



# BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY



**Homewood - Wellington**

Pages 33 - 42 Contain Financial Statements and Reports

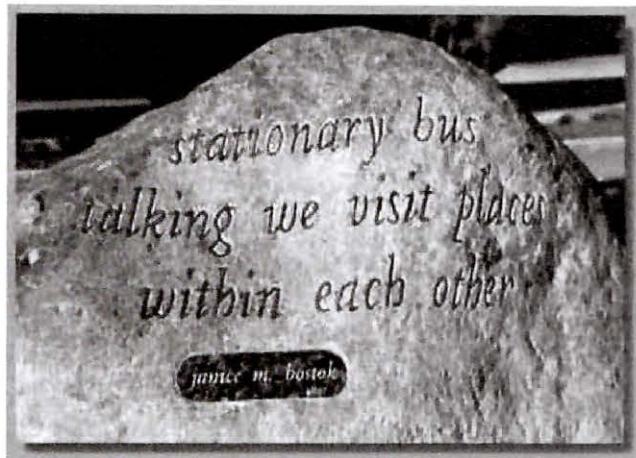
Study Grant officer reads and makes a resume of the proposals received that are then discussed by the executive council and a unanimous decision is made. The present Study Grant person is qualified in history.

Applicants for the grant must send a detailed outline of the research proposed and completed. The work is to be published with acknowledgement to Founders and a copy sent to our Secretary.

**Points to note:** There must be a clear outline of the topic - objectives of the research -the sources to be used, i.e. records, repositories etc -the research methods - the expected date of completion, publication etc.

The topic can be local history if it has clear relevance to founding history and is of national interest. A good standard of writing is expected. The funding is to paid in instalments, a third being paid at the start. Another third will be paid after evidence is produced to council that good progression has been made with the research. A final payment will be made when the work is complete and published.

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### Katikati's Haiku Pathway

- one of New Zealand's Millennium Projects - is the largest collection of haiku 'stones' outside Japan and the only haiku pathway in the Southern Hemisphere. (See page 19)

Officially opened in June 2000 with 24 engraved boulders, the pathway by the end of 2007 had 30 poem boulders, with more planned.

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### AN EXEMPLARY COLONIST and HIS NOTABLE BUILDINGS

(contributed by John G Mathieson Bay of Plenty Branch)

"*Early Otago*" by C. Stuart Ross (publ. Wilkie & Co Ltd, Dunedin 1907) has a chapter entitled 'An Exemplary Colonist' devoted to the life of Alexander Mathieson. It is now 152 years since my great grandparents Alexander & Sarah Mathieson arrived in Dunedin and purchased a

block of land on the Otago Peninsula. Seeing his opportunity he set about clearing the land and soon established a dairying enterprise. This proved to be very successful and to meet increasing business demands he embarked on building a large bluestone byre, dwelling-house and other buildings. Comprising 80 bails, a spacious loft for storing hay and storage areas for winter feed, it was and still is one of the most spacious and complete group of buildings of its kind.

Alexander designed the buildings, supervised the construction in bluestone, most of which was quarried on the property. He supervised the blasting of the rock and placement of the bluestone as building proceeded over some years. It was while blasting rock Alexander met with a serious accident. He was lighting a fuse when a bag of powder at some distance exploded to severely burn his face and hands. At first it was thought he would lose his sight but over time he made a good recovery.

The Farm and Buildings are the place where I spent all my childhood and "teen" years. This year marks the 152 year of occupation by our family. Alexander farmed there for 45 years. My grandfather lived and farmed there all of his life for 61 years, my father likewise for 73 years and my brother for 77 years. When my brother passed away 2 years ago, one of his sons took over the farming enterprise and he is a fifth generation Mathieson to farm and live at "Everton"

My nephew has been re-roofing the extensive buildings—the original Scottish roofing iron showing quite a lot of rust

after so many years! The latest grant has been made available to deal with an earthquake crack in a corner of the bluestone buildings.

(See N. Z. Historic Places Trust—Heritage This Month-June 2011 for reference to Dunedin Heritage grants)

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### A FAMILY WHO LOVED PLANTS

(Contributed by Sandra Clarke Wellington Branch)

The story of a father and two of his sons.

Henry Samuel Chapman was born in Kennington in London, England in 1803. He was the son of Henry Chapman a civil servant and Ann Hart Davies. His career began in banking and then later as a merchant who travelled first to Amsterdam and then for 10 years to Quebec, Canada where he met up with a boyhood friend Samuel Revans. Some years later he was pleased to meet up with Revans in New Zealand again.

He returned to London where he read law and was admitted to the bar on 12th June 1840 just after he had married Catherine Brewer at the Church of St Marylebone, London. When they shifted to New Zealand, one of Catherine's brothers also moved to Wellington. Henry and Catherine had seven children who were all born in Wellington except the eldest Henry Brewer (1841-1866) and the youngest Walter born Tasmania (1852-66). In February 1840 under the influence of E.G. Wakefield , Chapman began publishing the *New Zealand Journal*.

In 1843 Chapman was appointed judge of the Supreme Court for southern New Zealand. He was the first puisne judge in New Zealand. With his wife and small son he arrived at Auckland on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1843 on the **Bangalore**. He took his oath of office at Auckland on the 26<sup>th</sup> December 1843. Chapman settled in Karori, Wellington cautiously as he would have known of the fate of E.S.Halswell at Brooklyn. Chapman first rented a house on Yule's property and made preparations to build his own. The family finally shifted into their new home in April 1847. Over the years regular reports on the clearing of their section and description of the trees growing there were sent to Chapman's father in England. Part of his 100 acre block Chapman gave to the Anglican church. Many years later St Mary's church was built on the site.

While in New Zealand Chapman worked very hard with William Martin, Chief Justice, living in Auckland to establish a set of rules for running the Supreme Court in New Zealand. In line with Chapman's radical tendencies the rules of the English court were somewhat simplified, however it is a tribute to his skill that the some set of rules were used in New Zealand till 1882 without modification. The process needed a trip to New Plymouth for the two men to consult together for the work to be completed.

