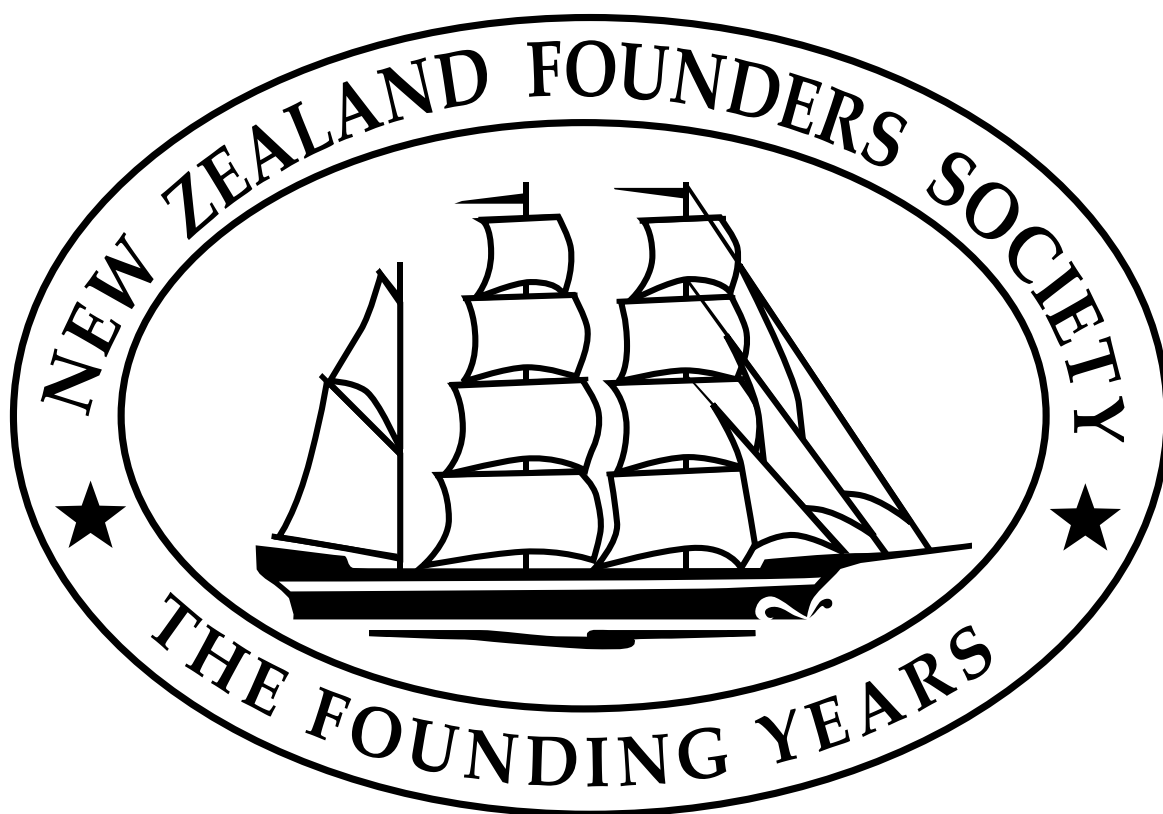




# BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC.

NUMBER 91  
REPORT  
FOR  
YEAR 2019  
ISSN 2463-4336



New logo for the New Zealand Founders Society arising from endorsement at the National AGM 2019.

*"Heritage is about nostalgia, stories  
and memories unique to New Zealand  
and unable to be replicated....  
They're about people, place and time."*

*Dr Anna Crighton, Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for  
services to heritage preservation and governance.*

## **NZ Founders Society Inc.**

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## **New Zealand Founders Pledge**

*We pledge ourselves to foster, promote and inculcate in rising generations  
that hardy will and spirit of enterprise, responsibility, work and faith so  
abundantly possessed by the actual founders, which has been so important  
a factor in the life and progress of New Zealand.*

# New Zealand Founders Society Inc. National Executive

## President

Mrs Patricia (Paddy) Bayley

## Vice President

Mr Graham Cowling

## Treasurer

Miss Kathryn Dent

## Secretary

Mrs Carolyn Adams

## Immediate Past President

Mr Adrian Gover

## Bulletin Editor

Mr Peter Watt

## Branch Representatives

Mr John Webster  
Auckland

Mrs Carolyn Adams  
Waikato

Mrs Maree Lewis  
Bay of Plenty

Mrs Kathleen La Rooy  
Hawke's Bay

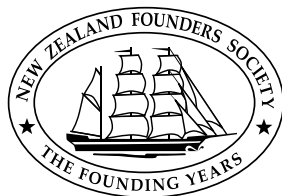
Mrs Anne Woodley  
Wairarapa

Miss Lynley Fowler  
Whanganui

Mrs Anne Francis  
Taranaki

Mrs Carol Hurst  
Wellington

Mr John McSweeney  
Canterbury-Westland



## New Zealand Founders Society Inc.

1st Floor, Wellington Bridge Club,  
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Wellington

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## The 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

### New Zealand Founders Society — 2018-19

*presented by National President, Paddy Bayley, to the New Zealand Founders Society Annual General Meeting held at Auckland, 15 June 2019*



It is with pleasure that I present the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the New Zealand Founders Society Inc.

The inaugural meeting of New Zealand Founders Society was held in Wellington on Wednesday, 1 March 1939. The convenor was Mr D Hope-Johnston. A crest depicting the head of Edward Gibbon Wakefield was decided on with the motto, 'The first 10 years'. Membership was open to the descendants of founding persons who had arrived in any of the six original provinces of New Zealand within 10 years of the founding of the official settlement in that province. In 1987 the rules were changed to include descendants of settlers who had arrived before 1866. The badge was redesigned, still with the head of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, and the words were changed to 'The Founding Years' along the bottom.

Now, 80 years on we continue to honour the values set down in 1939. However, at the New Zealand Founders Annual General Meeting in 2018 in New Plymouth, a decision was made to improve our image. The new logo will be 'a generic sailing ship at sea'. Delegates will vote to change this clause in the Constitution by passing a remit at the Annual General Meeting in Auckland on 15 June this year. New publicity brochures and badges are planned.

We are delighted with our relocated office in the Wellington Bridge Club. The considerable saving in the monthly rental has enabled the New Zealand Founders Society to pass this saving on to our members, thus reducing the National Capitation fee by \$5. We now have a lovely office available by appointment with Kathy Dent.

In my report last year, I expressed concern regarding branches that had deviated from the Constitution. I am delighted to report that all branches and their committees now abide by the New Zealand Founders Constitution.

During these past 12 months I have had the pleasure of visiting eight of our nine Branches with my husband. Thank you all for making us so welcome. We enjoyed renewing friendships. It is so interesting to observe how you all work. Apologies to Bay of Plenty Branch; unfortunately we could not coordinate dates for a visit this year. However, our national secretary, Carolyn Adams, has been my deputy on her visits to your branch.

Thank you to Taranaki Branch for hosting our Annual General Meeting in June 2018. Delegates enjoyed the venue, coach trip, and your hospitality. In February I attended your Annual General Meeting along with our national secretary, Carolyn. A special 'thank you' to your new committee for holding a commemorative service for the people of Christchurch and New Zealand at Puke Ariki Museum on Sunday 31 March 2019.

In December while on holiday in the South Island we were guests with members and friends of the Canterbury-Westland Branch at their Christmas lunch. Thank you for organising this to coincide with our holiday. It does take time to re-establish a branch, especially after the traumatic happenings in this region. Our thoughts are certainly with you all as your province recovers from these challenges.

I encourage anyone visiting Whanganui to view the amazing stained glass window in the Whanganui Council Chambers. Congratulations to the Whanganui Branch and your city council. At your Annual General Meeting we were most impressed to see so many men in attendance.

Waikato Branch has a very enthusiastic committee. Each year, two members from this Branch place a wreath at the Hamilton Cenotaph on ANZAC Day. Your dedication is admirable.

The Wellington Branch Annual General Meeting and lunch was held in the Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, known as KATE. It is the second oldest exchange of its type to have survived

*CONTINUES ON PAGE 4*

in New Zealand and is now a registered heritage building due to the work of the Onslow Historical Society. We felt very privileged to have visited this amazing building.

Wairarapa Branch, one of the oldest branches in New Zealand, is still very active, and will celebrate its 80th Anniversary in 2020. I joined this branch in 1981, so always feel very nostalgic when visiting Wairarapa.

Auckland Branch, thank you for taking on the challenge to host our 2019 Annual General Meeting. Our visit to your branch in February was an excellent opportunity to personally visit the proposed venue, the Quality Hotel.

Hawke's Bay Branch, my present branch, is the largest branch in New Zealand, and celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. A special lunch was held at the Napier Sailing Club early in February in place of the annual 'Founders Day lunch'. Carolyn, our NZ Founders national secretary, attended as well as Founders' friends from Wairarapa and Bay of Plenty Branches.

Congratulations to the recipient of the 2018 New Zealand Founders Research/Book Award, Rose Chapman, from Waipawa, Central Hawke's Bay. Her book is about the families that lived in the historic Duart House in Havelock North.

The 2018 Bulletin is an excellent publication which we should all feel very proud of. Thank you to members who supplied most interesting contributions. To our editor, Peter Watt and Stephanie Drew, thank you for your dedication and expertise. To have copies in many of our libraries along with our new advertising brochures later this year, will most certainly improve our image. It is

also very important that our branches send branch meeting dates information, along with reports and photographs, to our website. We are indebted to Kathy Dent for updating our most impressive website. Please encourage your members to visit it regularly.

Our thoughts go to our members who have also lost loved ones during the year. As mentioned earlier, also to everyone in Christchurch and the Canterbury Westland Branch members. It has been a most difficult time for you all.

To our national treasurer, Kathy, national vice president, Graham, and past president, Adrian, my sincere thanks for your support, guidance and advice during this past 12 months. We appreciate all you do for New Zealand Founders. Our national secretary, Carolyn, is a real 'gem'. Her dedication to New Zealand Founders, even at the most difficult times, is outstanding. Thank you Carolyn, not only for your support and guidance, but for also accommodating us when we have been visiting branches. This is a huge saving to New Zealand Founders. It has been a pleasure working with you all. To my husband Richard, thank you for all your support, and sharing the driving on our visits to branches. We have certainly travelled hundreds of kilometres this year.

New Zealand Founders Branch delegates, thank you for your contributions and support during our teleconferences. We are all so proud of the dedication of our ancestors. Actively promoting New Zealand Founders Society, especially to younger members, must be a top priority for the incoming Executive Committee.

I encourage all branches to liaise with other historic groups and representatives in their area. We all share the same interest promoting not only family history, but also New Zealand history.

*Paddy Bayley*



## *Notice of Founders 81<sup>st</sup> National AGM 2020*

**Saturday 13 June 2020  
Cophorne Solway Park Hotel  
High Street, Solway, Masterton**

A special rate is available when quoting group booking number 70611. Enquire of your local branch for further details.

Design and layout by



*Stephanie Drew*  
**DESIGN**

stephanie@drew.co.nz



# NZ Founders gather for 80th AGM — Auckland

*From Kathryn Dent, Founders National Treasurer*

The 80th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Founders Society was held in Auckland on Saturday 15 June 2019 at the Quality Hotel Conference Centre in Parnell.

Members attending represented all nine branches; many met up on the Friday night and stayed for dinner on the Saturday night. The Executive (one member from each branch and the national office holders) met on the Saturday morning instead of the usual meetings that are held by teleconference. It is always good to put a face to a voice. Lunch was followed by the cutting of the cake and then the AGM on Saturday afternoon. Most of the delegates then took a bus tour of historical sights of Auckland.



*A special cake for the Founders 80th AGM.*



*Cutting the 80th AGM cake: from left, John Webster, Auckland branch president, Kathryn Dent, national treasurer, Paddy Bayley, national president, Graham Cowling, national vice president and Carolyn Adams, national secretary.*



*Place mat for 80th AGM featuring past and present logos.*



*New Zealand Founders gather at Queen's Wharf, Auckland, on the occasion of their 80th AGM. Founders commemorative plaque depicting founding settlers' arrival in Auckland, in background.*

## From the Editor

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Again, in compiling your contributions for this issue of the Bulletin, there are the recurrent themes of connectedness to our past through the activities we undertake as Founders.

This was illustrated to me this year, especially by way of two striking examples. One was when I researched the history of two prominent landmarks in our Hawke's Bay landscape (see page 24) and the other, from a coach trip with our branch members up into the foothills behind Napier where we learned of the life experiences of the nineteenth and early twentieth century timber millers and farmers in the area (see page 22).

On that excursion, many of us were awed at the majesty and presence of a large stand of virgin native bush which has stood untouched since the arrival of humans in New Zealand. It created a special feeling of privilege and wonder to be able to stand in this magnificent bush with trees, some of them towering 50 to 60 metres above us. The cathedral silence broken only occasionally by bird call.

That led us to ponder on the enormous difficulties faced by the early settlers. Understandably, on first being confronted with the stark reality that such bush had to be cleared (to enable farming), the sheer enormity of the task ahead reduced many to despair. Coupled with the physical hard work were the ever-present difficulties posed by isolation, which was often accompanied by financial hardship. All of this engenders enormous respect for those who stayed and built a sturdy future in their new land.

This is my fifth and last issue as Bulletin editor and while I will continue to research and contribute articles for future issues, your new editor is Stephanie Drew who has ably given us the new design for our Bulletin and for our new logo, brochures and badges.

Here's to all good things for you in 2020 as you pursue through Founders, your love of history, heritage, people and places.

*Peter Watt, Editor*

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## Founders main office bearers — over 80 years

### *NZ Founders Society Inc Past Presidents*

1939 – 1943	Mr Cheviot W D Bell
1943 – 1945	Major P de Brandon, OBE, JP
1945 – 1947	Hon. Sir Harold Johnston, QC
1947 – 1950	Mr Arthur Seed
1950 – 1951	Mr J W Carr
1952 – 1954	Mr Duff Daysh, CBE
1954 – 1955	Mr D J Riddiford, MC
1955 – 1956	Mr R D Greenwood
1956 – 1958	Mr Max Wall
1958 – 1962	Mr A H Macandrew
1962 – 1963	Mr E L Benseman
1963 – 1964	Mr R A Mansford
1964 – 1966	Mr L H Pollock
1966 – 1969	Mr A B Diamond
1969 – 1973	Mr L M Buick-Constable, QSM, JP
1973 – 1976	Mr I D Cameron, OBE, C.St J., JP
1976 – 1979	Mr S L Moses, CBE
1979 – 1982	Mr G H Bridge, JP
1982 – 1985	Mr D E Harper
1985 – 1989	Mrs H P Olsen
1989 – 1992	Mr R Ward
1992 – 1995	Mr Ron Garrod
1995 - 1997	Sir John Mowbray
1997 - 1999	Mr R L Greville

1999 – 2002	Mr W N Sheat
2002 – 2007	Mrs N Beres
2007 – 2010	Mrs Beryl Gentleman
2010 – 2011	Mr Michael Norris
2011 – 2012	Mr Russell Hurst
2012 – 2013	Mr Glen Robertson
2013 – 2017	Mr Adrian Gover
2017 –	Mrs Patricia (Paddy) Bayley

### *NZ Founders Society Inc National Secretaries*

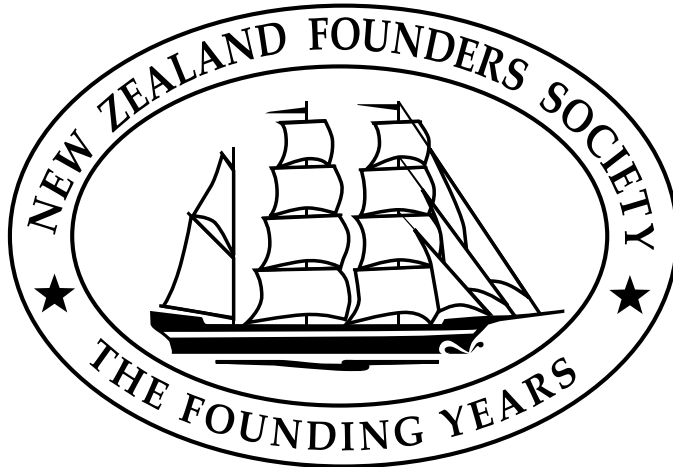
1939 (2 mths)	Mr D Ward
1939 – 1941	Mr D B Bryan
1991 – 1944	Mrs B Claydon
1944 – 1954	Mr J Andrew
1955 – 1957	Mrs S Helliwell
1957 (2 mths)	Mrs Rita Hollings
1957 (4 mths)	Mr Ross Gore
1957 – 1992	Mrs E Anderson
1992 (8 mths)	Mrs L Prosser
1992 – 1997	Mrs H Kelly
1997 – 2012	Mrs Janet Robinson
2012 – 2013	Mr Russell Hurst
2013 – 2015	Ms Kathryn Dent
2015 –	Mrs Carolyn Adams

# New Zealand Founders launch a 'new look' logo

From Paddy Bayley, Founders National President

The inaugural meeting of the New Zealand Founders Society was held on 1 March 1939. Today, 80 years later, we continue to honour our 'Founding families'. As with most societies, many changes have taken place in the past.

