anecdotes were most interesting.

On 22nd July we met at the Wanganui Museum in the Davis Lecture theatre, where Sandy Black the archivist told us about the archives held by the museum and the importance of preserving our old records, etc.

Graeme Carter on 22nd August spoke about early days of the railways in New Zealand and has written a book on this subject. It is great when people write historical books, we must always give full credit and support to these people.

We had a "Show and Tell" on 26th September, what an interesting afternoon listening to members telling us about their treasured items.



On Sunday, 31st October, Gerald Benefield spoke about the history of his family in Wanganui going back to 1877 and stories of orchards going back to those days.

Our last meeting was held on 28th November at the Fordell Hotel where Maureen Naldrett-Jays spoke about the

history of St Mary's Church, Fordell, and also gave us some history of the Fordell Hotel.

On 3rd April Susanna and Michael Norris flew to Christchurch and were met by John McSweeney at the airport, taken for a short drive before arriving at the Charlotte Jane where we met other members of the Canterbury Branch of Founders at their AGM. After the meeting John took us for another drive through some of the devastated areas of Christchurch, what we saw was terrible and the Founders' members we met were just so stoic. Just picking themselves up and moving on. We took many photos and wrote our story of what we saw, sending a copy to the Canterbury Branch.

During the year the Branch paid for the restoration of an early photo from the Alexander Heritage Library collection. Gillian Tasker of the library is an enthusiastic person with early records and we hope in the future we can be involved with more restoration of photos, etc.

All in all Wanganui Branch had a good series of meetings although membership figures are down it is felt that the future does hold good possibilities for us to improve our membership numbers.

Michael Norris  
Chairman

### ***Wairarapa Branch***

Our Branch has had a busy and successful year and we have some new members which is great. We welcome them and thank all our members for joining us for our activities.

We think of those who have died and send our sympathy to all their families. Also thinking of members who have been unwell or had other problems and offer them our support. We have had well attended meetings and outings, some of the highlights being



a visit to Bazza's Baas at Balance to see 20 different breeds of sheep, hear of their characteristics and try our hand at spinning their wool!

An afternoon among the nut trees at Heather and Gordon Tarrant's lovely home was most interesting and informative.

In June our Robert Millar Memorial Lunch was held at the historic "White Swan" Hotel in Greytown with Mel Stevens entertaining us with an account of his Air Force training in Canada and England, and his exploits during WW2. His book is entitled "This is My Life".

Ian Renall enlightened us on his family history in July. The Renall family have contributed time, effort and money to the Wairarapa and Renall Street in Masterton is named after its' fourth Mayor, Mr A.W. Renall, a miller and politician.

Augusts' meeting was a fascinating talk by Sonia McKenzie who recently retired as Lieutenant of Clan MacKenzie in New Zealand. A fabulous afternoon enjoyed by all the members and visitors.

Richard Skelleys' Horses and Carriages in Carterton were visited in September, bringing back many memories for our members.

The Tui Brewery tour and well attended. The tour was informative and interesting, enjoyed the samples of the brews.



lunch was most and we different

We were given a tankard to our visit! Audrey and Ian Henderson from Bay of Plenty Branch were our guests for the day, lovely to see them.

A mystery bus tour through Gladstone and Martinborough was enjoyed by members. We ate a fishy and chip lunch at Lake Ferry and afterwards visited "Lavenders Green" in Featherston. Members were told of the history of areas and buildings as we passed through.

December saw us partaking of our Christmas lunch at the Masterton Golf Club where we ate a beautifully prepared meal. We had the pleasure of the company of Maurice Watson to share it with us and cut our Christmas cake. He presented me with a lovely brass bell so as to spare the breaking of drinking glasses!

A guided tour of The Vintage Aviator Museum at Hood Aerodrome, Masterton, was our Waitangi Day outing. This museum housed both WW1 and WW2 air-craft, and has both Allied and German planes. Some of these are the only flying models left in the world and are very valuable. A group of

remember

people, including Sir Peter Jackson, provided the money for their purchase.

Anne Woodley and I have attended Executive meetings in Wellington and we, including our husbands, have visited Hawkes Bay, Waikato and Bay of Plenty Branch activities and been made very welcome. I think there needs to be more communication between Branches and we send and receive information on meetings and outings etc from several Branches.

The Bulletin will be available at our AGM. Any contributions for this year's magazine gratefully received, and many thanks for those who have contributed articles. Wairarapa is well represented in this edition!

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 organizing meetings, speakers, afternoon teas, etc. Anne, your work as Secretary, Jean as Treasurer and Lesley as Enrolment Officer are appreciated so very much. Thank You.

I do not wish to stand for re-election as Chairman and wish the new Office bearers a very successful year.

Joan Dickens  
Chairman  
March 2011

### ***Wellington Branch***

I am pleased to present my report for 2010 as Chairman of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society.

In February we enjoyed an interesting visit to Katherine Mansfield's house in Tinakori Road followed by afternoon tea at the NZ Bridge Club provided by the Wellington Committee.

The Wellington AGM was held at the NZ Bridge Club followed by a well-informed talk from Charlotte McDonald on correspondence between early women settlers how coped with the isolation, births, deaths, in a new land. The National Annual



they  
land.