The shift to New Zealand appeared to be very successful and Chapman and family were very happy here. However with a large family who needed educating and with somewhat erratic payments by the young government, Chapman made the decision to go as Colonial Secretary to Van Dieman's Land (later Tasmania) and left the country after selling his property called



Homewood, which is now the residence of the British High Commissioner. The family left New Zealand in March 1852 and in 1854 moved on again to Melbourne. Finally in 1864 Chapman was invited to take up a position as judge again and he returned to Dunedin where he spent the rest of his life.

Tragedy struck the family in 1866 when a ship returning to New Zealand from England sank with almost a complete loss of life. It included as passengers, Chapman's wife Catherine, daughter Kate and two sons Henry Brewer and Walter. Within two years Chapman had married Selina Carr from Melbourne. Two of his sons married and returned to Melbourne; they were Charles William and Ernest Arthur who married Florence Barraud. Two other sons trained in law at London and came back to New Zealand. H.S. Chapman died in Dunedin in 1881.

Martin Chapman was the third son of Judge H.S Chapman born in Karori in 1846. He went with his family to Tasmania in March 1852 and then to Melbourne in 1854. In January 1855 Martin and his elder brother Charles were sent to Christ's College in Van Dieman's land as there were no public schools in Melbourne. However in March 1858 the Church of England Grammar School opened in Melbourne and Martin and Charles were among the first enrolled. Later that year Frederick and Ernest followed them. In March 1863 Martin passed the examination for the Victoria Civil Service, and in January 1864 he joined the Survey Department. However when Henry Chapman was appointed a judge in Dunedin it was decided that Catherine Chapman would visit England with the younger members of the family and that Martin would travel to New Zealand to live with his father while the brothers Charles and Ernest were left in Australia. These two later came to Otago to work on Henry Chapman's property for some years before returning permanently to Australia.

Martin was very musical and played both the piano and organ competently. For the first 18 months in Dunedin he was without employment but enjoyed his music, played cricket, went boating, shooting and swimming.

On the 16th November 1865 Martin commenced duties as judges secretary which he continued for a few years and he was living with his father when the very sad news arrived that the boat on which his mother, only sister Kate and brothers Harry and Walter had sunk on its return trip to New Zealand . After his father had remarried he decided to send Martin also to England to train in law. So in February 1868 Martin left NZ to join his younger brother Frederick in London and the two brothers were called to the bar on the first of May 1871. After that Martin travelled on the continent improving his French, German and Italian. He returned to Dunedin in mid1874 and was admitted as a solicitor on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1875 but he did not like Dunedin so he returned to Wellington arriving on the S S.Taranaki on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 1875 and established himself in sole practice. In 1882 he joined practice with William Fitzgerald who died in 1888. In November 1889 he admitted into partnership L.O.H.Tripp(1863-1957) and so began the firm of lawyers which still practices in Wellington and other centres.

In 1882 also himself a home at 28 which he lived in till subsequently lived in Frederick, and on the widow, Clara it was Anglican church. In Tripp built a building in Brandon was owned by Martin to the firm. Martin enjoyed competitive sailing and owned various yachts including the Thetis, he continued playing cricket and also played golf, among other interests were astronomy and gardening. Two of his most notable memorials in Wellington are two famous pohutakawa trees. One still thrives on the Terrace after being planted originally in the grounds of the Wellington Club probably in 1912 when Martin was president of the club. The other tree was planted in Chapman's gardens (now Otari Wilton's Bush Botanic Garden) in Wilton Road on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1922 by the then Mayor W.R. Wright.

Martin and his firm were closely involved in the complicated dealings between various groups, the Government and the Wellington City Council in the creation of the Otari Wilton's Bush Native Plant Museum. Shortly after the Otari Native Reserve was gazetted as a scenic reserve in August 1906; subdivision of the Wilton Farm on the opposite side of the Kaiwarrawarra Stream was put in motion, Job Wilton and family had created the Wilton Estate Company in 1902 which sold on to the syndicate of Turnbull, Watkins and Williams. This syndicate subdivided the farm creating a block called Wilton's Bush which was advertised for sale in November 1906 surveyed into 88



Martin built Eccleston Hill he died. It was by his brother death of his bought by the 1884 Chapman permanent Street which and leased back

sections with among other things a proposed road running down the border of the present Otari School Grounds. Martin Chapman bought 9 sections and adjacent uncut bush in 1906 to form Chapman's gardens. In the same year Wilton Road had been formed to give access by the northern parts of the city to the recently opened Karori Cemetery. Subsequently the Dept of Lands and Survey decided a Board was required to manage the Otari Scenic Reserve. It consisted of 7 members including M Chapman and L Tripp. Within a year the Board suggested that the reserve be vested in the Wellington City Council which was done in 1918 after which the Council started making improvements. However it was left to Martin Chapman to build a simple one room house and employ James Macdonald as caretaker. Only on Martin's death in 1924 was the area known as Chapman's gardens bought by the Council. James Macdonald remained living on the site till 1930.

In 1912 Martin retired from the partnership and spent his time on his hobbies in particular developing his gardens and making periodic trips to Australia to visit his brothers and their children.

He died at home on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1924 and is buried in the Karori cemetery not so very far from where he was born.

Frederick Revans Chapman was born in Wellington in February 1849. He was the youngest surviving son of Judge H.S Chapman. At the age of three he went with his family to Tasmania and two years later to Melbourne. In 1864 he went to London to study at Kings College. In 1868 he entered the Inner Temple and over the next three years he joined with his elder brother Martin in studying for the legal profession. On the 1st May 1871 they were called to the bar. In August 1872 he arrived back at Dunedin and

joined his father. Fred Chapman was admitted to the local profession in October 1872 and for the next 31 years he conducted a legal practice in Dunedin, in later years with Smith Sinclair and White. During this period he also married Clara Cook and they were to have 5 children including 2 sons. Apart from his contribution to the legal profession he took an interest in ethnology and New Zealand plants. A species of red manuka is named after him. He ultimately gave his ethnology collection to the Otago University Museum

In 1903 he was made a judge and was the first New Zealand born one. This eventually resulted in a shift back to Wellington in 1908 where he spent the rest of his life. He retired in 1921 and died in 1936. He lived at 27 Eccleston Hill until 1924 when Martin died after which he moved to 28 Eccleston Hill.