This year, 2019, at the New Zealand Founders Annual General Meeting in Auckland on 15 June, delegates passed a remit, amending the constitution to change the logo. This is not the first change to the original logo (showing the head of Edward Gibbon Wakefield). However, this is the most dramatic change.



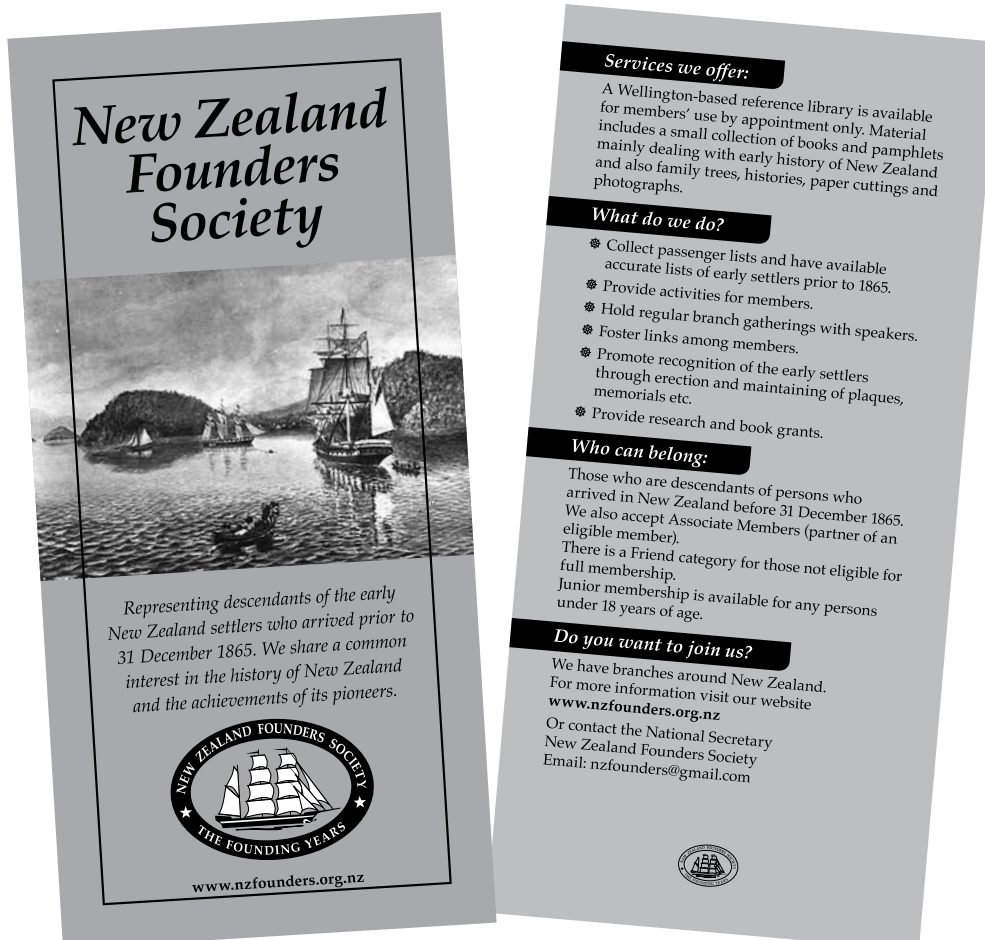
the words 'New Zealand Founders Society', centred at the top, the motto, 'The Founding Years', centred at the bottom. The wording and motto are separated by a star on each side.

The Badge shall be a rendering of the crest and motto in gilt on a background of royal blue and gold enamel.

Moving with the times, and to modernise the New Zealand Founders Society, delegates approved the following change of wording in the Constitution:

*The oval shaped Crest shall represent a generic sailing ship at sea in the centre, surrounded by*

We are grateful to design expert and Hawke's Bay branch member, Stephanie Drew, for designing this very modern logo. Stephanie, designer of our Bulletin, has also designed the layout for our new publicity brochure.



For more information about New Zealand Founders, pick up a brochure or visit [www.nzfounders.org.nz](http://www.nzfounders.org.nz)



# Branch Presidents' Reports

## Auckland Branch 2019

*From John Webster, Branch President*

Our final meeting for the calendar year was held in mid November. It gave us the opportunity to recall the activities for 2019. Overall it was decided that besides the year going "very fast" it was an eventful one.

Our main experience was the planning and execution of the National AGM and Executive Meeting which was held on Saturday 15 June. This was the first time Auckland Branch had held the AGM and all participants, I'm assured, enjoyed it immensely. As much as we did in the organising!

Other meetings involved planning, and afterwards we had a break of three months which we call our 'Winter Recess', having done similar in previous years. No one missed the weather conditions prevailing during that time. However, we were affected; during one terrible storm of almost tornado conditions, our Founders storyboard, mounted on a city wharf, was carried away by the violent gusts.

Only the framework was left standing. We were grateful that the members who had attended the AGM had seen it in all its glory.

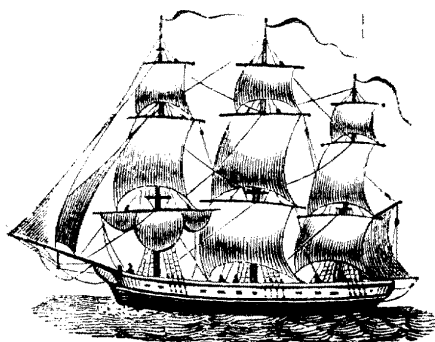
Since that time, we have had a member speak to us on how to start one's family tree. He is a leading light in the movement so we were pleased to have his expertise. The methods he described helped one of our members who has begun the process of tracing ancestors and building out his family tree. Our speaker advised to start at the present and work back to the earlier times. This is the correct method although many people trace the older details first.

Our last meeting for the year was a catered event and we heard from another member about New Zealand celebrations of the past. After some 'hands-on' advice the previous year from our national secretary, we believe we are on an even keel and are hopefully sailing into a bright future in the coming years.



Scene at Queen's Wharf, early Auckland. The Founders' commemorative display of the first Auckland settlers is on the waterfront at this site.

*Acknowledgement: Photo reproduced from Queen's Wharf History-Auckland Live online.*





# Waikato Branch 2019

*Adrian Gover, Branch President*

Since our last report our branch has changed its meeting venue. As the caterer had retired and the Riverlea Theatre was no longer viable for us, we made the change to the Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club in Hamilton East.

Our branch meets each second month, meeting in February, April (which is our annual meeting), June, August, and October, with a special Christmas meeting in November.

We meet on the third Thursday of those months, beginning at noon, with a short business session and a meal, followed afterwards by a speaker or an activity. A change of caterer has brought a vast improvement in our lunch menu.

Carolyn Adams is again our secretary/treasurer, with Miriam Farrell, elected as vice president. We have a full and active committee to support them. Adrian was re-elected as president.

We have been privileged to have had our national president, Paddy Bayley, visit us twice and have also had a visit from Graham Cowling, Taranaki Branch.

We warmly welcome visitors from other branches and all other interested people.

During the year we have heard from several of our members who have spoken on family research and historical matters. We have visited the Waikato Museum where we have seen exhibits not usually seen by the public. We have had our own 'Antiques Roadshow', and most recently heard from a member of the Gallagher family who have done so much for the Waikato and the farming industry in New Zealand.

We have been fortunate to welcome several new members to our branch and there are further prospective members pending.

The new brochures are being well used. We are most pleased with the new Founders badges and extend our thanks to Canterbury Branch for funding them.

Our Christmas meeting has provided us with home-grown entertainment, with carols, stories, poems, and recollections of past Christmas times.

My thanks go to Carolyn, our committee members and to all who have contributed so ably to our programmes and our branch activities.

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# Taranaki Branch 2019

*From Graham Cowling, National Vice President & Interim Branch President*

Taranaki Branch has had a difficult year this year with illness and sickness taking its toll.

Our luncheon/dedication event took pride of place in our calendar of events. It's really important that we don't lose sight of the fortitude that our early settlers needed in their quest for a new life. Cobb and Co was again the dinner venue with the dedication at the 'wind wand' being well attended.

A topic of conversation around Taranaki currently is the Pekapeka Block land confiscation and rightly or wrongly it is being well discussed. The timing was right to invite Rob Green to give an overview of the App he produced in association with the TSB Community Trust, covering the battle sites of the 'First Taranaki War'. This was so successful that we invited Rob to come to our next meeting to continue the learning.

In November, Noelene Shaw, a new member from Invercargill, gave us her pointers on how she went about writing and publishing genealogical booklets that she has produced. This provided excellent insights for all who attended.

We chose Cobb & Co for our Xmas party and the food and service exceeded expectations.



*Founding settlers — Taranaki: John Jury with his wife, Sophia (nee Julian). John Jury was the eldest son of Jesse and Elizabeth (nee Hoskin) who came with his parents and brothers, Richard, James, Thomas, Henry Justin and sister, Elizabeth Anne, on the William Bryan, to New Plymouth in 1841.*

# Bay of Plenty Branch 2019

*From Maree Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer*

This has been a tough year for us all as ill health and family tragedy have both played their parts. We met in Tauranga for our AGM on 10 February and welcomed national secretary, Carolyn Adams, who kindly conducted our election of officers. This saw president, Robin Hicks and secretary/treasurer, Maree Lewis, both returned unopposed, as were our committee members. It was pleasing to see articles from our group 'make it' into the Founders Bulletin which we circulate to several members who can no longer attend.

Our popular two-minute talks continued and Lynne Heaton recalled her Hamblyn family and pointed out the various spellings on their family documents, including in the passenger list for the vessel. This has created puzzling anomalies for later researchers. This family travelled to New Zealand on the same vessel as Bishop Selwyn and his wife, so we imagined it would have been a prim voyage. Barbara James spoke about 'My very ordinary family' and this brought smiles to our faces, as we recalled many familiar things from our own backgrounds. At this meeting we farewelled Dora Wickham who has moved to Taupo. She has been a helpful member who will be missed. Dora was presented with flowers.

In June we met again in Tauranga and heard about the new temperature-controlled Archives building in Whakatane for housing council records and other museum-type documents. Jocelyn Hicks (nee Francis) spoke on 'The History of the Omokoroa Peninsula.' We learned of schools, railway stations and pioneer farming practices which are now all just memories. The old photographs Jocelyn showed, particularly of the scows and frail jetties onto which the cargo was unloaded, were particularly interesting. Many members recalled with regret how lovely the undulating Omokoroa landscape was before the developers moved in.

In August we met in Katikati with a very small gathering of 14 members and we observed a moment of silence in memory of our late member, Joyce Ingram. Carolyn Adams was again visiting and we were shown the new logo for our Founders Society. Our speaker for that day was Julie Green whose topic was 'My childhood at the Elms Mission House.' Julie's grandparents, Duff and Gertrude Maxwell, were bequeathed the historic property in 1949 and

moved up from Taranaki into what had much earlier been the Anglican missionary, Archdeacon Brown's, private home. However, surrounded by a few acres which grazed sheep, it was expensive to maintain and Julie recalled her grandmother struggling to make ends meet. Her grandfather was outgoing and sociable and often invited the curious public in to inspect the house – quite oblivious to the privacy of his family. As a child, Julie knew there were boxes and cupboards and drawers filled with historic clothing and linen, but it was all simply tucked safely away. After 40 years of struggling to keep the old property and its contents in good condition, the Maxwells finally placed their property into a trust which then morphed into today's, 'The Elms Foundation.' It is now kept in immaculate condition and is open to the public.



*Founders national president, Paddy Bayley, addresses the Bay of Plenty branch with Maree Lewis and Robin Hicks looking on.*

In November we met at the original Te Puke Hotel. This was our end-of-year function, and national president, Paddy Bayley and her husband Richard were our visitors. Paddy briefly addressed us, mentioning that ours was the last of all the branches to be visited during her time as president. It was fitting that she then presented the Founders Society Research Award to our member, Sonia Edwards, of Opotiki. Sonia is writing the history of the men from the eastern Bay of Plenty who were killed in World War II. (This will follow her completed similar history of men from World War I). This is the first time (as we know it) the Founders Book Award has been awarded to a Bay of Plenty member and we are very proud of Sonia and her efforts.

*CONTINUES ON PAGE 11*

The speaker for that afternoon was Jeff Willacy whose subject was 'The Post Office,' and he displayed an historical collection of things relevant to bygone



Jeff Willacy with his extensive display of New Zealand Post Office memorabilia.

days in this fast disappearing institution. These ranged from the first money boxes and stamp vending machines, and different gadgets for stamping little notices on envelopes (such as 'Delivery thrice tried' and 'Not at this address') to canvas bags for Fragile packages, grey postman's hats, and a red wooden postbox. This extensive collection of memorabilia is unique and two of our members who had spent their careers with the Post Office were able to add further interesting comments. Jeff's final exhibit was a sign which (when gradually un-peeled) produced four separate layers of Post Office sign variations. As the years passed, the latest sign had been simply nailed on top of the previous model so we saw history unfolded from a sign board. Jeff was duly thanked and given a petrol voucher.

Robin Hicks closed our meeting and we gathered socially to draw our usual raffles, which are our only source of extra income. The Bay of Plenty Branch is now in recess until February 2020.

## Whanganui Branch 2019

*From Lynley Fowler, Chairman*

We started the year with a talk in February by Anne Flutey about the biography of Ian Wakeling called *This Kiwi Can Fly*. This is the tale of the life and work of a pioneer of agricultural aviation. Ian began aerial topdressing and spraying in fixed wing aircraft in 1960; by 1965 he had gained his helicopter licence and his long involvement with helicopters began. Anne told of

the many and varied activities he had been engaged in and the many places around the world he visited in the course of his career.