General Meeting was held at the Wilton Bowling Club. A large crowd was present for the AGM and dinner. The speaker was Tony Simpson who talked about the economics which New Zealand faced in the thirties compared with the present time.

In December we had Christmas Lunch at the Pines which provided a feast.

What does the future hold? The committee has spent a considerable amount of time on the future of the Wellington Branch. 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.

Any ideas people have on increasing the membership (bearing in mind the Society's criteria) will be considered.

I fully support the President's concern for the well-being of the Society. I think the Constitution of the Society should be examined as it seems to be in a time-warp and can only not-so slowly fade away by virtue of the ageing factor. There is a great need for a policy which is more in keeping with the present.

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 regret I will not be standing for office next year for health reasons.

Roger Beauchamp  
Chairman, Wellington Branch

### ***Canterbury Branch***

Dear members of the Canterbury/Westland Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society. Once again I am delighted to personally welcome you to our Annual General Meeting. Every attendee at our AGM is special and important. This applies to each of you and of our apologies today.

I recall my own attendance at Founders AGM'S many, many years ago with my mother, a Founder's stalwart, and an apology due to health today, of positiveness and joyfulness and a special event during the year. However, in all of the years I attended as a child and young adult, and as Chair over these past 12 years, I do not recall the special privilege of a National President in attendance in Canterbury at one of our AGM's. Accordingly, I extend a very special and warm welcome to our National President, Michael Norris, today, Sunday, 3rd April 2011.

2010 what a year we have all experienced! The 7.1 earthquake of the morning of 4th September 2010 has changed many of our lives and that of Christchurch forever. With over 5,000 aftershocks and several additional major earthquakes, especially those of Boxing Day 26th December 2010, and that of 22nd February 2011, with the loss of over 180 lives and most of our

Canterbury heritage buildings and destruction of our CBD, painfully, a new era for Canterbury and Christchurch rebuilding now begins. Even though much of our city is still inaccessible and will be demolished, we are still positive about our future here. The city will be rebuilt and surprisingly, and fortunately, many little gems of our heritage buildings still remain.

A perfect example is this beautiful boutique hotel and is our second visit and to be back and atmosphere in a venue



our venue today, Charlotte Jane restaurant. This it is wonderful experience the that has

survived the earthquakes brilliantly.

As is our tradition your small committee provided our members and their guests the opportunity to attend a varied range of activities throughout the year. Although a slightly reduced number of functions during 2010, they were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were able to attend. Functions included another great afternoon at St Paul's in Papanui in May and a charming visit to Elisa's Manor House (sadly no more) on Bealey Avenue in August.

Our major event was a Christmas lunch at The Old Vicarage in Halswell. This was truly a fantastic venue and a very suitable occasion for our end of year get together following the disruption and stress of 4th September earthquake.

As always in such a small organization, your committee worked diligently and tirelessly to provide activities and the necessary behind-the-scenes administration and records for our Society. My special and personal thanks to each of you.



Financially, we are still in a very sound position, but the investment in Balmoral stage 4 (two sections) is unlikely to deliver any return or sale in the foreseeable future and even more so given the earthquake damage and lack of interest in hill sections. We, and other contributors, remain responsible for rates and related expenses.

We continue our most worthy sponsorship of Margaret Copeland, pioneer storyteller, and the Canterbury Medical Research Foundation, in the fourth year of our five year commitment.

Special thanks again to our Auditor Alan Winslade for his work.

My term as Chair has now extended for 12 years with your support and trust. Due to increasing personal and work commitments (being in the insurance industry and related to the earthquake) as well as recognition that it is time to encourage someone else the opportunity to lead the Branch, I am not standing for re-election at this AGM.

Thank you again for your support over a decade. I offer my continued support as a committee member (if elected) and know that this Branch of the Founders Society will continue to play an important role in our Canterbury area.

In recognition of the Canterbury earthquakes of 2010 and 2011, let us reflect on a few of the buildings we have visited over the past decade and which we will not see again, at least in their original form.

Doing a quick personal recollection, I found over twenty buildings, that we have visited and it is quite emotionally-draining to realize that we have lost so much. However, we have a future to look forward to and trust that in another 150 years our generation will have created and left a positive heritage for our great-grandchildren and for all of the future citizens of

Christchurch to enjoy and marvel at through the Canterbury/  
Westland NZ Founders Society.

Thank you.

John McSweeney

Chairman



### **Profile of Our President**



**RUSSELL HURST**

Founding family at Southland, Manson 1864

Founders executive position; National President & Treasurer.

Personal profile. Born in Invercargill.

Education; BCA in Economics (VUC), Diploma of Banking (NZU) Australasian Institute of Banking. He was employed by the National Bank of NZ, retiring as Regional Manager of the Lower North Island business unit, with 17 branches (364 staff), including Wanganui. On retirement he was National Secretary/Treasurer for the N.Z. Camellia Society for nine years. Presently he is Treasurer for Wellington North Rotary club, a position held since 1997 and has a Paul Harris Fellowship. His hobbies are fishing and a 1961 Sunwasp motor scooter that he rode for 10 years, kept dismantled for 33 years in boxes under the house, and recently rebuilt to registration standard so that it is like new.