In his first years as judge, Fred was President of the Court of Arbitration later he was a judge of the Supreme Court. He was also involved with compiling and amending legislation.

He was deeply affected by the early death of his two sons. However the radical political commitment of his father H.S. Chapman continued through the descent of a daughter Clara Eichelbaum and a granddaughter Ann Eichelbaum (1921-2007) who married Wolfgang Rosenberg.

After the death of F.R.Chapman his widow Clara continued to live in the house built by Martin Chapman until her death in 1940 when it was bought by the Anglican Church and became Bishopscourt. F.R. Chapman was buried at Wellington.

Both the father and the two sons were highly respected for their careful attention to detail and the considerable knowledge and scholarly approach to all their legal work. They are all remembered for the significant contribution to the development

of the legal profession in New Zealand as well as to their various recreational activities.

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## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

(Compiled by John Webster, Auckland Branch.)

### [Introduction]

The above title refers to turning back the pages of past Bulletins, reading them, and picking out interesting items along the way, for today's readers. This selection comes from Bulletin's of the 1950's, as they were among the first issues produced. They were compiled at the old Wakefield House (on the Terrace) that building being the Founders headquarters at the time in Wellington, and, as today, distributed from there to the branches. A little smaller in size, than the A4 paper of today, they were first printed on newsprint paper stock, with that being replaced by smooth polished paper about 1957. Initially, there were not many "Branch reports" as the Branches too were growing, but by the August 1959 issue they were well represented having had time to establish themselves and hold regular meetings.

*Naturally, much of the news you will read here is dated, so please be prepared for it, and adjust your memory back in time. Also the word "Dominion" is used in regard to the Museum and Founders - of course, what became the "National" museum is now "Te Papa Tongarewa", while the Founders "Dominion Council" is the National Council, and the National Executive. The use of the word "Dominion" changed throughout the country in the 1960s when we stopped being a Dominion having been declared a "Nation" by the Government of the time.*

*As the full articles, and paragraphs, are not reproduced here, and you may be interested to read the original version, if so, please contact, in the first instance, the office in Wellington, giving the details of the date, and the particular piece you want to read and you may be able to obtain a photocopy. However, if your branch does have copies within its archives, look there as well. If any article revives memories for readers we would be pleased to hear from you and encourage you to contribute to a future issue of the Bulletin. There is always a need for original material.*

**Number 4, December 1954:**

**In the editorial :** D.J.Riddiford, President, wrote: At the outset of my year of office as President of the Founders Society I am glad to be able in this issue of the "Bulletin" to say how gratified I am with the progress the Society has made during the term of my predecessor, Mr. Duff Daysh. During the last year there has been an increase in the number of members, the Annual Ball in 1953 was a success, only surpassed by the Ball this year, and the refinancing of Wakefield House has been carried through to a successful conclusion.

**G.H. Scholefield**, commented under the title - "Who Are We All? - The White New Zealanders" - Year by year, as the population of New Zealand increases, the proportion of native-born becomes larger and it is harder to determine the weight of the racial elements which have been absorbed...The question which interested me first, many years ago now, was the relative strength of English, Scots and Irish in the pakeha population. On the strength of explorers' and missionary narratives it is clear that the first European visitors, the Dutch expedition of Abel

Tasman, made no contact at all with the Maoris. The only miscegenation which resulted from that encounter was possibly the digestion of the body of at least one Dutch seaman...There is good reason to believe that a number of children were born in New Zealand after the visits of Captain Cook's ships a hundred years after Tasman...The basic composition of racial elements stated above will be only slightly affected by recent immigration - numerous thought it may seem - of people from other European countries. At the census of 1945, 84.70 per cent. of the pakeha population was born in the Dominion.

**Appeal for Preservation of Historic Church:** A long report comments on the hope, "that the building of the Anglican Cathedral in Wellington will not involve the St. Paul's Church. A spirited preservation was made by D.L.Tanner at the annual New Zealand Founders Wakefield House on 18<sup>th</sup> resolved to submit a Historic Places Trust, as formed, "to use its good the Church of England secure the preservation of St. Paul's Church on its present site."



demolition of appeal for its Miss meeting of the Society in August...It was request to the soon as it was offices with authorities to

**Waitangi Treaty Recalled at Founders Ball:** Highlight of the Annual Ball - the most successful of the series - at the Majestic Theatre, Wellington, on 24<sup>th</sup> September, was a "living picture" of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, staged by members of the Society and the Ngati-Poneke Maori Association. In raiment of the period they made an impressive spectacle. A script...prepared by Mr. Cheviot Bell...and Mr. Leo Fanning, was read with dramatic skill by Mr. Charles Bennett...a well known broadcaster. A striking tribute to his voicing was seen in the eager listening of more than 400 dancers, whose faces reflected their interest.

**Memorial to Ida Bull:** Wakefield House now has in its clubroom a handsome chiming clock in memory of the late Miss Ida Bull, a very

active generous member ...The memorial was unveiled at the Society's annual general meeting by Mrs. A Burnard, on behalf of the women's committee, which bought the clock with part of the bequest made by Miss Bull to the Society...Miss Ida Bull was the first and only member to make a bequest to the New Zealand Founders Society. Her admirable action should stimulate others to follow her example.

**Archives for Wanganui:** The Wanganui Branch...is supporting a project for the establishment of a local historical library and repository for archives...Although Wanganui's membership shows little change the branch is commendably active.

**Use of Club Rooms for Dancing:** In accordance with a recommendation from the annual meeting...decided to have linoleum put on the floor of the main clubroom of Wakefield House to make it suitable for dancing. It is felt that this procedure will help much to strengthen younger members' interest in the society.

**Wairarapa Branch in Centennial Parade:** The Branch... made an impressive response to an invitation to take part in the "Parade of Ages" on the final day of Masterton's centennial celebrations. There was a great collection of clothes and household goods many of which had been brought to New Zealand in the early forties and some even earlier...Next came a quiet cow carrying two babes; these were not members of the Society. This display commemorated the journey over the hill of the first Mrs. Masters who used a cow for carrying and feeding her family...[two children] John Wardell and Eleanor Mountford...ran on each side of the cow...Finally came the horse section, arranged by Miss Isabel Barton...The calm and capable manner in which they handled their high-spirited horses through the crowded and decorated streets showed inheritance of the traditional indomitable will of their stalwart ancestors.