After our AGM in March we introduced a picnic theme with a montage of photos of various groups enjoying picnics in the past. Members contributed reminiscences of riverboat trips to Hipango Park, Sunday school and church picnics on the train, an-



Picnic group with the launch, 'Benares', Whanganui River.

nual business picnics and some favourite family excursions. The afternoon tea also featured picnic fare with asparagus rolls, bacon and egg pie and a fruit slab cake.

In April we visited the recently re-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12



opened Whanganui Regional Museum after its two years of earthquake strengthening. They took the opportunity to remodel and update many of the exhibits; now there is room to display much more of their collection. They still have the butterflies with pins in them that we remembered from our childhood and the giant sunfish which was always a favourite, but there were many new features such as the bible carved out of a piece of coal and even the original Hamilton jetboat. Members found much to linger over and came away planning to return soon.

We visited the former St George's Preparatory School in May where Alan Cooper, a former headmaster and long-time teacher, gave an entertaining account of life and traditions for both pupils and teachers of this feeder school for Whanganui Collegiate. A tour of the extensive building showed it to be largely unchanged from when it opened in 1927 as a boarding preparatory school for boys. Members found it to be a most interesting look at a time now

established funeral home outlined the history of the business from the earliest he could trace it in 1907, as Symes and Roberts. Symes was a joiner and made a very profitable sideline of making coffins which were supplied, often in 'flat pack' form, all around the country. The business has passed through many hands since then and has occupied several different addresses. It is now owned by Craig and Laura Cleveland. Craig described how funeral customs and etiquette have changed and evolved over the years, including the role of the funeral director.

The Whanganui Branch could not let the opportunity pass when the inaugural 'Heritage Month' was planned for Whanganui, so our August speaker was pleased to become one of the events at an open meeting. Kyle Dalton is updating and expanding a book about Whanganui streets which was first published by Athol Kirk in 1978. Kyle screened a wonderful collection of photographs of early Whanganui to illustrate how the town developed, how the street



'Tylee cottage,' built 1853, shows features of early cottages, with front verandah, central door and rooms either side.

past.

In June our speaker was Dennis McGowan, a local heritage architect who talked about, 'The houses they lived in.' Dennis presented illustrations and information beginning with the Maori whare and traced the evolving styles and materials used in building New Zealand houses through to more recent times. Many examples of the different eras are to be found in Whanganui.

For our July meeting we ventured into a field that everyone knows about and no-one wants to talk about. Craig Cleveland from Whanganui's longest

names were chosen and the citizens involved at the time. It was a good opportunity to publicise our branch and visitors were given our new information cards.

September is our birthday month and we celebrated with a meal at The Grand Hotel. The owner, Neville Gorrie, spoke about the history of the hotel which was built in 1927 as Spriggens, and is the only residential hotel remaining in Whanganui. As a sideline we displayed a list of all the ships our members came on. It

was interesting to see how many of them came out on the same ship and would probably have known the other's forebears.

In October we visited St Mary's Church, Upokongaro, just a few kilometres upriver. Susannah Norris, a descendant of one of the original members, talked about the history of what is now the oldest church in the Whanganui district still on its original site. Built in 1877, it is best known to tourists for its unusual triangular spire on a square tower; it is obvious that the locals still cherish their church with ongoing services and the beautifully kept building and grounds. Apart from being connected to

electricity, it is still in its original state. For all other 'facilities' you need to go to the café down the road.

When all the interesting places we planned to visit for our end of year function fell through, we celebrated on our home turf with food, singing all the old favourite carols, a humorous skit on a modern day Dickens 'Christmas Carol', a Nativity story, a 'pass the parcel' game that ended with everyone getting a little gift, and food. Did I mention food? Lots of yummy festive food. Everyone had a very happy time to round out the year.



*Right: St Mary's church, Upokongaro, note the three-sided spire on a four-sided tower.*



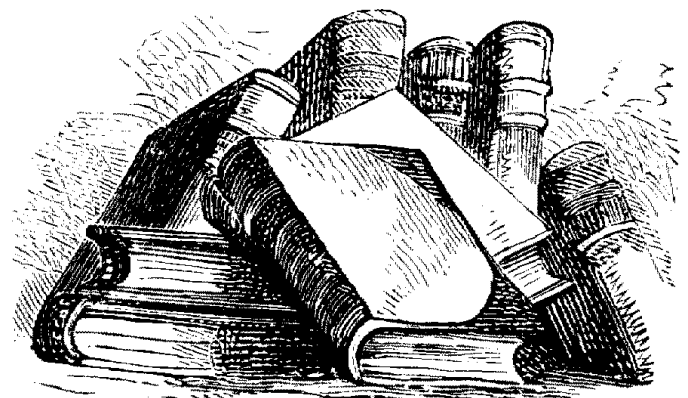
*Coffin factory*

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# Hawke's Bay Branch 2019

*From Paddy Bayley, Branch President*

Hawke's Bay Branch was formed in 1979, and this year, 2019, we celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Over this time we have had three presidents: Mr Peter Harding, 16 years, Mrs Nanette Roberts, 19 years, and current president, Mrs Paddy Bayley, is in her fifth year.

In early February, 84 members marked this very special anniversary with a commemorative lunch at the Napier Sailing Club. Many members added to the festive mood by arriving in the period dress of their settler ancestors. National secretary, Carolyn Adams, attended along with Audrey and Ian Henderson from Bay of Plenty Branch and Anne and Brian Woodley from the Wairarapa Branch.

Paddy Bayley, national president, New Zealand Founders Society and Hawke's Bay branch president, commented that the Sailing Club venue was most fitting for the occasion because the first settlers to the area came ashore very near to the sailing club premises when they arrived in 1864. Founder ancestors were honoured with a dedicated toast, a special grace and a reciting of the Founders pledge. Mrs Roberts and two other members who participated in the cake ceremony (pictured below) have all been members for 40 years.



*From left, Hawke's Bay Founders, Paddy Bayley, Joan McKinnon, Judith Yule and Nanette Roberts prepare to cut the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake.*

Bunting featuring the Founders colours of blue and yellow and the names of the first settler ships to New Zealand, adorned the ceiling and each table displayed a model of a generic settler ship. Some of the Founders members present at the luncheon were direct descendants of the early settlers. Entertainment was provided by branch member, Steph-

anie Drew, her husband Peter and two friends who read excerpts from an immigrant's diary describing conditions and hardships on their journey to New Zealand.

In March this year, Hawke's Bay Founders Branch Committee took up the challenge and mounted a display stand at the Open Day at the Hawke's Bay Knowledge Bank. This digital record of Hawke's Bay and its people is housed in historic Stonecroft Homestead, a Victorian-style colonial home built in 1875. It is overseen by the Hawke's Bay Digital Archives Trust.

With the help of committee members, president Paddy Bayley and secretary Richard Bayley, erected a gazebo to display Founders information. Display boards told how the New Zealand Founders Society was formed in 1939 and the Hawke's Bay Branch in 1979. Also on display were Bulletins, information brochures, and the branch programme. Bunting from the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lunch in February, depicting the ancestors' ships, made a colourful display.

At the Hawke's Bay Branch's Fortieth Annual General Meeting in March, re-elected branch president, Paddy Bayley, reported that the branch was enjoying a growing membership (nearly 170 members at the close of 2018). An exciting programme of events was planned for 2019 and the branch's financial reserves are in a healthy state. Other officers re-elected were vice president, Kath La Rooy, and secretary/treasurer, Richard Bayley. Five presently-serving committee members were returned and three new members were elected.

Guest speaker and branch member, Lyn Sturm, provided details she had researched for her recently published book on the life of her ancestor, Frederick William Christian Sturm (1811-1896). Born in Germany, Frederick Sturm came to Napier in 1839. He was a naturalist, botanist and nurseryman. In 1877 his advertisements listed 200,000 tulip bulbs for sale and 270,000 hedging plants. This year will mark 180 years since Frederick Sturm arrived in New Zealand; this was celebrated by a Sturm family reunion in August 2019.

In May, members enjoyed a coach drive through the late autumn colours of the Hawke's Bay countryside on a 'mystery tour.' The day's outing provid-

*CONTINUES ON PAGE 15*



ed reminders of the enormous efforts by our settler forebears in transforming vast areas of native bush into rolling landscapes of prosperous farms. A brief visit to Kairakau beach, east of Waipawa, with its rolling surf, rugged bluffs and steep hills, illustrated the massive tasks undertaken by the settlers as they developed sheep and beef runs on this coast. In those early days the annual wool clip was transported by lighter out to a waiting coastal ship, which then took it on to Napier port.

The River Park Event Centre, was a picturesque setting for a lunch stop, 10 km from Waipawa on the eastern bank of the TukiTuki River. Then it was on into Waipawa township to visit the Central Hawke's Bay Settlers' Museum. Here voluntary curators explained the fine old former BNZ bank building was purchased in 1986 by the local council. It became the



Settler artefacts greet visitors at the Central Hawke's Bay Settlers' Museum, Waipawa.

In July, 92 of our members attended our winter luncheon in the unique Cheval Rooms at Hastings Racecourse. New Zealand Founders national secretary, Carolyn Adams, was welcomed by Founders national president and Hawke's Bay branch president, Paddy Bayley. Continuing with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme, the tables were decorated with the generic sailing ships. President Paddy Bayley acknowledged three ladies, Joan McKinnon, Nanette Roberts and Judith Yule, who have been members of our Branch since 1979. Joan McKinnon attended the very first meeting in 1979.

Branch secretary, Richard Bayley, enlightened members on the arrival of one of the early direct immigrant ships to Napier, the *Rangoon*. Following lunch, a film, *Treasures of England*, was shown. It gave members a brief insight into the history of eight

stately homes and gardens in England.

Five new members entertained 74 members at our August Members' Meeting, with fascinating glimpses of the lives and experiences of their ancestors as they made their way to New Zealand and settled here. A farming background in Britain was a common theme of their ancestors, as was the taking up of farming as the families settled in New Zealand. Trades and shop-owning were also mentioned as occupations for the settler ancestors. Some notable facts included an ancestor who was Lord Mayor of London in the mid-1500s. Another presenter said their ancestor was a bigamist with families in New Zealand and in the United States. Attacks by Maori on a settlement were also mentioned and one presenter mentioned the main reason for a family emigrating was because of the imposition of a 'window tax' in England which proved the last straw.

In early October, 75 members enjoyed a lunch at East Pier Restaurant, Ahuriri. On arrival, members were delighted to receive their new New Zealand Founders badges. There has been positive feedback regarding the new generic sailing ship logo and the 'new look' information brochures.

In her welcome, branch president, Paddy Bayley, made special mention of George Foulds, the branch's most senior member, having attained the admirable age of 100 in November. Another branch member also reached this milestone in November (see separate photo and caption page 36).

Our guest speaker, Cherry Dingemans, enthralled us with her extraordinary story about her grandparents. Her father and twin brother were born to a woman who had, prior to emigrating, been reported in an obituary as having drowned off the Brittany coast. The story is detailed in the book written by Jocelyn Robson, *Radical reformers and respectable rebels*, subtitled, *How the two lives of Grace Oakeshott defined an era*.

Members then adjourned to the walkway near Perfume Point for the unveiling of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project. (See separate report page 28.)

In another milestone for Hawke's Bay Branch — how many branches can proudly honour two of their members attaining the awesome age of 100 within the same month? (See photo and caption story page 36.)

Late November saw our last function in a very busy and exciting year — our Christmas coach outing saw us travel to the beautiful and peaceful setting at the Puketitiri Hall on the country golf course. Pam Turner, local identity and our coach commentator and guest speaker, provided us with a most interesting ‘trip back in time’, regarding the

area. We then enjoyed our traditional afternoon tea of Christmas cake, wine or juice at ‘Ball’s Clearing’, an outstanding example of dense virgin podocarp forest where some of the native trees are at least 600-700 years old! (See separate article on pages 22-23.)

**Footnote:** Our branch recalls with sadness the passing of Cherry Dingemans in early November 2019.

## Wairarapa Branch 2019

*From Anne Woodley, Branch President*

It is my pleasure as president to present our 79<sup>th</sup> annual report to members. I would like to welcome new members and offer our condolences to the families of those who passed away during 2019. My thanks to the Wairarapa branch committee who assisted with planning and organising our programme and ensuring our branch ran smoothly over the past year.

To start our year we visited Tarata Garden, 139 Tararua Drive, Masterton. A very pleasant day out.

Our AGM was held in March at the Masterton Croquet Club rooms in Queen Elizabeth Park. Our speaker was Bill Knowles whose topic covered his life working in the dairy industry, Wairarapa-wide.

In April we visited the Taxidermy Museum in Pahautea Road, off the Lake Ferry road. The owner, John McCosh, gave us a short introduction to his Taxidermy collection which had been collected over many years.

In May, members travelled to the Paper Road Winery and Bistro for a very enjoyable lunch.

In June, we held this year’s Robert Miller Memorial lunch at the RSA. This was attended by over 40 of our members, and the RSA put on a roast and dessert meal for us.

For July, we held our traditional soup and bun lunch at the Croquet Club rooms in Queen Elizabeth Park. Our speaker was Carl Tapp who shared his experiences on living and teaching in Samoa.

In August, members gathered and travelled to the Cobblestone Pioneer Village in Greytown. A lot of the items on display were familiar to our members, particularly those from our farming community.

In September, in keeping with the ANZAC spirit, our local RSA custodian spoke to us about the items held in their war memorabilia room. This was followed by lunch in the restaurant.

For October, members toured places of interest on the local Scandinavian settlements, north of Masterton. During our first stop, we were spoken to by a member of the ‘Friends of Mauriceville’ group. We continued to the Mauriceville school and Lutheran cemetery and stopped at the Kopuaranga Hall for lunch. During our stop at the hall, Harold Devenport, a member of the Friends of Mauriceville group, spoke to us about the history of the area. We then continued to the Mauriceville West historical cemetery, and Lutheran church. (See separate report on page 26.)



*Cairn erected at Mauriceville to mark a century of Scandinavian settlement.*

In November, we went to Henry Christensen’s Farm Museum at Mount Bruce. Henry has an extensive collection of farm implements and objects on display.

Xmas was again at the Copthorne Resort, Solway, where there was good company and good food. A safe and happy New Year to all.



# Wellington Branch 2019

*From Carol Hurst, Branch President*

We had another successful year for our small group of active members. In March we were invited to visit an Upper Hutt charming and historic cottage owned by a member. I collected the lunch from our city caterer and drove out to prestigious Barton Road with its grand old houses, large trees and purposeful lack of footpaths, to find a small, pretty cottage next door to the Swedish Embassy. This cottage was thought to have been built in 1910, however the records were lost in a fire. After learning about the history of the house we had a very sociable lunch together. There are several Chapman Taylor-designed houses in the area and we were lucky to visit the original 'Doll's House', almost next door. We admired the lovely garden and original façade of this house.



*A James Chapman-Taylor-designed cottage in Khandallah, Wellington, built in 1935. Signature features of his style included concrete walls, a tiled roof and interiors that featured an 'arts and crafts' look with prominent timbers and joinery.*

*Photograph from Stuff online – Life and Style – Houses, 2019*

In April we held our AGM in the rooms of the Onslow Historical Society and learned of their occupation of the building and the extensive archives they hold for their local area.

July saw us visit an apartment in Greenmantles, a 1960s residential block in Kelburn, close to Victoria University. There we had a good meeting about recent matters of interest to the branch. We have decided to cooperate with the Onslow Historical Society whenever it is suitable. We all have historical interests in common.

On another occasion we visited 'Crofton', an historic house in Ngaio, of significance as one of Wel-

lington's oldest surviving houses. It was built in 1857 by Sir William Fox as a country retreat. (Refer to the 2016 Bulletin, p 31, to see a picture of Sir William Fox's home, 'Westoe', in the Rangitikei district.) Crofton was soon sold and the house was used by several owners for different purposes. It served as a church, a Sunday School, as a school called Crofton College for boys, and was eventually turned into flats. The present owners purchased it in a very poor condition in 1979 and set about restoring it, almost to its original design. It is furnished now in a style appropriate to the house. We were given an interesting tour of the house and then sat with the owner at the huge dining table where we enjoyed another of our sociable lunches.

For our final outing for the year in September, we joined with Onslow and the Wellington Early Settlers' Association in a visit to Christ Church in Taita, Lower Hutt. This church is in beautiful condition and is a Category 1 registered building. John Daysh spoke about its history as we sat in the church and we later toured its cemetery where many of the early settlers of Wellington are buried.

After visiting the Taita church we proceeded to Silverstream to the Hutt

Valley School of Riding for the Disabled, who have celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> year. We toured the property and saw their therapy work in the arena. This was followed by an enjoyable lunch in a local café. Everyone had a very enjoyable day. We were presented with copies of the book, *Walk On, Walk On*, a history of this riding school.

Our final meeting for 2019 was an enjoyable and sociable Christmas lunch at a Wellington hotel on 6 December. I wish to thank the members and committee for their support during the year. We have lost more members from age and ill health this year and diminishing numbers are a sign of the times for us.



# Canterbury-Westland Branch 2019

*From Pam Absolum, Secretary/Treasurer*

Many years ago when the Canterbury-Westland Branch was formed, funds were raised from raffles, cake stalls and donations. Those were small beginnings. Now it is time for us to give back in remembrance of those people who established the branch but have long gone.

Organisations we have donated to include:

The Lyttelton Tug Preservation Society. We received a 'massive thank you,' from them for our helping to keep this piece of unique history alive, They also acknowledged the link with the early settlers' arrival at Lyttelton Harbour.



*The restored 112-year-old steam tugboat, 'Lyttelton.'*



*Mel Opie (left), presents a cheque to tug restoration volunteer, Mike Bruce.*

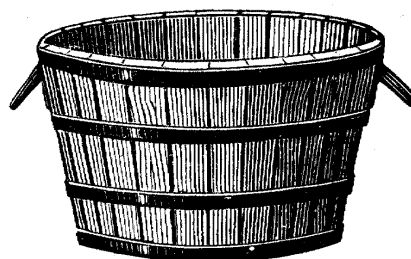
and ...

Another donation was made to the Burwood Hospital Spinal Unit. This was made in remembrance of our past chairman, Graham Tapper, who passed away in 2013.

In our year's activities, our visits have included the Pioneer Hall at Lincoln township. This facility has been set up as a pictorial history and is organised by the Lincoln and Districts Historical Society. Also at Lincoln we visited the Liffey Art Gallery which was previously the Coronation Library, built in 1912 to commemorate the coronation of King George V. Afternoon tea was taken at the 'Cottage Café' which in earlier times (1870s) had been the home of Bert Restall, a wheelwright and undertaker.

On another outing several members and partners drove out to Glentunnel, beyond Darfield in the Selwyn district of Canterbury. There we visited their local museum which is fully manned by volunteers. The displays contained many items to remind us of when we were young — lots of memorabilia and old farming equipment, a coal range and numerous other household appliances. It is a little gem full of local history, from clay used for bricks, to coal mining and farming. This museum also has a generous amount of books and materials that may be used for historical research. Our member, Mel Opie, had firsthand knowledge of the contributions his forebears had made in the area. We remember Mary Jean McLaughlin who passed away in July 2019 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Our midwinter Christmas dinner was celebrated at the Racecourse Hotel. Despite being considered one of the most haunted places in New Zealand, we never saw or heard anything unusual, not even the ghost of former licensee, Donald Fraser!



## A tribute ... Clyne Russell Hurst # 7706

(12.1.1932 - 12.8. 2019)

*From Carolyn Adams, National Secretary*

Sadly, Russell Hurst, husband of Carol Hurst, our Wellington branch president, has passed away.

Russell joined New Zealand Founders in 2002 through his great grandfather, Donald Manson.

Russell was a tireless worker for Founders. He served on the national executive from June 2002 until June 2013. He fulfilled the role of our national treasurer and as our national president in 2011, and then as our national secretary for 2012.

Ill health forced Russell to retire from Founders in 2013 and his health deteriorated further. Our sincere condolences go to Carol Hurst and their family.

## Founders Book Award 2019

*From Lynley Fowler and Susanna Norris Adjudicators for the Founders Book Grant*

**T**he Founders Annual Research and Book Award for 2019 was awarded to Sonia Edwards of Opotiki and announced at the Bay of Plenty Founders Branch meeting in November.

Sonia's planned book will research under the title, 'World War II Fallen in the Eastern Bay of Plenty'. It follows her earlier work in the same vein about the fallen from World War I which comprises more than 300 pages of individual biographies and photos of Eastern Bay of Plenty soldiers, including their war records and accounts of action.

Sonia's qualifications and past record show her to be an able historian and capable writer who has put herself out



considerably in recording and preserving the social life and history of the Eastern Bay of Plenty area.

This World War II volume, we are sure, will become a vital resource for researchers and genealogists well into the future.

### *About the Founders Research and Book Grant*

This grant is awarded annually for research into a new book on local history in New Zealand. Presently such recipients will receive a sum which is between \$1500 and \$3000. Founders have assisted 22 writers with this award since 1982. Full Terms and Conditions for the award are on the Founders New Zealand website and are also listed on the inside back cover of this Bulletin.

*Sonia Edwards, centre, with Founders national president, Paddy Bayley, left, and Bay of Plenty secretary/treasurer, Maree Lewis.*

## Founders 'Bulletins past' now online

**H**awke's Bay Founders commend highly the considerable voluntary efforts of their committee member, Faye Sherriff, for the generous time she has allotted to digitising past Founders Bulletins. A large number of past issues can now be accessed by Founders and importantly, the general public, online. Online searches of their contents can be conducted using key words.

Go to the New Zealand Founders Society website, main page, and look for past Bulletins under: 'News

and Events'. To date, as this Bulletin went to print, Bulletins from No.1 (1953) to Bulletin No. 66 (1995) are accessible from that site.

To you, the Founders reader, do you have any spare copies available from Bulletin 67 onwards? If so please advise your branch teleconference delegate to enable them to be passed on for digitising.



# Descendants gather to honour a true pioneering family

*From Erica Tenquist, Founders, Hawke's Bay*

In a very special family observance, descendants of Georgiana (nee Tatham) Wheeler, gathered on Labour Weekend, 2019, at Te Aute, Hawke's Bay, to pay tribute to this pioneering lady and commemorate the unveiling of her recently restored headstone.

Georgiana, or 'Georgy', as she was affectionately known by her family, was the first European woman to be buried in what was formerly an ancient Maori burial ground in which 27 generations of Maori lie at Te Aute, south of Hastings.

Georgiana, the youngest of 13 children, and her husband Edwin Wheeler, an Anglican Minister, came to New Zealand from England, arriving in 1850, with their six children. They went on to have six more children in New Zealand. Two sons died in infancy. Of the 10 living children, seven went on to have families.

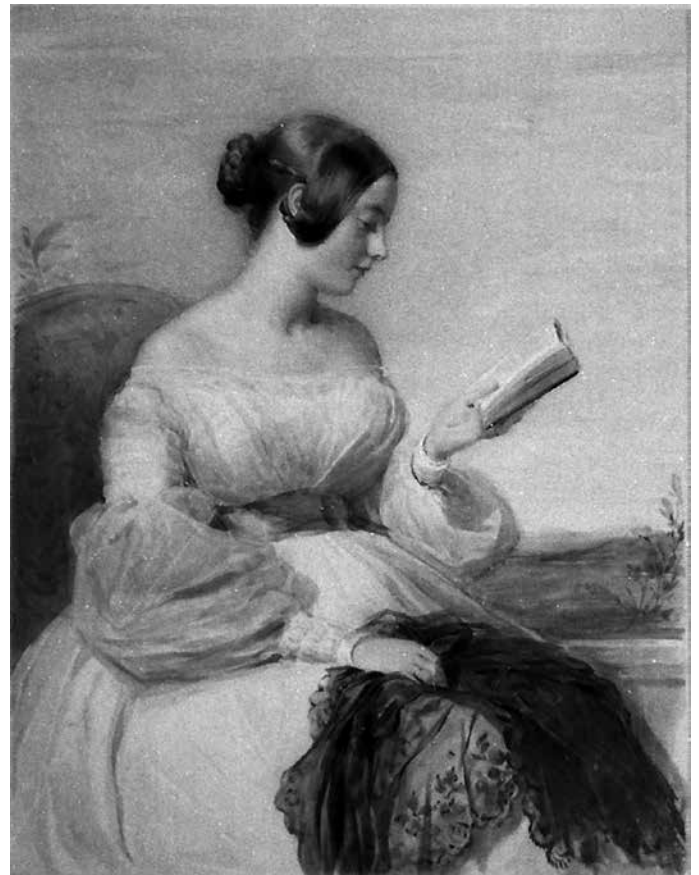
Edwin Wheeler taught first in Nelson, then in Wellington where he also ministered to the Anglicans for several years. Eventually the family arrived at Te Aute in about 1857. Edwin taught in the mission school, ministered to the settlers and became the first vicar of Waipukurau in 1859.

However, there was a sadness to recall, in that the family endured difficulties and Edwin disappeared from the family's life when his youngest child was three years old. The circumstances of his leaving and disappearance were never properly established.

Following Edwin Wheeler's departure, Georgiana reverted to her maiden name of Tatham and bestowed



*The restored gravestone of Georgiana Wheeler nee Tatham (1820-1869).*



*Copy of a portrait of Georgiana ('Georgy') Tatham, painted in England in 1841 by the renowned portrait painter, George Richmond, Georgy's brother-in-law. George Richmond also painted famous people including some of Queen Victoria's children, Charlotte Bronte, William Wilberforce, Bishop and Mrs Selwyn and Sir George Grey, whose portrait is in the Auckland Art Gallery'*

*—from notes by Margaret Merton, Georgiana's great, great granddaughter.*

the same name on all of her children. Georgiana died in 1869, aged 49.

Noting that Georgiana's grave and headstone had markedly deteriorated, Georgiana's great, great, granddaughter, Margaret Merton, and her husband John and their family, set about restoring it. More than 60 of the descendants then gathered at the Labour Weekend observance to mark the restoration.

### *At the graveside*

On Sunday 27 October 2019, Labour Weekend, Georgiana's family descendants and members of the local community came to Christ Church at Pukehou for a memorial service. They then moved on to the newly refurbished gravestone in the Te Aute Urupa, the ancient Maori burial ground near the church.

*CONTINUES ON PAGE 21*



A great, great, great, great grandson, Sam Merton, played the violin before and during the service. The officiating Minister was Rev Joan Edmundson.

Prayers were said at the graveside and a music ensemble of Tim Barrie, Elizabeth, Penelope Merton and Sam Merton played a piece especially written for the occasion by Tim and Elizabeth, called, 'Planxty: Georgiana Tatham'. A Victorian style casket spray was placed on the grave and Rosemary sprigs for remembrance were placed by all present. As a final touch, a Totara tree was planted.

**And following ...**

Family and friends then gathered at Te Aute College for a luncheon in the college dining room and many stories were told after the mihi whakatau from Stewart Whyte, the School's hostel manager. A response was made by Jenny Merton, a great, great, great granddaughter of Georgiana's.



*Tatham siblings, from left, Tim, John and Kay Wells (nee Tatham), observe Georgiana's restored grave.*

After the lunch, further anecdotes were related and a descendant from each branch of the family spoke to inform all present of how the family had evolved and spread — some are still within New Zealand, and others are in different parts of the world.

A great, great, great, great granddaughter, Eleanor Merton, dressed during the occasion at Te Aute in a style similar to that of Georgiana when she posed for a portrait. The portrait was painted of her in England by George Richmond, before her marriage in 1841.

A cake in memory of Edwin and Georgiana Wheeler was cut by the eldest and youngest descendant present, respectively, Mrs Kay Wells, nee Tatham, and the violinist, Sam Merton.

**Footnote**

Erica Tenquist, author of this article, lives in Hastings and is a great, great granddaughter of Georgiana Tatham Wheeler.



*At the Te Aute memorial luncheon for Georgiana Tatham Wheeler, her great, great, great, great granddaughter, Eleanor Merton, poses in a dress similar to the one Georgiana wore when she sat for her portrait in 1841.*

# Puketitiri settlement illustrates hard work and persistence of the pioneer farmers

*Translated from Maori — Puketitiri means, “the hills over which the mutton birds flew”.*

For their end-of-year coach tour in November, Hawke’s Bay Founders were delighted to explore the hinterland of Napier and learn from a settler’s descendant some intriguing snippets on how the bush was broken into farmland. (See also Paddy Bayley’s summary of this tour at the end of her Hawke’s Bay Founders annual report on p.15.)

Lying at an elevation of just over 600 metres, the Puketitiri valley is 54 km north-west of Napier and is tucked into the eastern flank of the Kaweka Range. On this trip, Hawke’s Bay Founders followed the same route taken by the early settlers as they made their way from Napier on the coast, through the Rissington district and up into the foothills. The first settler moved into this area in 1860.

Pam Turner, a long time resident of Puketitiri and passionate about preserving the area’s history, delivered many gems of interest in her lively commentary. She noted the changes in land use as we passed through the Rissington area where there are increasing acreages of pipfruit and vineyards. The rolling hills that followed were predominantly of mixed sheep and beef farms with some extensive forestry plantings. Some large dairy farms have also been established.

Pam noted that the Puketitiri valley was once recognised as having the largest (20,000 acres) and most dense stand of podocarp forest in New Zealand. This attracted saw millers and the native timber industry was prominent until the 1930s.

Bullock teams and wagons were commonly used for heavy haulage of goods, produce and timber and horse and coach plied the roads for human transport. Pam related that her ancestor, John Frost Turner, would travel for five hours each way by horse on

visits to see his wife and family in Napier. It would take 12 hours to reach Napier by coach, with the horses changed halfway at Rissington. Traction engines superseded bullocks for hauling out the timber and wool bales and the last coach ran in 1932.

Following lunch at the Puketitiri Golf and Country Club and announcements by Paddy Bayley, the group moved on to Ball’s Clearing and Scenic Reserve where many took to the walking tracks to explore this precious stand of virgin native forest. Native trees such as rimu, matai, kahikatea and miro abound. The reserve was named after Jack Ball, a colourful character from the area’s settler past.

Each night the satellite images on our New Zealand TV weather map show graphically just how little is left of our country’s native forests. As in Puketitiri and wherever there was tall bush, owing to a strong demand for native timbers and for cleared land for farming, the axe, saw and burning resulted in most of the bush gone between 1870 and 1890. Bush remnants were still being cleared in the 1940s. The last of the Puketitiri timber mills closed in 1942.