: Number 6, June 1955.

**Editorial:** The Society today numbers 1475; this, of course, shows a considerable increase over the membership a few years ago, for I can well remember our excitement when we passed the 1000 mark.

**Nan Kivell Collection:** The president of the Founders Society, in a letter to the Minister of Internal Affairs, has emphasized the national importance of retaining in New Zealand the well-known Nan Kivell collection of 200 pictures of New Zealand subjects by distinguished artists during a long stretch of years. Dr. Falla, Director of the Dominion Museum, has informed Mr. Riddiford that the pictures could be satisfactorily placed in the Museum. Dr. Falla also stated that he would be conferring on this matter with the Prime Minister.

**Strong Move for New Zealand Day:** A deputation organized by the New Zealand Founders Society called on the Minister of Internal Affairs...to plead for the recognition of 6 February as New Zealand Day...Mr. Riddiford said that the deputation was not asking that 6 February should be recognized as a statutory holiday, but merely that appropriate ceremonies should be held on that day. If it were considered impracticable to recognize 6 February, without making it a public holiday, the proper course would be to do away with Dominion Day and substitute New Zealand Day...Today Dominion Day is as dead as anything can be. Really, it was born dead...How the Government has come to the belief that Dominion Day is held in popular esteem must be beyond the comprehension whose work has kept him public opinion for many

**Wanted, Children's**

- 1940: Organisers of a floor display for the next urgently require period would fit children from three to fourteen. Members who have such costumes are requested to lend them for that colourful occasion... Kind response will help much to assure a delightful ball. Every possible care will be taken to ensure that the loans will be returned without damage.

**Bay of Plenty Sub-Branch:** Miss Irma O'Connor reports... A special meeting of Bay of Plenty members of the Auckland Branch having been arranged to coincide with my visit to Rotorua...It was held on the



of any journalist in touch with years.

**Costumes, 1840**

spectacular  
Founders Ball  
dress which  
the ages of

afternoon of Sunday, 1 May in the Business Women's Club-rooms at Rotorua, and was attended not only by Rotorua members, but also by members from Tauranga, Whakatane, Putaruru and Tokoroa. It was decided to form a sub-branch of the Society for the Bay of Plenty district...it was agreed to hold a committee meeting at a members house during the week so that I could attend it.

**Editor of Bulletin:** The Dominion Council, at its meeting in May, elected Mr. Leo Fanning, the honorary editor of the bulletin, an honorary life member of the Founders Society. Readers will be aware of the debt the Society owes Mr. Fanning for the work, time and trouble he gives to the production of this paper. We are fortunate in having the services of a man highly qualified in professional journalism.

**Lively Schools of Old Wellington:** No.5 issue gave an amusing piece written by Mr. George Macmorran. Most of the early masters had a firm belief in the rod and strap, but there was one exception, Jabez Clark...He punished little, preferring kindly treatment to harsher measures...he always had on the premises a store of lollipops with which he rewarded those who did work to his satisfaction...One master, who had great faith in corporal punishment, had a habit of placing his chair in the middle of his schoolroom floor with the pupils carefully arranged all around him. They were kept within easy reach of a long supple jack, so that he could hit anyone without stirring from his seat at the centre...[also another] Mr. William Finnemore...in his prime, as clean as a new pin himself, he insisted that all the boys should present themselves in the same condition. If there was neglect, then a bucket was available for the necessary wash. Should the pupil be too young to be trusted to successfully use the water and horse comb, then an older boy was deputed to accompany and assist.

**Surprising Cargo of Wreck:** Mr. H.F.Joyce, of Auckland, told this story...In the year 1908 I was master of the little steamer "Elsie" owned by Mr. E.C.Perano, trading in the Sounds...Mr. Gow had been searching the records of old shipwrecks and the cargo they contained. It was stated that the "Rangitoto" cargo consisted mainly of copper...Mr Gow approached Mr. Perano for a chartering of the

"Elsie"...we set out on this quest...the diver investigated and reported that the cargo was quite intact, but it was not copper. It proved to be a cargo of spirituous liquor. The hold was full of bottles of beer, brandy, whisky, gin, etc., the contents of probably 400 bottles...To our party it seemed a clear case of liquor smuggling; the copper never existed. Naturally, we were all disappointed at the result...the diver brought up some cabin fittings and ships crockery...some of which I gave to Picton residents. I also sent some to the Dominion Museum.

**No.9, March 1956M.T.H.** *An Editorial Note: Many years ago I spent an arduous week in journalistic coaching of the son of a provincial newspaper proprietor...When we were saying good-bye at a steamer's gang-way I advised him to take big doses of "M.T.H." a marvelous patent medicine.*

"I've never heard of it, I've never seen it advertised," he said, "how do you get it?"

"Make it," I replied. "Those letters M.T.H. are the initials of "Make Things Happen". Get busy. Keep going."

**Dame Hilda Ross Leads Trumps:** First luncheon meeting this year at Wakefield House, Wellington, heard with manifest interest an address "Ten Years in Politics," by Dame Hilda Ross, Minister of Social Welfare. The speaker brightly told many amusing anecdotes of her election campaigns and her experience in Parliament. She had proved the wisdom of the maxim: "Never lose your temper."

**Merry Barbecue by the Sea:** ...on the night of Saturday, 18 February, about fifty "younger Founders" and their friends heartily enjoyed a

barbecue [at Eastbourne]. There was plenty of driftwood for the roasting of sausages and potatoes and the boiling of billies for tea. The night was right for banjo twanging and singing, lively chatter and laughter, a delightful lift from routine ruts.

**Don't Call Manuka "Ti-tree":** Despite frequent protests, some journalists and other writers continue to inflict the comic name "ti-tree" upon manuka. An early pioneer fancied that the foliage of manuka



resembled leaves of the tea-tree of Asia, and passed the name on to the New Zealand shrub. Later on, an ignorant person had a notion that the "tea" was a corruption of a Maori word "ti," and his piece of nonsense gained popular use, as stupid mistakes often do. "Ti" is the Maori name of the cabbage-tree.