## **Historical photographs — Puketitiri...**

*Mr Henry Carston, a highly respected teacher at the Puketitiri sole charge primary school (1921).*



*Mrs G Turner using a Norwegian spinning wheel (1921).*



*Puketitiri Farmers’ Cricket Team (1923). Their main rival team was the millhands from the local sawmills.*

*CONTINUES ON PAGE 23*



*and in the present day*



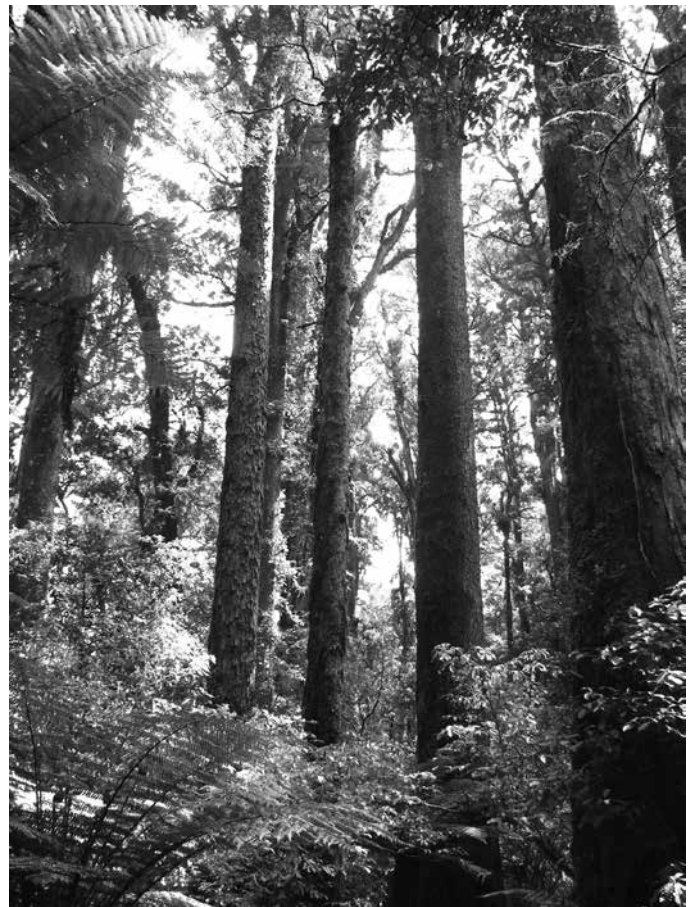
*Afternoon tea at Ball's Clearing. Dispensing an excellent Christmas cake are Hawke's Bay Founders, (from left), Kath La Rooy, branch vice president, Richard Bayley, branch secretary, Paddy Bayley, national and Hawke's Bay branch Founders president and Stephanie Drew, branch committee member and designer for the Founders Bulletin and for new items of Founders livery.*



*Kaweka foothills viewed from the Puketitiri Golf Course and Country Club.*



*George Foulds, 100 years of age, enjoying afternoon tea at Ball's Clearing.*



*Giant native trees in the Ball's Clearing Scenic Reserve.*



*Hawke's Bay Founders, Brenda Ebbeling (left) and Margaret Watt, marvel at the size and age of this giant kahikatea.*



# Landmarks ... our old friends in the landscape

by Peter Watt, Founders Bulletin Editor

**H**ave you ever thought how some of the familiar old landmarks we have grown up with are in fact direct links to the times of our founder-settler ancestors? We have published stories previously in this Bulletin on the important roles that New Zealand's old community halls, churches and other prominent buildings played in settlers' lives. Their architecture, with its different styles of building and designs remind us of a different time.

Some of the obvious landmarks that most readily come to mind are tall structures such as churches and their steeples, clock towers and lighthouses. Other landmarks simply become landmarks over time because of their prominent position. They may be on a hill or are prominent because they 'stand back' from the things around them.

Old trees form a special category in this regard because they are 'living landmarks.'

## *Living trees provide living memories*

An article in the *Northern Advocate* (11 September 2018), 'New Zealand's oldest oak tree dies at Waimate North,' illustrates the significant heritage role played by one such old tree.

This venerable old oak tree at 194 years old, and located in a paddock at Waimate North, some 15 km north-east of Kaikohe, was toppled by high winds.



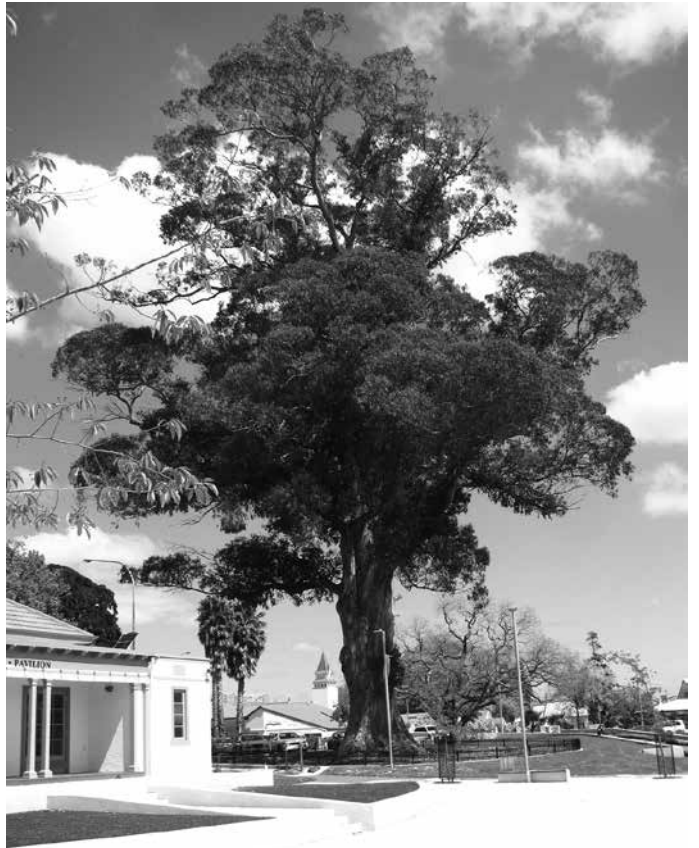
*Oak tree in Waimate North*



"The old oak in Northland had survived fire, witnessed the emergence of one of New Zealand's first mission stations and the country's first European-style farm, lived through the Northern Wars, and was admired by the naturalist, Charles Darwin.

"This tree started its life as an acorn brought by ship from England in 1824 by pioneering missionary, Richard Davis."

Perhaps you are familiar too with a prominent and historical tree or trees in your locality?



*Historical blue gum, Havelock North*

Pictured, is a grand old Tasmanian blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), in Havelock North, Hawke's Bay, which was planted in the 1860s. It is cited in the New Zealand Tree Register as a 'notable tree of local interest' and in the Hastings District Plan as an 'Outstanding Tree'.

S W Grant's book, *Havelock North, from Village to Borough, 1860-1952*, of this tree, says, "The second St Columba's church built in 1893, dignified by its graceful, shingle-covered spire which could be seen from many parts of Havelock North, was also blessed by having in the corner of its grounds a huge blue gum tree, a giant still happily surviving".

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*Maraekakaho Station woolshed viewed from Highway 50, Hawke's Bay.*

### *Click go the shears*

Another landmark of note in Hawke's Bay, readily recalled by travellers of Highway 50, is the Maraekakaho Station woolshed to the left of the highway (if travelling south), 20 km from Hastings and just a small distance before the settlement of Maraekakaho.

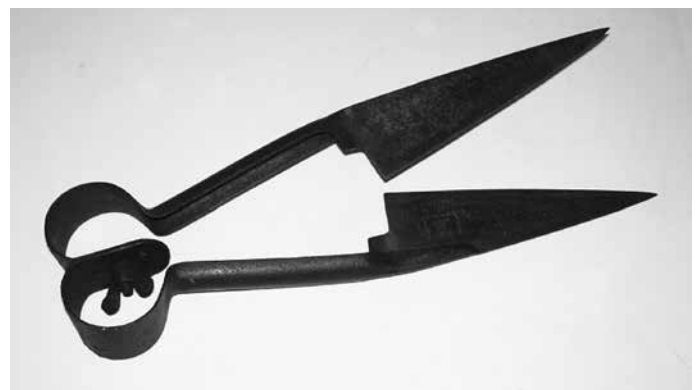
The online site for Heritage New Zealand describes this woolshed as: "... a major building on the now subdivided Maraekakaho station, once the largest station in Hawke's Bay. ... It is one of the larger woolsheds built in New Zealand having a floor space of some 15,000 square feet (1393 square metres) and an original capacity for holding 5000 sheep under cover."

From the online site, Historic Places Aotearoa, in a description provided by M J Wenley, we learn that Maraekakho woolshed was built in 1883 and had 28 stands for shearing [which in those early days was hand-blade shearing].

Ownership of the smaller Maraekakaho Station block on which the woolshed stands, passed to the Wenley family in 1930, when it was purchased from the McLean family.



*A closer view showing a distinguishing feature – the wheel for the lifting tower which hoisted wool bales to the upper level for storage in the loft.*



*Old hand-blade shears.*



# The Scandinavian church at Mauriceville West — glimpses of its history and its people

contributed by Anne Woodley, Founders Wairarapa,  
from a booklet, 'Mauriceville West Lutheran church, 1884-1984'



A modern day view (2019) of the second Lutheran church, built in 1957 to replace the original church built in 1884.

In 1860 the New Zealand Government introduced an assisted migration scheme to develop the forty-mile bush section of the Wairarapa from Kopuaranga to Woodville. After Canada lost interest in this project the offer was made to settlers from three Scandinavian countries. Namely Sweden, Norway and Denmark. By agreement, 4000 acres was purchased to start a settlement at a cost of one pound per acre.

The first emigrants arrived in 1872 on the sailing ships, *England*, *Halcione* and *Forfarshire*. The trip took three months, and on the *England* alone, 14 emigrants died of measles before arrival and were buried at sea. After disembarking in Wellington, the passengers were taken in wagons over the Remutakas and across several rivers. Finally, they arrived at the Scandinavian camp in Kopuaranga where huts had been erected as accommodation. They would

have been stunned by the realisation, that unlike the lightly wooded areas of their homeland, heavy bush covered their 40-acre sections. Colenso, the first European to visit the area now called Mauriceville, said the bush was the most primeval of any in New Zealand.

While their families remained in the camp, their menfolk were often away for days clearing and burning the bush. The campsite is now marked as a memorial to these hardy folk. Thirteen of whom are buried here and who never saw their dream realised. However, by 1873, people were able to occupy their plots and a community spirit developed in their new country.

As their numbers grew so did the call for a place of worship. The Lutheran church was the State church of Denmark. In Mauriceville West, the weddings, baptisms and burials required not only the

church building, but also a pastor. Enter Danish pastor, Jorgen Johansen Sass, who provided the services for the 7000 Lutherans dispersed from New Plymouth to Wellington, from his base in Norsewood. His visits provided the stimulus for the building of the Mauriceville West first Lutheran Church in 1884. It was dedicated by Pastor Sass on 24 August 1884.

Like many small rural communities, Mauriceville was almost a closed community. Despite this it continued to grow. It now had two schools, a store, a dairy factory, post office, hotel, and a lime works. In 1874 education of the area's children commenced, however years were to pass before State education began and the school adjacent to the Lutheran church opened.

Most small communities have their notable individuals and Mauriceville West had their poet. Lars Andersen Schou was born in Denmark in 1835 and had published works both in Denmark and New Zealand. A larger than life character, he commissioned his own headstone featuring Danish verse and biblical quotes. It can be seen today in the Mauriceville West cemetery, and his whare and split Totara barn can still be seen today on Mount Munro Rd. Likewise, the Scandinavian connection is reflected in the names on the headstones at the Lutheran church site: Johansens, Larsens, Mortensens, Neilsens, Neighbours, Christen-

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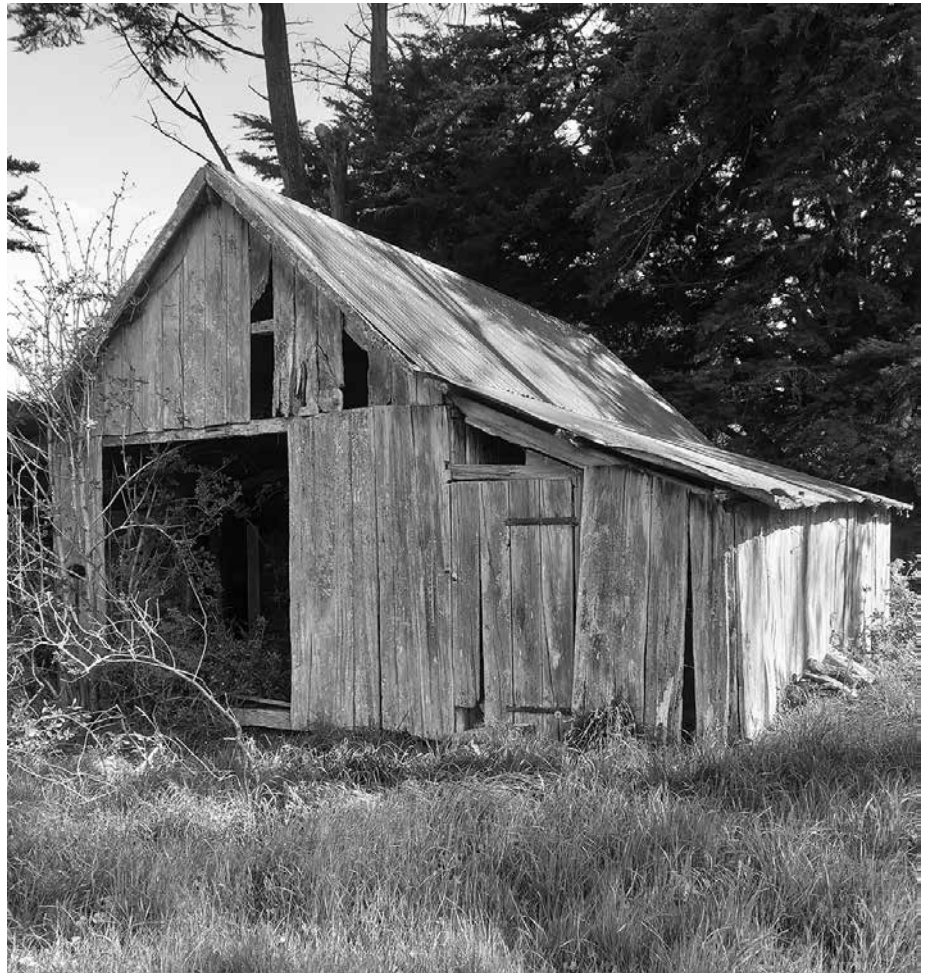


Headstone for the grave of Lars Andersen Schou, Mauriceville West, northern Wairarapa.

sens and Sigvertsens, to name a sample.

Although congregation numbers were fewer than 30 it was decided in 1957 to build a replacement church at Mauriceville West. It was funded by church members and constructed from local timber donated by volunteers. The altar picture, rails and old sacred vessels were incorporated into the new building. The second Lutheran church was dedicated on 22 December 1957 by the Rev. E R Blades of Wellington.

Sunday 5 May 1974 marked a century of settlement of the Mauriceville district by Scandinavian immigrants. Over 500 descendants, including a



Totara slab home (whare) and barn of Lars Andersen Schou.

number of dignitaries marked the occasion by unveiling a memorial plaque at the crossroads past the Lutheran Church. Family reunions were celebrated and many went first to the old graves, then to the sites where their forebears had built their first slab huts. A sum of \$400 had been raised to build the cairn that still stands tall today with its plaque bearing the words: *1873-1973 In memory of the pioneers from Denmark, Norway and Sweden, who first settled in the Mauriceville district. They honoured their native land by willingly giving their best to the country of their adoption.*

All that remains today at Mauriceville West is the closed school and the area's two graveyards. The first behind the school

building and the second near the church. Many factors play a role in the rural decline of areas such as Mauriceville West. Falling church attendances and a lack of jobs force children to look elsewhere for employment. An increase in small holdings leads to the loss of pioneer family names and the breakup of properties.

Mauriceville has retained its local school, but only the limeworks remain as reminders of a once vibrant rural community.

A final service was held at the Mauriceville West Lutheran Church on 24 March 2019 and the church building is now in the process of being sold off for relocation.



# Hawke's Bay Branch unveil memorial to settlers on prominent coastal walkway

On Sunday 6 October 2019, Hawke's Bay Founders branch president, Paddy Bayley, welcomed 70 Founders members who attended a special unveiling ceremony for an 'information post.' sited on the Ahuriri coastal walkway, north of Napier port.

This marker acknowledges the first Hawke's Bay settlers. Although the first of British settlers arrived in the area in 1864, Paddy Bayley said all settlers to the Hawke's Bay area were honoured by this project.

The project was a special one by the Hawke's Bay branch to mark its 40<sup>th</sup> year (in 2019) since being formed. The project was well timed as the Founders 'information post' is the first of new information signs to be placed along the Ahuriri walkway by the Napier City Council

"This year as a special project we decided to honour all settlers to our wonderful province with a commemorative project. We felt that this was a very appropriate time to acknowledge the arrival of early settlers not only to all New Zealand ports prior to 31 December 1865, but also those hardy immigrants who travelled overland to settle in Hawke's Bay," Paddy said.

A reading by Paddy immediately prior to the unveiling dedicated the special project to honour all early settlers regardless of their ethnicity, and acknowledged their hardy spirit and enterprise in developing our wonderful province and country of New Zealand.



*The new Founders 'information post' sited on the Ahuriri coastal walkway.*



*Hawke's Bay Founders president, Paddy Bayley and her husband, branch secretary/treasurer, Richard Bayley, unveil the new 'information post' dedicated to all Hawke's Bay settlers.*

# Genealogy and Heritage attract wide interest

by Peter Watt, Founders Bulletin Editor

There's a growing interest worldwide in tracing our ancestors. We are intrigued to know more of where our ancestors came from, who they were (what were their occupations and interests), and where did they settle following emigration from their home country?

It's no accident that there's a burgeoning interest in this topic. Hordes of baby boomers are retiring in the present decade, with savings and retirement funds allowing them to travel to their ancestral homelands. And this is in a fortunate era when air travel has never been so economical.

This off-spin is now dubbed genealogy or heritage tourism and it is a rapidly growing segment of tourism generally. Suzanne Morphet, writing for the *Globe and Mail*, Toronto, (5 June 2018), gives us this example: She wrote that in November 2018, Cunard Line, in association with Ancestry.com would offer an inaugural cruise on the *Queen Mary 2* from Southampton to New York, to cater especially for those interested in genealogy. Yes, this has been a well travelled route for Cunard over the years. However, this time the tour was offered to those with a genuine interest in genealogy and others who wished to learn more about specific ancestors who emigrated to America and who made landfall in New York.

"Cunard is one of several companies currently at the forefront of what's become known as genealogy tourism. Along with travel companies, tour operators and educational institutions, the cruise line is reaching out to that segment of the tourism market consisting of travellers looking to reconnect with their past."

The seven-day Atlantic crossing would include seminars led by professional genealogists who would also assist passengers to explore their family trees. DNA tracing would also be explained by the experts, with a small num-



ber of willing passengers and crew as the subjects. An optional tour of the former customs and immigration clearing house at Ellis Island was also offered.

## Technology gives massive help

Digitisation of vital family records such as births, deaths and marriages, and of census records, made available to a large extent, online, have helped enormously in researching family history. Email complements all of this, enabling scans of family records, photographs and other images conveyed from one side of the world to the other in an instant. A further vital tool is DNA tracing. From launching this service in 1983, by 2018, Ancestry.com had clocked up 10 million applications. This fee-paid service locates relatives with close DNA matches, and provides their names.



Interest in researching family histories has also been heightened from watching such excellent TV productions, as, 'Who do you think you are?', 'Long lost family', and 'Find my family'.



# Women of Whanganui

contributed by Margaret Campion, Founders Whanganui

## Introduction

The profiles of the three women featured in this article have been selected from a display entitled *Women of Whanganui* which was prepared for the '2018 Wynne Costley Essay Literary Research Scholarship' award function. This scholarship was established by the Wanganui Branch of the National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ Wanganui Branch). It is open for secondary and Intermediate age school students in the Whanganui region. They are required to have completed a research assignment on a New Zealand woman (or New Zealand women), who have, or who still are, achieving and contributing in a definable way to society. This type of research is part of the secondary school curriculum so it does not cause extra work for the students.

The *Women of Whanganui* display featured 12 women who had made a significant contribution to the Whanganui community from the late 1800s through to the 1920s. This display proved very popular and of great interest to all who attended.

In addition to the notable contributions to their local communities, the three women described below contributed significantly to the New Zealand Women's Suffrage campaign.

**A note:** Margaret Campion advises that in the following she has spelt Whanganui as Wanganui (without the 'h'), as this reflects the spelling used in the era in which the three women lived. To date, the Wanganui Branch of the NCWNZ has retained the former spelling.

## Ellen Ballance (1847-1935)

Ellen Ballance was the second wife of John Ballance, who founded the Liberal Party and went on to become New Zealand's 14th Premier. Ellen was a thoughtful, intelligent and politically astute woman and was highly regarded in Wellington's political circles. She was a firm supporter of the feminist movement and actively helped gather signatures for the women's suffrage petition of 1893.

Born in 1847, Ellen was the daughter of merchant David Anderson and his wife Ann, nee Thompson. She was 23 when she married John Ballance on 19 May 1870, two years after the death of his first wife, Fanny. John and Fanny, who suffered ill health, had emigrated from Ireland and settled in Wanganui. However, Fanny's health deteriorated and she died aged just 24. With no children from either marriage, in 1886 Ellen and John adopted Ellen's niece, four-year-old Florence Anderson. Florence was re-christened Kathleen and was called Kit by family and close friends.



Ellen Ballance

Ellen Ballance was vice-president of the Women's Progressive Society. Although first established in England, this feminist movement quickly grew to become an international organisation. Together with Margaret Bullock (see following), she established the Wanganui Women's Franchise League. This was the organisation which led the campaign for the women's vote in Wanganui. From the outset, Ellen assumed the role of its president, remaining in that position until John's death in 1893. After

the suffrage vote was won, the organisation became known as the Wanganui Women's Political League.

Ellen shared fully in her husband's political interests and followed Parliamentary debates with great interest. She also actively supported the New Zealand campaign for women's suffrage, Kate Sheppard, and helped Maud Pember Reeves to gather signatures for the 1893 suffrage petition from amongst the wives of parliamentarians.

In response to frequent interjections from

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Parliamentarian, Henry Fish, (opposed to women's suffrage), during the second reading of the Female Franchise Bill (1893), Ellen quickly obtained 68 signatures from supportive women in the gallery.

After John Balance's death in 1893, Ellen and Kathleen visited relatives in Ireland and travelled through continental Europe. However, during the tour, possibly in Germany, Kathleen became very ill with meningitis which left her with a permanent physical and mental disability. Ellen eventually returned to Wanganui and devoted herself to nursing her daughter and caring for her for the rest of her life.

Ellen had a strong and vigorous personality and

took a keen interest in the affairs of the country and in particular, of Wanganui. She avoided publicity but was closely involved with social and philanthropic work. She was a staunch and generous supporter of the Church of England and of the Plunket Society and the Wanganui Orphanage.

Ellen gifted the Ballance's original home, 'The Knolls,' and its surrounding property on St John's Hill, to the Church of England. The homestead has long gone, but St Chad's Anglican Church is on this site.

Ellen survived her husband by more than 40 years. She died in 1935 and Kathleen died in 1942.

### Margaret Bullock (1845-1903)

Margaret Bullock was born in the Bay of Islands in 1845, the only daughter of four children born to Scottish emigrants, Jane and James Carson.

She married George Bullock in Auckland in 1869 and after his death, moved to Wanganui with her five small sons. Her eldest brother, Gilbert Carson, owned and edited the *Wanganui Herald* (later he became Mayor). Margaret worked with Gilbert for 10 years as a business associate, reporter and assistant editor. She was also a parliamentary correspondent for several colonial newspapers.

She wrote government tourist brochures for Rotorua and Wanganui; her brochure for the Wanganui River described it as 'The Rhine of New Zealand.' Margaret also wrote short stories for magazines and newspapers under the pseudonym 'Madge' and had many letters published in the press. In 1894, using the pen name Tua-o-rangi, she published a novel, *Utū: a story of love, hate and revenge*, which she dedicated to Sir George Grey.

Margaret Bullock worked predominantly in a man's world. It was her experience as one of the first women parliamentary reporters which led to her involvement in the women's movement. She considered women had the same intellectual ability as men but lacked men's knowledge of public affairs, politics and the world. She believed female suffrage would help to end discrimination against women.



Margaret Bullock

Her knowledge of the parliamentary system was invaluable for the suffrage movement. She communicated with New Zealand's most prominent suffragist, Kate Sheppard, and collected many signatures for the 1893 petition. After the vote was won, Margaret visited every house in Wanganui, explaining how to list on the electoral roll so their vote would count on election day. With Ellen Balance, she helped to establish the Wanganui Women's Franchise League (later the Wanganui Women's Political

League). From vice president, she became president when Ellen Balance left for overseas in 1893. During her presidency she urged for equal work opportunities and equal pay for women in the civil service.

Margaret Bullock was a central figure in the National Council of Women (NCWNZ) in its early years, serving as vice president from 1900 to 1901. Her particular passion was to promote economic independence for women.

She also worked for her community. She helped women with her visits to the Wanganui Women's Prison and by visiting patients at the Jubilee Hospital. Her letters to the press urged for better conditions at the women's prison and for improved treatment of the elderly at the hospital.

Margaret faced many difficulties throughout her life. Early widowhood was followed by continual

ill health and in 1892 her eldest son was killed in an accident. By 1902, poor health had forced her to withdraw from NCWNZ and her many

other activities. She died in Wanganui in 1903 aged 58 and the *Wanganui Chronicle* honoured her accomplishments with a full obituary.

### Jessie Williamson (1855-1937)

Jessie Marguerite McAllan was born in Dublin, Ireland, and after marrying Hugh Bellis Williamson in 1875, the couple emigrated to New Zealand. Hugh ran a chemist shop in Victoria Avenue, Wanganui until 1904. The couple had four daughters; among whom were Lena, who became a chemist and Sheila, a dentist.

Jessie took a great interest in the Wanganui community and as an advocate for equal rights and institutional reform. she was actively involved in numerous ways until the family moved to Linwood, Christchurch, in 1904. They later moved to a chemist shop in Hawera before finally settling in Auckland.

Jessie was an accomplished speaker with an engaging personality. She was greatly concerned with illegitimacy and parental responsibility and denounced the sexual double standards of the time which placed the disgrace of illegitimate births on women, but not on men.

In 1896 she was appointed an official visitor to the female department of the Wanganui Prison. In 1900, after a hard fought, three-year battle, she was nominated onto the Wanganui Hospital Board, thus becoming only the second woman to gain a seat on that Board. After initially being appointed to the Patea and Wanganui United Charitable Aid Board as a representative of the Wanganui Borough Council, she then went on to represent the Marton Borough Council on the Wanganui Hospital Board from 1902 until her resignation in 1904.

Jessie petitioned Parliament for elective hospital boards in 1901 and was a very early advocate for women to serve on juries; a demand for equal rights that was not resolved in her lifetime. Women for jury



Jessie Williamson

service featured regularly as an agenda item and in remits at National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) conferences right through to the 1950s and 60s.

In 1900, Jessie's photograph featured on the front cover of the *White Ribbon*, the Women's Temperance Union publication, with the caption: 'Jessie Williamson, one of the best known and most widely respected residents of Wanganui.' Although she shared many of the interests of her feminist contemporaries, she was wary of the temperance movement.

Jessie Williamson was a founding member of the Wanganui Women's Franchise League (referred to earlier), which was established in 1893 to coordinate the campaign for women's suffrage. She was treasurer in 1896, president from 1897 to 1903 and was the Wanganui's Political League delegate at the inaugural meeting of the National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) in Christchurch in 1896, where she was appointed recording secretary.

She held other official posts with the NZCWZ in the early 1900s and became a founding member of the Auckland branch in 1918.

Jessie charmed people with her bubbly, effervescent wit and was noted for her shrewd common sense. In tributes to her bright personality, Miss E N Sampson, an observer at the NZCWZ Napier Conference in 1902, noted, "We all brightened visibly when Mrs Williamson began to speak." Another woman described her as "The real wit at the gathering... I have a clear picture of her merry face, amusing sallies and fluent Irish tongue."

Hugh Williamson died in 1936 and Jessie Williamson died at her home in Epsom in 1937.



# Correspondence School days

by Sonia MacKenzie, Founders, Hawke's Bay

My childhood was spent on a remote farm near the coast of southern Hawke's Bay. Dad was a farmer and our family home was nestled in a pine plantation. Mother lived just for us. That was my opinion anyway: she was ours (my sister's and mine), and no-one else but Dad had a right to any part of her time. She was always there for any emergency or need and my world would have collapsed if she had ever gone. We lived a long way from anywhere and anyone, We had a large, interesting garden where we were supposed to stay unless given permission to wander and explore.

My early education was by correspondence. This was the only schooling option at that time since there was no transport to the closest school (at Makuri) and that was too far to ride a pony. So the first years of our schooling were in the hands of our mother, She was a very patient teacher who did her best to help us on the way with our education — she drew pictures for me to colour and provided paper, pencils, scissors and home-made flour paste with which to make scrapbooks. Mother was an excellent teacher. She was kind and enthusiastic about all of the material that arrived from Clifton Terrace, Wellington.

The correspondence lessons came by mail in a green canvas bag secured by a strap and a brass padlock. All sorts of things came in this bag, including a flat cream envelope with a swap-over top which held my sister's lessons, and later my own.

There were lovely poems to read, pictures to colour and things to do. Mostly, we did our schoolwork on the large kitchen table, which was where almost everything else happened. In winter it was lovely and warm with the Esse stove going all the time. And in

summer we sometimes had to move to the dining room when it became too hot.

I loved the days when the books we had requested from the Correspondence School library arrived. We listened many times to the stories of *Babar the Elephant*, *Amelia Anne Stiggins* and *Milly Mandy*. One book, called *The Tale of the Blue Diamond* grabbed our imagination and we turned it into a game which we played many times, using the broom as the 'baddy,' with one of Dad's hats tied on the top! Several visiting teachers came to check



Sonia MacKenzie, right, and her sister, Elfreda with teacher, Pat MacCaskill.



Correspondence School students, Summer School, Oamaru (c.1939-40).

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on their students and one I especially remember was Pat MacCaskill, as he was fun. The *Farmer* magazine was a great favourite and I especially liked the pictures of pigs with piglets as we didn't have any pigs on our farm. This magazine became redundant and we were allowed to carefully cut out pictures from it for our scrap books.

### **Summer School**

When I was just beginning my schooling I attended the Correspondence Summer School in Oamaru. I recall while travelling on the overnight ferry to Lyttelton, a strong smell of disinfectant in the ship's bathroom made me feel ill. We took a train to Oamaru where Mum and I stayed in the girls' boarding house for the High School, while my sister was at the Waitaki Boys' College. It was nice to meet our teachers in person; their names had previously only been known to us from their letters. My teacher was Miss Armour. We were taken by a small truck to classrooms at the Boys' College where an assembly was held in the Hall of Memories.