**U.N.A Conference:** In response to an invitation, Mrs. D.B.Coates and Mrs. H.O.Pittendrigh, members of the Society's Dominion Council, were appointed delegates to attend the annual conference of the United Nations Association of New Zealand.

**Gift of a Picture:** A picture of a building in Molesworth Street, Wellington, drawn by Mr. John Bethell in 1872, has been given by his son, Mr. E.J.Bethell, of Wellington, to the New Zealand Founders Society.

**Untitled paragraph:** Of course the following joke does not apply to lady members of the Founders Society. An advertisement of an American school of accountancy was headed: "Short course in Accounting for Women." A few days later a note received by the school's president stated: "There is NO accounting for women."

#### No.12, December 1956.

**Founders Annual Ball:** The high standard of the Founders Society's annual balls was well maintained at the Majestic Cabaret on 28 September. The Mayor of Wellington (Sir Robert Macalister) and Lady Macalister were guests of honour. The cabaret was decorated with coloured balloons and streamers. In each pillar was a large replica of the letter "F" denoting the society's name. Large bowls of spring flowers coloured the foyer. A 20-minute variety show was staged by a professional group of three vocal harmonists, with a piano-accordion player and a comedian, who entertained with yodelling, step dancing, and humour.

**Care of Pioneers' Graves:** The Taranaki Branch asked the Dominion Council for direction on policy for the care of pioneers graves....the President replied that such work would have to be done on a voluntary basis...as funds of Headquarters could not permit aid under the present subscription...before the Founders Society was established, the

Wellington Early Settlers and Historic Association undertook the care of the Wakefield graves. This work is now carried on by the City Council.

**Representation in Great Britain:** In accordance with a recommendation of Mr. D. Hope Johnston (London), founder of the New Zealand Founders Society, the Dominion Council has appointed Mrs G.B.Williams as the Society's deputy official representative in the United Kingdom.

**That Famous Founder, Samuel Marsden:** A mysterious slip occurred in the summary of early in the September issue of when the famous Anglican Samuel Marsden, was part in the establishment at Kororareka in 1814.



history of New Zealand the "N.Z.F.S.Bulletin", missionary, the Rev, credited with a leading of a "Methodist mission"

**Petition for New Zealand Day:** The Dominion President, the Dominion Treasurer and Mr Duff Daysh had a consultation with Mr. Duncan Rae, M.P., on the question of getting 6 February, the anniversary date of the Waitangi Treaty, officially recognized as New Zealand Day. Mr Rae undertook to present a petition to the House of Representatives. It is anticipated that it will be easy to get a wide range of signatures thoroughly representative of the whole country.

**Warm Welcome for Irma O'Connor:** Wakefield House, had a pleasant afternoon-tea party on 6 November...in honour of Miss Irma O'Connor, honorary secretary of the Auckland Branch, a great-grand-daughter of Edward Gibbon Wakefield...the President spoke of Miss O'Connor's zeal in promoting the society's ideals for national welfare. The Wakefield spirit had been shown impressively in her work for the establishment of the Auckland Branch and sub-branches within the big provincial district. In her reply, Miss O'Connor indicated that Auckland's men members had as much cause as Wellington's for gratitude to Women's Committees for very helpful activities...A very pleasant innovation in Auckland was in visits of parties of members to places of historic interest.

**Punny Crossings of Rivers:** ...on one of these journeys, a then Minister of the Crown, the late Hon. J.A.Tole, of Auckland, who held the Justice portfolio, penciled a verse, which involves a shocking mispronunciation of the Maori names...but Mr Tole, fearful of his reputation for sanity dropped them in to the nearest creek. When his colleagues demanded that he should show reason why sentence should not be passed on him, he pleaded that he had just come from a Coast political banquet, whereupon he was acquitted. Banquets were banquets in those days.

**No.13, March 1957.**

**Inspirational Dinner:** Dinner of delight for body and mind came on Friday evening, 8 February, for a big assembly at Wakefield House, an inspirational prelude for next day's conference. That merry meal was a heart-warming family affair. [Mr. Max Wall, President said] "Members of our far flung family, here for the Society's first big conference, I am sure you will prove yourselves members of one great family, ready to tackle your tasks in a friendly family spirit.... Before, during and after dinner all the folk showed that they had the right family spirit.

**Successful Dominion Conference:** From various important viewpoints the Dominion Conference ...was impressively successful. Discussions covered the whole range of the Society's constitution and objects...The Dominion Council has decided that the next one will be held in conjunction with the Society's annual meeting at Wakefield House this year.

**Waitangi Night at Wakefield House:** Words of warm welcome from the Dominion President, Mr. Max Wall, for Mr. F.J.Kitts, Mayor of Wellington...In his reply Mr. Kitts....mentioned that as a fourth-generation New Zealander he was naturally keenly interested in the accurate writing of properly co-ordinated history of the country...He was pleased that the Wellington City Council appointed its own historian about three years ago. Already the good work done by the historian showed that the appointment should have been made long ago...Before unveiling the new portrait (an oil painting, of Edward Gibbon Wakefield) Miss Irma O'Connor, a great grand-daughter...gave a bright insight into his historic greatness...When the Union Jack was drawn aside and

Wakefield's head came into view, all stood while Mr. Wall recited the Founders Pledge - "We do" was the hearty response. The guest speaker, Mr. Cheviot Bell, who was the Society's first President, gave a breezy comment on its formation by Mr. D. Hope Johnston and its early development.

**Subscriptions Requested for Wakefield Portrait:** The total cost of acquiring the portrait of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, painted by Mr. J. Oakley, of Christchurch, was £45... the charge should not be a charge on the Society's funds, but should be met by voluntary contributions... When this article was being written, several members had subscribed. It is confidently believed that others will follow that example soon, and thus have a personal interest in the picture.

**Comic Aspersion of Founders Society:** Press reports of the Wellington Early Settlers' Association annual meeting included an astounding assertion of the chairman, Mr. C.J.S. Harcourt. He alleged that "one of the bigger differences between the Founders Society and his association was that the Founders Society drank liquor at its gatherings and the Early Settlers drank tea at theirs." A prompt reply by Mr. Max Wall showed that Mr. Harcourt had spoken in complete ignorance of Founders Society's functions..."It is quite contrary to the fact to suggest that our members are addicted to strong drink. The Founders last year held one cocktail party at Christmas time. At other functions we drank tea only, like the Early Settlers Association. One swallow does not make a year does not make Society....has always relations with the hope that....Mr. create a rift which was



a summer; one cocktail party us alcoholics...The Founders had harmonious and friendly Early Settlers... I devoutly Harcourt's remarks will not not there before."

**Tides of Hokianga:** Those well-known writers and broadcasters, Cecil and Celia Manson, will add to their popularity with their book, "Tides of Hokianga" which makes a strong appeal to folk who have proper interest in their country's history. Much of the old-time colourful dramatic interest was made in and about Hokianga. The book is obtainable for

17/6 from booksellers or the publishers, the Wingfield Press, P.O.Box 481, Wellington. Sixpence must be added if mailing is required.

**A Blurt About Wakefield:** Mr. C.J.Harcourt stated that descendants of Edwards Wakefield would not be eligible for membership of the Founders Society because he did not arrive in Wellington until 1853 (thirteen years after the foundation year). It is true that his body was not here in 1840, but his spirit certainly was, because he was the originator of the whole plan of colonization. Apart from that fact descendants would be eligible for enrolment under the section "Special Classes of Membership" in the Society's rules.

**Gentle Cat's Founder Spirit:** When Mr. Kitts, Mayor of Wellington, was speaking at Wakefield House softly strolled in through a side taking pussy out Mr. Kitts paused. wish to be here. After all they did founders." Later on, he remarked ashore from a ship at Hokianga in 1794.



on Waitangi night, a cat door. While a lady was "Even our feline friends come here with the that six kittens were put

**Briskness of Manawatu:** That name Manawatu has a rousing sound...Certainly the spirit of progress is shown by the Society's Manawatu Branch since its formation in August last year has greatly impressed Headquarters. So much praise has been given to the Branch that its members must feel an urge to keep up their pace of success. The "Manawatu Times" of 19 December had a three-column wide block illustrating the report of the Branch's Christmas luncheon.

#### No.17, August 1959.

**Overseas Trip:** Miss Jean Sellar, who had organized a successful series of card evenings for the Wellington Women's Committee, has left on a trip overseas. Miss Sellar is a member of a well-known Masterton family.

**No Suitable Setting for Featherston Bust:** The bust of Dr Issac Featherston was unveiled at the old Colonial Museum on May 24, 1877. ...In the vestibule of Parliament House in Wellington is a small collection of busts in memory of the distinguished dead. That of Featherston is not among them; it is to be found in a corner of the room which houses

the Dominion Museum's historical collection. One wonders at times just what entitles a man to have his bust placed in the Parliamentary Parthenon. The verdict of history is, sure, that at least one or two of them, now there, hardly qualify for that distinction. But, if ever a man deserves that honour it is Featherston....The time, surely has come to rescue this bust from comparative obscurity, and place it where it should be - the hallowed place that Parliament has set aside for New Zealand's famous men. (*Contributed by "Poneke"*)

**Rare Busby Book to be Sold:** Members of the Society who are enthusiastic collectors of early New Zealand printed material will be interested in an item that will come up for sale at Bethune's sale toward the end of August....a copy in excellent condition of James Busby's "A Manual of Plain Directions for Planting and Cultivating Vineyards and for making Wine in New South Wales" printed in Sydney in 1830. Though Busby was author of a number of pamphlets; the "Manual" is regarded as a rare one. This copy was a gift to the Rev. J.Hobbs...and an inscription in the latter's handwriting testifies to the fact. The last copy....sold in Wellington in 1947 realised £10/10/-. It was written before Busby ever saw New Zealand, and while he was in charge of an agricultural school near Sydney.

**John Plimmer's Link with Ship Inconstant:** Mr. F.W.Squires was clearing rubbish in a house the other day when he came across a souvenir of the ship Inconstant - otherwise John Plimmer's Ark, a familiar sight in Wellington a century ago. It was a piece of oak bearing the inscription : "C.H.Dinley, 35 Hankey Street, Wellington," also the words "Inconstant, 1849. Plimmer's Noah's Ark, Bank Corner and Custom House Quay, Store 1856." When excavations were made on the site...the Inconstant's hull was found in sound condition. From the timbers were made chairs for the bank's board room and one for the Turnbull Library....John Plimmer will always be remembered because of one of the city's most picturesque, if steep, lanes - Plimmer's Steps.

*(Built by George Old at Big Bras d'Or, Nova Scotia Inconstant was the one of largest wooden ship ever built in Cape Breton Island, Nova*

*(Scotia and the largest ship built by Old, a shipbuilder who started with schooners before focusing mainly on brigs. The ship was sold to owners in London, England and made a voyage to Australia carrying immigrants. On a subsequent Australian voyage, she was wrecked at Wellington, New Zealand in 1851 when she put in for water and ran aground.)*



**Plea For Restoration of James Busby's Home:** A plea for the restoration of the old Residency, once the home of James Busby and his wife at Waitangi, Bay of Islands, was made recently by Eric Ramsden, New Zealand historian and Busby's biographer....It was a mistake, in my opinion, to have changed the name from the British Residency to "the Treaty House." The treaty was not signed in the house, but outside it. Old Bay of Islands settlers always knew Waitangi as "The Residency". All of Busby's official correspondence was so headed....we could restore the old Residency to something approaching the quiet charm and dignity of an early Victorian home, and remove the excrescences that have arisen to perhaps another building.

**A Whale Chase in Wellington Harbour:** One September morn, just a century ago, a huge whale nosed its way into Port Nicholson from Cook Strait. Its appearance occasioned considerable excitement. Though the probability is that the harbour sheltered many a whale in its time, this



was only the second one seen following European settlement 14 years before. It is known that in the early period whalers brought their catches into the harbour. The beach at Oriental Bay, below St. Gerard's monastery, is said to have been the spot where blubber was rendered down in large try-pots...The chase around [the] harbour lasted for the greater part of the day, the whale having made a complete circuit...At last it was struck by a harpoon...After a short struggle it was captured, the second boat arriving in time for the kill. The carcass was then towed to the eastern side of Lambton Harbour...The captors had sanguine hopes of collecting between £300 and £400 for the oil and bone, though history does not record the precise sum realized.