I recall a picnic where I won running races and a visit to Nightcaps to see my mother's long-time pen friend, Girlie Polaschek. Her husband had built a wonderful bird aviary that enabled us to walk right into the enclosure. We were fascinated to experience the budgies and canaries flying around us. In Oamaru we went to church in a church! This was a novelty as we were used to having our church services at home or in the local hall. I loved the singing. The swimming pool was a big surprise as I had not seen one before. However, I was nervous and did not learn to swim while at the summer school.

Many of the students in the photograph I met in later life. I particularly remember one girl, Sally, who I wrote to for some years until we lost touch.

### **Other activities**

We had picnic or evening gatherings of the local Correspondence children two or three times a year. Fancy dress parties proved a fun way to have contact with other children.

The arrival of the Polish and Hungarian refugees to the Childrens' Camp at Pahiatua (1944), gave me an opportunity to meet children who, surprisingly to me, did not speak the same language as I did! My Dad went to the camp, just south of the town, to assist with their woodwork skills. I was expected to go along to play and talk to the ones that were my age (I think this was arranged by the Correspondence School). I lost touch with them but some attended my Dad's funeral in 1975.

On remembering Correspondence School functions, one boy, Jimmy, came to the Correspondence School picnics and was in a wheelchair. Portable gramophones were all the rage at that time and he would bring his along for us to listen to the new music. Another boy who had callipers on his legs, I corresponded with until I went to boarding school. There was also an annual magazine published by the School. Titled *The Postman*, it was full of contributions from the pupils as well as (to us) boring stuff about the staff!

A Correspondence School Christmas Party was held each year which I awaited eagerly. It was not until I was about ten years old that I realised that the Father Christmas who came was in fact my father!

### ***The New Zealand Correspondence School: Quick Facts***

This is New Zealand's largest school, with about 25,000 students enrolled annually.

It began in 1922, providing lessons to about 100 isolated primary school children, New Zealand-wide. By 1934 the roll had grown to about 1800 primary and secondary students served by 45 teaching staff. The first radio broadcast was made to students in 1931 and the last in 1990.

It offered early childhood education in 1976 and online courses in 2011.

In 2009 it changed its name from the New Zealand Correspondence School to 'Te Aho o Te Kura o Pounamu' or Te Kura, for short.

Sources: Te Kura website (2019) and Wikipedia

Parliamentarians in the 1920s referred to the New Zealand Correspondence School as, "a school for the benefit of the most isolated children, for example, of lighthouse keepers and remote shepherds living upon small islands or in mountainous districts."



# A treasured table results from church fire

*From Kathy Ross (nee Harris), Founders, Wairarapa*

Christ Church in Taita, was the subject of an arson attack in 1989. Later, my father was gifted several of the church's floorboards which he kept for many years. In 2011 I had this little table made from the badly charred boards and it has since become a treasured furniture item in our household.



## **Background**

In 1853 Sidney Hirst, a carpenter and joiner from Yorkshire, began the building of Christ Church in Taita. The church was built from pit-sawn Totara donated by the John Ings Daysh Family, and the timber was milled, free of charge, by the Abraham Harris family (my great, great, great grandparents), and was hauled to the site by bullocks.

The first service for this church was held on New Year's Day 1854, and the first wedding celebrated there was of Mary Jane Mabey and James Harris (my great, great grand uncle), on 11 January 1854.

## **Fire and following restoration**

In the early hours of 18 November 1989, the Church suffered an arson attack, when approximately one-third of the building was destroyed. Fortunately, the church was able to be fully restored to its original condition at a cost of \$150,000. A Dedication service was held on Sunday 6 October 1991.



*Gravestone of Abraham and Sophia Harris, close to the church in the Christ Church cemetery, Taita.*



*Christ Church, Taita*

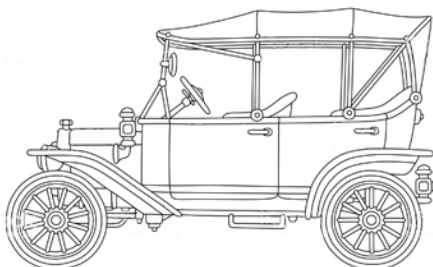


# Heralding a new age in transport — e-movers

Just as our founding families saw massive changes in transportation, from sailing ships to steamers, and from the horse-drawn carriage to the motor car, it seems right now, we are in another time of radical change. Witness the growing adoption of electric cars (especially for shorter commutes) and similarly, the handy and economical use of the e-scooter and e-bike for short commutes downtown.

Writing for the *Dominion Post* (8 December 2018), Mike O'Donnell, says "the 'micro mobility' offered by e-scooters and bike-sharing is doing for cars what cars did for horses."

He says history is repeating itself: "In 1894 the *Times* newspaper in Britain predicted that in 50 years every street in London will be buried under nine feet of manure."



"... it was the manure crisis and the appearance of affordable cars thanks to Henry Ford's production line, which started the unbundling of the horse and carriage."

And today, we have another transport revolution which is causing the 'unbundling' of cars.

"Today, with global warming, urban living, street congestion and rocketing fuel prices, the micro mobility (known as 'mimo'), offered by dockless bikes and scooters is facilitating the unbundling of cars.

"Like the horse owners of 120 years ago, city dwellers are realising that cars are expensive, bulky, polluting hunks of metal that are 'overkill' for 95 per cent of their personal journeys."

## Two centuries celebrated

*From Paddy Bayley, President, Hawke's Bay Branch*

How many branches can proudly honour two of their members attaining that awesome age of 100 within the same month?

Another milestone was celebrated by the Hawke's Bay Branch when two members celebrated their birthdays in November this year, 2019. George Foulds from Hastings was 100 on 4 November and Wendy Throp from Napier turned 100 on 25 November.

In mid November, branch committee members and their spouses took George and Wendy out for a celebratory complimentary lunch at the Duke of Gloucester in Taradale. George and Wendy were both presented with a birthday card and a small birthday cake made by Paddy, Hawke's Bay Branch President.



*Hawke's Bay Founders Wendy Throp and George Foulds celebrate each attaining their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in November 2019.*

# Robert Houghton and early Wellington

by Jenny Doring, Founders, Wairarapa

Robert Houghton (1794–1846), was my husband’s great, great grandfather and was born in Ramsgate, Kent, England. He was a master mariner and served on the cross-channel steamer service and Ramsgate ferries. In 1818 he married Sarah Petley and they had four children, John, Nathaniel George, James Henry and Sarah Mary. The family obviously had moved around the country following work for Robert as the baptisms of the children show that the first two were baptised in Ramsgate and the last two at Newhaven. Sarah died in 1828 leaving Robert with four young children.



In 1990, sesquicentennial re-enactment of settlers coming ashore at Petone, 1840.

the general behaviour and wellbeing of all the women and children in the steerage section of the ship.

The *Aurora* arrived on 22 January 1840 at Petone beach, Port Nicholson, after a voyage described by William Deans as “a beautiful passage of 110 days.”

The New Zealand Company set up a powder magazine depot on Somes Island and appointed Robert as ‘keeper of the powder.’ (Robert’s friend, Joseph Somes, after whom the island was named, was deputy governor for the New Zealand Company.) Robert’s family lived on the island until his house was built in Willis Street (where

the Able Tasman Hotel is now situated). The powder magazine was later moved to a site on Manners Street (which at that time was the shore-line) and a few years later was again moved to a site in the Army barracks in Mt Cook suburb.

Robert married his second wife, Lucy Allen, in 1831 and enrolled his three sons into the Hospitality School for young men at Deptford. This school was for the sons of those with a Naval background and it taught the boys seamanship. “The child should be able to read chapters of the Bible without impediment of speech or other infirmity of body or mind.”

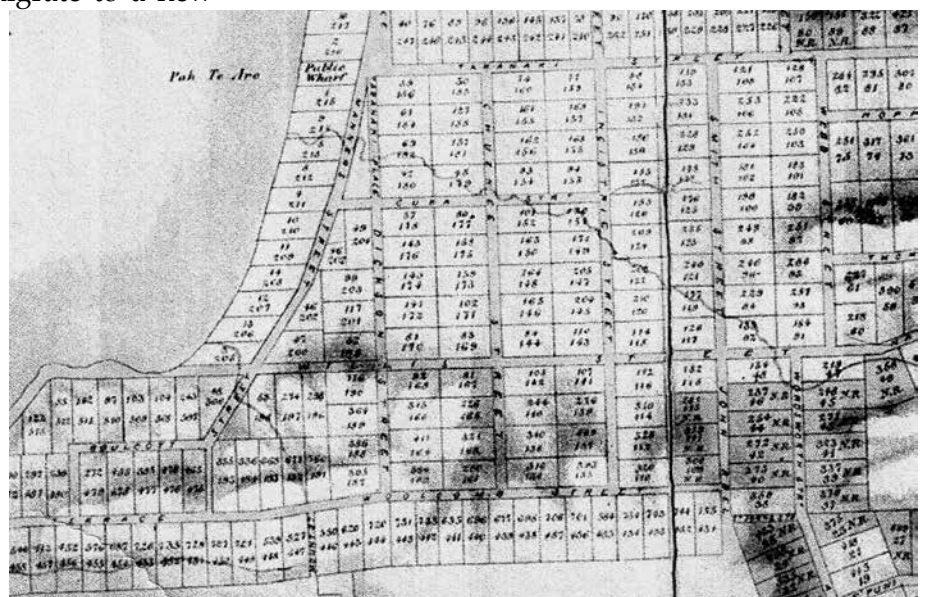
Robert was also the first signalman for the New Zealand Company and he set up the signal station on Mt Albert. When a ship came into view he would signal using metal discs which had different shapes painted to indicate the different ships. His wife would replicate the signal from a site in Wellington known as signal hill which is still there today.

While in Deptford, Robert met Joseph Somes. Robert became an employee of the New Zealand Company. By this time, Robert and Lucy had had three more children Francis Elizabeth Stratford, Jessie, and Allan Patrick, and the lack of prospects for his large family, low wages and generally poor conditions prevailing would have helped Robert and Lucy make the decision to emigrate to a new land and make a fresh start.

Robert died after catching a chill and was buried in the Bolton Street Cemetery.

## The move to New Zealand

They came out to New Zealand on the *Aurora*. Robert was appointed as assistant surgeon, whose role included ensuring that the *Aurora*’s owners had completed the ship’s fitting out as agreed and the quality of food and water was as contracted. The assistant surgeon provided the surgeon with back-up and support in the settling of disputes or other problems that might arise on the long voyage. His wife Lucy automatically became matron-on-board and she was responsible for



Wellington’s early shoreline with Manners Street, before infill began.



# Sir Julius Vogel

## — a visionary Statesman for pioneering New Zealand

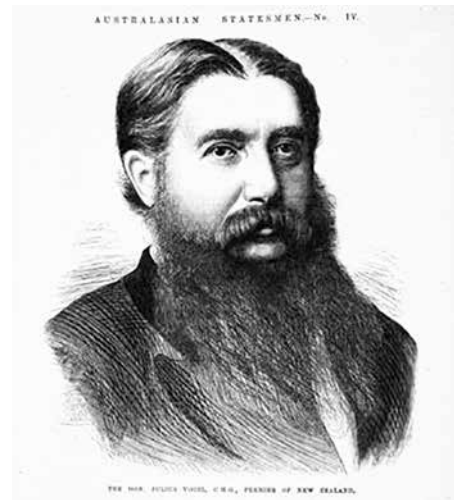
From the earliest times of European settlement in New Zealand, and especially from 1840 and onwards throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century, the early settlers were largely confined to coastal pockets. Access to the interior or hinterland was obstructive and difficult owing to dense stands of tall native bush, numerous rivers and streams and the lack of roads and bridges.

A Statesman who quickly realised New Zealand's future development was going to be severely hampered unless key infrastruc-

ture was provided, was Julius Vogel (1835-1899).

In a summary of Julius Vogel's life, by Gavin McLean (*Julius Vogel Biography*) from New Zealand History Online, McLean says, "Vogel's great plan was to borrow heavily to build infrastructure (railways, ports and telegraph), and to lure migrants. The money and migrants stimulated the economy and created a viable consumer market for producers.

"Vogel dramatically speeded up the Crown purchase of land [from Maori]. He and his supporters were certain that Maori and



Sir Julius Vogel

Reproduced from online, National Library of New Zealand

settlers would reconcile when the former and their land became fully integrated into the European economy."

**Did you know?** — that in 1889 Sir Julius Vogel wrote probably the first full length science fiction novel by a New Zealander, *Anno Dommini 2000 – A woman's destiny*, which anticipated a time when women would hold positions of authority.

### Sir Julius Vogel

1861-1868 Editor of the *Otago Daily Times* (New Zealand's first newspaper).

1869-1876 Various New Zealand portfolios: colonial treasurer, postmaster general, commissioner of customs, telegraph commissioner and minister of immigration.

1873-1875 Premier of New Zealand

1876 Premier of New Zealand

1888 Returned to England and remained there until his death in 1899.

## Taranaki philatelist awarded

Congratulations to Len Jury, immediate past president of the Taranaki Founders branch, on winning a silver-gold award (Sydney) for his philatelic presentation on 'Cattle throughout the world'.



Len Jury explains his philatelic display on cattle worldwide to Taranaki Founders members.







# When bees came to New Zealand

Occasionally today we hear of concerns that bee colonies around the world are (in some locations) declining drastically. Reasons commonly given for this are a loss of foraging habitat, the impact of widescale use of insecticides, vulnerability to specific bee diseases and pests, and climate change.

A survey of New Zealand beekeepers showed a slight increase in bee colony losses over the past four years to 2018 and low to average losses (compared to other countries) prior to that.

As pollinators of pasture flowering plants such as white clover and of a wide range of horticultural crops, bees are absolutely vital to our 'growing' economy. Boutique honeys such as 'manuka' are also enjoying strong demand.

A past Founders Bulletin item by Maurice Allom, (Bulletin No. 9, March 1956), related that the first bees to be intentionally introduced to New Zealand were of the common black bee strain and they came into Hokianga Harbour in 1837 on the ship, *James*.

Another introduction of black bees was made when they were transported to Nelson in 1842 by the barque, *Clifford*.

Bees of the Italian strain were introduced from California in 1880 and from then on, this has become the predominant strain in the country. Italian bees are preferred as they are good 'workers', they do not swarm excessively and are calm when hives are managed.



## A life membership from 1954

Not many in our Society can claim a life membership granted in the 1950s.

David Brown continues his long association with Founders. David has researched and written on true pioneers that shaped life in early New Zealand. His works include an e-book on the life of the Rev Henry Hanson Turton, missionary, MP, magistrate and administrator, and on the lives of Nelson pioneers, Francis and Jane Otterson, who arrived in 1842 and built the historic home, 'Rostrevor'. David also has extensive knowledge on the life of Edward Gibbon Wakefield.



David Brown

## Logging congestion



Ever since New Zealand has been settled it seems that the transporting of timber has been a source of congestion on the roads.



# New Zealand Founders Society Inc. Financial Statement

*To year ended 31 March 2019*

The New Zealand Founders Society made a surplus of \$10,065 for the year ended 31 March 2019. Our financial statements can be viewed in full on the Charities Services website [www.charities.govt.nz](http://www.charities.govt.nz) by searching the Register for NZ Founders or our Charity number, 39182, and clicking on the Annual Returns tab. They appear in full under the Financial Statements column.