**Why Not Try for the Hodges Collection?** : The collection of oil paintings, the work of William Hodges who accompanied Captain Cook....that of late has been on exhibition at the Turnbull Library, is now being displayed in Napier....Gisborne has asked for the collection...will also be shown in Auckland, and possibly Christchurch...These studies are the property of the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty...the collection is not of first rate importance artistically, but is of definite significance historically. This is a subject in which the Society could well interest itself. If representations were made to the Admiralty it is just possible that the collection might be allowed to remain here permanently?



### THE STORY OF AN APPLE AND A FISH

(Contributed by Brian Woodley Wairarapa  
Branch)

This is an account of a story of the sailing ship *Crusader* on its voyage in 1874 when it conveyed the Woodley family from

Plymouth, England, to New Zealand.

I will tell you of a true and factual story of an apple and a fish that my grandfather, Eli Woodley told me when I was a boy.

By way of introduction, my name is Brian Woodley and I am an Associate Member of the Wairarapa Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society. Under the current rules of the Society my great-grandfather, John Woodley, would not have been able to be termed a Founder as the ship that carried him did not arrive in New Zealand until 1874, but I very much consider him and his family to be pioneers of this country of ours.

John Woodley and his wife Martha, along with their infant son Eli, and three other children lived in a small village called Hagbourne in Oxfordshire, England. worker employed by the Unfortunately, John fell evening while making his short cut through the manor house. John was observed picking up a windfall apple and eating it. This act was to have serious consequences and was to result in a journey of several months and many thousands of sea miles.



John worked as a farm squire of the village. foul of the squire. One way home, John took a orchard at the back of the

The squire dismissed John from his job and made it impossible for him to get employment anywhere else in or around the village as the squire put out the word that Woodley was not to be employed.

With the assistance of The National Union of Agricultural Labourers, John packed up his family along with his two brothers and their families, and came out to New Zealand on the iron-hulled sailing ship *Crusader*, leaving Plymouth Harbour on the 25th September 1874.

When the *Crusader* was crossing the Bay of Biscay they encountered a severe storm and the vessel started to take on water. All able-bodied men, along with the crew, spent day and night at the pumps trying to control the amount of water entering the hull. The situation was starting to get critical as the pumps were not keeping up and the *Crusader* was in danger of foundering.

By some miracle the leak in the hull suddenly stopped, and they were able to control the intake of water. There was some leakage into the ship during the course of the voyage, but they were able to overcome the problem and reached Lyttelton Harbour on 31st December 1874. The next day they took passage down the coast and were off-loaded by surf boat on the beach at Oamaru. For a short while the family lived in a sod-walled hut that John built until more permanent accommodation was obtained.

Some months after they had landed at Oamaru, John's wife Martha answered the door of her home to a travelling salesman. It transpired that this man had been a sailor on the *Crusader*. He told Martha that the *Crusader* had been docked after its voyage and a hole had been found in the bottom of the hull. The *Crusader* had been carrying copper ore on a previous voyage and it was thought that a lump had been left in the bilges, got wet, and had gradually corroded, or worn a hole in a plate at the bottom of the ship.

The amazing thing was that the remains of a fish were found wedged in the hole. It was this fish, that had been sucked in tail first, that had saved the lives of all those sailing on the *Crusader*.

After some years while working in the South Island, John started a contracting business around the Geraldine/Winchester districts doing agricultural farm engine and a eventually came doing similar work in My father continued contracting until the



work with a traction threshing machine. He north with his son Eli the Wairarapa. with agricultural 1950's.

John and Martha are buried at Clareville Cemetery, Carterton.

You will have now seen, that by having had this story told to you, if it were not for an apple and a fish, I would most certainly not have been able to relate it.

*Confirming information was obtained from the Christchurch Library regarding the story of the fish and is well documented.*



### The Crusader to Lyttelton



The clipper ship *Crusader* made 28 voyages to New Zealand (1871-1897), including thirteen to Lyttelton and averaged 91 days. This iron ship was built 1865 by Connell, of Glasgow and launched in March 1865. Her registered measurements being: net tonnage 1058; gross 1058; length 210ft; breadth 35.1ft; depth 21.4ft. When she first traded to New Zealand she was owned by the Albion Line, and was painted black, with a yellow streak; and when the company amalgamated in 1883 with the Shaw Savill Company, she had painted port holes.



### DEPRESSION DAYS

(Contributed by Audrey Henderson - Wairarapa Branch)

*Audrey Henderson's mother was married in her home City of Auckland on New Years Day, 1930. The date for the wedding was totally non negotiable. This because it was during the great depression and no extra time off was offered or available to staff.*

*(account of their early marriage follows "Notes written by Elsie Bathe,  
- nee Munns.)*

'We were married on New Years Day, 1930 and arrived in National Park on 2nd January. Although Claude had told me exactly what to expect it was a bit of a shock to be ushered into a four roomed house which was as bare as a billiard ball. Our only furniture was a kitchen table and a bed. The only floor coverings were a wheat sack in front of the range and another beside the bed. Instead of chairs we had butter boxes.\* I covered the tops of these with scrim bunched up for padding and again had recourse to the good old wheat sacks to tack on over the scrim. These made very good seats. It was really lots of fun improvising what we needed. For some unknown reason a friend had given me about twenty yards of yellow sateen previous to our getting married. What a godsend that material was. It made yellow curtains for the windows as well as being used for a frill and curtains on a packing case dressing table in the spare room where another wheat sack opened out and tacked on a frame made from timber picked up on the road did good work as a single bed. It was great fun making something out of nothing\* (at least we thought so.)

Our house was about 200 yards from a road corner, - very convenient too, after I had noticed that the lorries carting coal from the station to The Chateau used to swish around the corner and invariably spill off large pieces of coal. It was no trouble to take a bucket, (kerosene tin with a wire handle) and scrounge that precious fuel. Needless to say there was unlimited firewood, but this had to be chopped. As Claude left home before 7.00 a.m. and did not return until 6.00 p.m. at the earliest, there was very little time for wood chopping. To make things really tough he worked seven days a week for three weeks then had a three day break.