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## *Overseas Corner*

**T**his statue of a young family entitled 'The Crossing' commemorates migration from Liverpool to the new world.

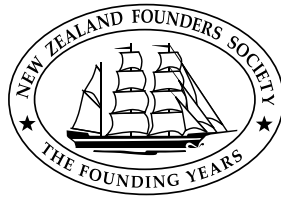
It was given to the people of Liverpool by the Mormon Church as a tribute to the many families from all over Europe who embarked on a brave and pioneering voyage from Liverpool to start a new life in America. It is estimated that in total approximately nine million people emigrated from ports in the U.K. to various parts of the world from 1830 to 1930.

The sculpture by Mark DeGraffenried is cast in bronze. The child stepping forward at the front symbolises migration to the unknown world whilst the child playing with a crab at the back indicates a deep association with the sea. It is located on the Albert Docks overlooking the River Mersey, outside the Piermaster's House.



*Photograph: Stephanie Drew*





# NZ FOUNDERS SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS 2019

Surname	Ship	Port of Arrival	Date of Arrival	Ancestor
<b>Auckland Branch</b>				
Maureen Patricia LITTLE	<i>Duchess of Argyle</i>	Auckland	1842	Nathan STAFFORD
	<i>Gertrude</i>	Wellington	1841	William PIKE
Glenys May PLAISTOWE	<i>Mystery</i>	Lyttelton	1859	Edward Prebble & Sarah NEWTON
Valerie Anne WALKER	<i>Westminster</i>	Auckland	1843	Daniel & Jane LORIGAN
David Bruce WARD	<i>Westminster</i>	Auckland	1843	Daniel & Jane LORIGAN
<b>Waikato Branch</b>				
John Warwick KELLAWAY	<i>Randolf</i>	Lyttelton	1850	William & Sarah STOKES
	<i>Zealandia</i>	Lyttelton	1858	Thomas & Elizabeth AYRES
	<i>Greyhound</i>	Lyttelton	1865	John & Elizabeth KELLAWAY
	<i>Mirage</i>	Lyttelton	1864	William CHRISTIAN
	<i>Gananoque</i>	Lyttelton	1860	Jabez & Jane KITCHINGMAN
Annette Elizabeth MUDFORD	<i>Nourmahal</i>	Dunedin	1858	John & Ann (nee HALL) JEFFERIS
			Prior to 1860	William Alfred YOUNG
Raymond Noel MUDFORD	<i>Ashmore</i>	Nelson	1854	James MUDFORD
	<i>Fifeshire</i>	Nelson	1842	Mary Ann MEREDITH
	<i>Prince of Wales</i>	Nelson	1842	William & Mary JESSOP
	<i>Bolton</i>	Nelson	1842	Henry & Lucy GARNETT
	<i>Martha Ridgeway</i>	Nelson	1840	George & Susan SAYWELL
			Before July 1865	James HAYCOCK
		Nelson	25 October 1842	Ann OWEN
	<i>Thomas Harrison</i>		Before May 1853	George & Hannah SUTTON
	<i>Mary Ann</i>	Nelson	1838	Thomas & Elizabeth TIDD
<b>Whanganui Branch</b>				
Yvonne Rae JOHNSTONE	<i>Westminster</i>	Auckland	1843	Walton & Hannah PELL
Bridget O'CONNOR	<i>Clifton</i>	Wellington	1842	James & Elizabeth HALLETT
Adrienne SCANLAN	<i>Mandarin</i>	Wellington	1841	John Alexander and Mary GILFILLIAN
Lee Brandon TUCKER-RAMAGE	<i>Timandra</i>	New Plymouth	1842	Charles & Mary Sampson
<b>Taranaki Branch</b>				
Valerie BEDFORD	<i>Thomas Harrison</i>	Nelson	1842	George WALES & Mary Ann LIGHTBAND
Margaret Ivy CARDIFF	<i>Martha Ridgeway</i>	Wellington	1840	William Judd Snr
	<i>Bolton</i>	Wellington	1840	William JUDD Jnr
Carol Anne COWLING	<i>Lloyds</i>	Nelson	1842	Sarah Anne BURNETT nee IRONMONGER
	<i>Whitby</i>	Nelson	1841	Richard BURNETT
Grant KNUCKEY	<i>Essex</i>	New Plymouth	1843	Nicholas & Zenobia KNUCKEY
Bruce Fookes NEWCOMBE	<i>Black Eagle</i>	Auckland	1861	Albert Crockroft FOOKES
Noeline SHAW	<i>Amelia Thompson</i>	New Plymouth	1841	Charles & Mary HAMBLYN
Patrick Clive WALSHE	<i>Amelia Thompson</i>	New Plymouth	1841	James & Grace PEARCE
Paul Selwyn VERCOE	<i>Timandra</i>	New Plymouth	1842	Philip & Catherine VERCOE
	<i>Oriental</i>	New Plymouth	1841	James & Harriet FOREMAN

CONTINUES ON PAGE 42



**Hawke's Bay Branch**

Kevin Walter CLARK	<i>London</i>	Wellington	1842	William CLARK
Margaret Gladys DE LA HAYE	<i>Blundell</i>	Dunedin	1848	John James ADAMS
Eleanor Ruth (Lynn) EYLES	<i>Rajah</i>	Wellington	1853	Gavin PEACOCKE
	<i>London</i>	Wellington	1842	Francis BEE
Janice Olive FINNIMORE	<i>Mystery</i>	Lyttelton	1859	William & Eliza CRUMP
Beverley Patricia FULLERTON-SMITH	<i>Unknown</i>	Unknown	Before 1864	Peter & Margaret WALKER
Christine Janet HARDIE	<i>Randolf</i>	Lyttelton	1850	John & Isabella WILLIAMS
Judy HARDING (nee POWDRELL)	<i>Red Jacket</i>	Auckland	1860	Thomas & Margaret POWDRELL
Michelle HIRCZY	<i>Bengal Merchant</i>	Port Nicholson	1840	David & Ann (nee McEwen) GALLOWAY
Barbara Ann HODGSON	<i>Strathallan</i>	Dunedin	1858	Donald & Isabella MCKERCHAR
Leonard Paul HODGSON	<i>Labuan</i>	Lyttelton	1851	Grace HODGSON
James Edward Kenneth JUDD	<i>Martha Ridgway</i>	Wellington	1840	William & Anne JUDD
Elizabeth (Betty) Kyle JUDD nee SYMONS	<i>Katherine Stewart Forbes</i>	Wellington	1841	James & Jane (nee MOORSHOOD) SYMONS
Glenys Rae KIRBY	<i>Hannah</i>	Kawhia	prior to 1840	George & Anne CHARLETON
	<i>Phillip Laing</i>	Port Chalmers	1848	Francis & Margaret MARSHALL
	<i>Larkins</i>	Port Chalmers	1849	Isabella BOWER
	<i>Storm Cloud</i>	Port Chalmers	1860	Thomas & Margaret RAMAGE
	<i>Matilda Wattenbach</i>	Auckland	1862	Stephen H & Sarah MOULDEN
Alva Dawn McADAM	<i>Rajah</i>	Port Chalmers	1853	Henry Frederick HARDY
	<i>Sevilla</i>	Bluff	1864	Robert & Elizabeth (nee McLEARY) KINNAIRD
	<i>Java</i>	Auckland	1846	James RILEY
	<i>Storm Cloud</i>	Port Chalmers	1860	Thomas & Margaret (nee GORMAN) RAMAGE
	<i>William Bryan</i>	New Plymouth	1841	Jonathon & Elizabeth (nee CARTER) PEARN
	<i>Mariner</i>	Port Chalmers	1849	David & Jane (nee PATERSON) CALDER
Alice Maria MUDGWAY	<i>Gonanoque</i>	Lyttelton	1860	Mary Ann GOBEY
	<i>Accrington</i>	Lyttelton	1863	Joseph & Lucy (nee JORY) WALTERS
	<i>Castle Eden</i>	Lyttelton	1851	John T & Elizabeth BLACKMORE
Elaine Francis PRAKASH	<i>Delhi</i>	Kororareka	1840	Archibald & Hannah COCHRANE
Terry SMITH	<i>'?</i>	Lyttelton	Before Nov. 1864	William John SMALE
			Before Nov. 1864	Elizabeth DOWRICK
Diane Edna THOMPSON	<i>Olympus</i>	Nelson	1842	William & Hannah HARVEY
Lois Jean WARD	<i>Duke of Roxburgh</i>	Wellington	1840	Mary Jane HEBDEN
Robyn Patricia WARREN	<i>Slains Castle</i>	Wellington	1841	Augustus Octavius Crocker CARRINGTON
	<i>Essex</i>	New Plymouth	1843	Philbert & Salina ROBERTS
	<i>Star of India</i>	Auckland	1863	Patrick JFVO O'CARROLL
Elizabeth Ann WHYTE	<i>Bolina</i>	Auckland	1841	Thomas & Hannah (nee Mitchell) HANCOCK
	<i>Shamrock</i>	Kororareka	1841	Hugh MACKAY

**Amendment**

Eleanor Ruth EYLES *Unknown* Wanganui Before 1847 Thomas BROE (BROUGH)

**Associate Members**

Dariel Margaret EVANS Wife of #8130 D S EVANS

Ian Douglas Forbes THOMPSON Spouse of #8271 THOMPSON Diane Edna

### Bay of Plenty Branch

#### Associate

Noel Michael CLEARY                      Wife of #7766 Josephine Erin CLEARY

### Wairarapa Branch

Brian Crawford CAMERON	<i>Blenheim</i>	Wellington	1840	Allan & Janet CAMERON
Alan Haviland DE LA MARE	<i>Cashmere</i>	Lyttleton	1859	Thomas & Mary (nee Glanville) DE LA MARE
William James KNOWLES	<i>Cameo</i>	Lyttleton	1859	John & Mary KNOWLES

### Wellington Branch

Jennifer Katherine BUTLER	<i>Coromandel</i>	Wellington	1840	John & Mary Ann PAWSON
	<i>Comte de Paris</i>	Akaroa	1840	Johann & Eva Marie BREITMEYER

### Canterbury-Westland Branch

Melville Charles Albert OPIE	<i>Stag</i>	Lyttleton	1852	George & Sarah (nee PURSEY) BARTRUM
	<i>Mermaid</i>	Lyttleton	1862	Peternell (nee TRUSCOTT OPIE) MANATON
Alison Jean SMITH				Robert BELL
	<i>Maori</i>	Lyttleton	1857	Anne Munroe SINCLAIR
	<i>Strathallan</i>	Dunedin	1858	John DARLING
	<i>Pladda</i>	Port Chalmers	1860	James & Janet SMITH

## Annual Research/Book Award

### Conditions

1. The Award will be of an amount to be determined by the National Executive of the NZ Founders Society from time to time, but will not be less than \$1,500 or more than \$3,000. There is one award per year available and applications should be received by 31 August of the coming year. Applications are assessed on receipt and the National Executive may make an award earlier than this date if a suitable applicant is forthcoming.
2. The method of payment will be one-third forwarded to the candidate on confirmation of their success, a further one-third after a period of approximately six months when the Society has received confirmation of satisfactory progress and a final payment of one-third after receipt of satisfactory evidence showing completion of the research.
3. The Award is made for research in the areas of national or local history but not for research into personal family backgrounds, family trees or pure genealogy. However, a full length account or biography of a founding family or family member could be accepted provided the topic has general appeal.
4. Research must be completed within one year following notification of winning the Award, or within a time limit agreed to by the National Executive of the Society prior to the payment of the first instalment of the Award or subsequently.
5. The research can be a finite part of a larger piece of research, but must be able to be published alone.
6. Following completion and the work being made public, the NZ Founders Society Inc. reserves the right to use or to publish in part or in any way it thinks appropriate, the research of an Award winner. This condition does not contravene the rights of the author, and any such publication will be with the prior agreement of the author and will not in any way be to the detriment of the publication of the completed research.
7. All research reports and/or publications must contain a printed acknowledgement to the NZ Founders Society Inc. A waiver of this requirement can only be granted by the National Executive of the Society.
8. The work is to be published in printed form and at least one complimentary copy of the final report or publication must be presented to the Society. The Society does not support publications that are solely in electronic form. In the event of the project not being completed within the agreed time limit, any progress payments not made and the final payment, could be forfeited.
9. The acceptance of these conditions is to be acknowledged by the applicant on their application form.



# About Founders

From the New Zealand Founders Society website

## *Services we offer:*

A Wellington-based reference library is available for members' use by appointment only. Material includes a small collection of books and pamphlets mainly dealing with early history of New Zealand and also family trees, histories, paper cuttings and photographs.

## *What do we do?*

- ✿ Collect passenger lists and have available accurate lists of early settlers prior to 1865.
- ✿ Provide activities for members.
- ✿ Hold regular branch gatherings with speakers.
- ✿ Foster links among members.
- ✿ Promote recognition of the early settlers through erection and maintaining of plaques, memorials etc.
- ✿ Provide research and book grants.

## *Who can belong:*

Those who are descendants of persons who arrived in New Zealand before 31 December 1865. We also accept Associate Members (partner of an eligible member). There is a Friend category for those not eligible for full membership.

Junior membership is available for any persons under 18 years of age.

## *Do you want to join us?*

We have branches around New Zealand.

For more information visit our website

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

Or contact the National Secretary  
New Zealand Founders Society  
Email: [nzfounders@gmail.com](mailto:nzfounders@gmail.com)

## In search of the last soldier

*(reproduced from the Dominion Post, 25 September 2019)*

"Stuff, in conjunction with the RSA New Zealand, is working on a project to collate a national database of the last surviving World War II veterans.

"This database will be available to all New Zealanders vis [Stuff.co.nz](http://Stuff.co.nz) when it is finished and it is hoped it will be a useful resource for people studying New Zealand's war history.

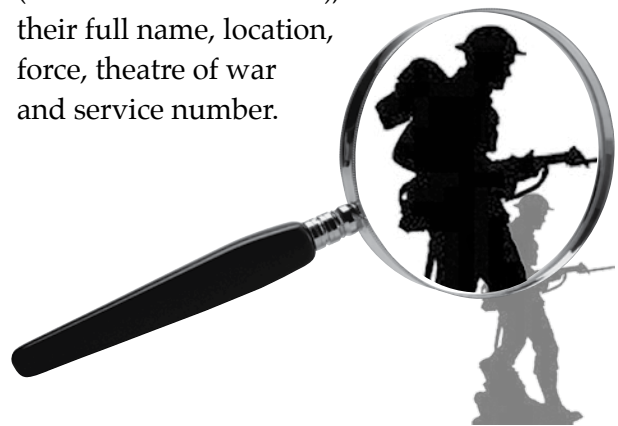
Titled *The Last Soldier*, the project will include a database and stories, photos and videos of some soldiers as they are collated around New Zealand.

"Given this is a massive undertaking, if anyone can assist by supplying names of surviving soldiers, or pointing our research team in the right direction to ensure we document as many soldiers as possible, please get in touch.

"If you can help, please email [nicole.johnstone@stuff.co.nz](mailto:nicole.johnstone@stuff.co.nz) or phone 027 243 1976."

### *Footnote*

Specifically, for this project and the database, *Stuff* requires (for the WW II survivor), their full name, location, force, theatre of war and service number.



### *Acknowledgements*

The Society's grateful thanks are extended to all members of the various branches who so willingly have provided material and photographs for this 2019 Bulletin. Thank you all.