As you can no doubt guess our conveniences were primitive. No hot water except at the stove, Wash house, bathroom and loo in a separate



building across a small fenced backyard. It was a case of passing through the wash house, into the bathroom, then through another opening into the loo. Of course none of these amenities were lined so no doubt you can guess what it was like to use any of them during the winter.



Bathing in the six-foot tin bath was out of the question except in summertime, even then the draughts were mighty unpleasant, but during winter it was simply impossible, especially during a snow storm. Can you imagine what it feels like to be sitting

in warm water and get a hunk of snow come "plonk" onto your back or any other spot that happened to be in the line of fire. This solved by using a large galvanised tub in front of the kitchen range. We always tipped the toilet seat up to lean on the back wall because otherwise one was quite likely to sit on anything from one to six inches of cold snow that had drifted in through the many cracks and holes.



### BUTTER BOX

*\*In the early decades of the 20th century kahikatea timber was used to make boxes in which butter was exported to Great Britain. Unlike most other woods, kahikatea did not taint the butter.*



### OUR LOCAL GASWORKS 1907-1966

(contributed by Ian Renall Wairarapa Branch}

In 1905 our local council decided to investigate the possibility of building a coal fired gasworks. They paid a Mr C H Edwards from Napier 20 guineas (\$42.00) plus travelling to come down and advise

them. (*an earlier day consultant*) They were obviously impressed and so held a referendum to find out what the locals thought about the idea. 157 people voted; 119 in favour and 35 against. So the council purchased an acre of land in Belvedere Road between the railway and Taylor Street for £240.0.0. So as to be able to fund the project they then borrowed £900.0.0 at 4½% from the Wellington Harbour Board. This proved insufficient so a little later £300.0.0 was added to the loan. Then Mr C H Edwards was brought down again from Napier to supervise the construction.



By early 1908 the council staff had laid 54 chains of 4" mains and 9 chains of 3" mains. They installed 18 large and 21 small gas street lamps and had connected up 200 domestic users, also a few commercial users e.g. the railway station, Croydon Hospital, Wakelin's flour mill, 2 bakeries, McKenzie Nursing Home and the school. The coal arrived at the station in large LA steel sided railway wagons and was duly delivered by Mr W A R Pinfold (*now Pinfolds Transport*) and it was all shovelled from the wagons by hand.

A ton of coal produced approximately 10,500 cubic feet of gas plus some road sealing tar, creosote for wood preservative, coalass for a sealer used before applying the tar to the surface of the road and coke which was sold for domestic heating. Eventually they had a 1928 Ford truck for delivering pre-ordered bags of coke. It required approximately 2 tons of coal per day to keep ahead of the orders.

The manager's house on Taylor Street was built by Mr Arnold Wallis for £325.00. He had a builders yard and machinery in High Street North and had built a large number of homes around the area, including Mr T E Mausell's 'Coydon' in Howard Street and our first wooden cheese factory and Carters home in Moreton Road. He had a family of 6 sons and 4 daughters. The first manager was Mr John Herdman who had learnt his trade in England and came to us from Napier. He and Mrs Herman had a family of 3 sons and 4 daughters. The full staff were the manager, 2 stokers and 1 meter reader. In my day, Mr Jim Nielson was

the manager and rode around the town on his push bike as the meter reader.

The production went a little like this. The coal was shovelled into fireboxes by hand and then set alight and as the heat increased the products were released. The gas was pumped into the large circular gas holder -the creosote and tar were pumped into storage tanks to be used by council staff for roadworks etc. The 'slag' or ash was cooled (*by water*) and bagged for sale for domestic heating.

The reticulation was quite large. My grandparents in Brooklyn Road were connected up and had a steel meter box on the back porch. It had a slot in the face of it into which a shilling fitted exactly. The weight of the shilling obviously released a further ration of gas but it was far too technical for me.

Eventually the miles of steel pipes buried under the roads became rusty which was lost into the atmosphere. They were making much more gas than could be charged out. I sometimes smile and wonder why the whole town wasn't blown up in the early 60's. The council had no option but to close it down in 1966. The cost of a new reticulation system was much more than could be justified. Lots of consumers were then faced with expenses of new electric ranges and hot water systems. The local Wairarapa Electric Power Board very generously offered extended credit to the gas customers for the purchase and installation of new electrical apparatus. This was quite a job because some domestic house mains were not heavy enough for the new electric ranges and had to be upgraded.

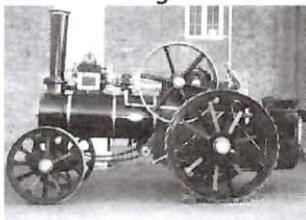
The large gasholder is interesting in the bottom approximately 1/3 was full water and acted like a gasket to stop leakage. The newly produced gas was pumped up through the water and the half of the holder rose and fell



that  
of  
gas  
top

according to the volume of used gas. The new gas just laid on top of the water while the weight of the holder pressed down on the gas which then created enough pressure to send gas all over town. After March

1966, the holder was used for grain storage. Occasionally the water pipes at the gas plant became clogged up with ammonia and so the traction engine which the council owned was used to produce steam to clean out those pipes. Sadly a later council sold the steam engine off to the Masterton Borough Council. It had an apparatus attached to the back which was called a 'tar baby' and was used for road repairs etc.



*I acknowledge and thank the local Historic Society for allowing me access to their files. Ian Renall July 2011*



### ROBERT GEORGE

(contributed by Betty Catt Wairarapa Branch)

*My grandfather, Robert George, sailed for New Zealand on the 9th April 1862. The maritime record in the paper the New Zealander, Saturday 2nd August 1862, gives this report. I have abbreviated it in some parts.*

"The fine ship, the "Queen of the North" with Captain Crombie arrived from London (the ship actually arrived on 30th July, taking 112 days for the voyage) after a trying and tempestuous passage. It had a fine run down the Channel. Caught a good trade wind crossing the equator on 2nd May only 23 days out. Met baffling weather on the line and were detained for 14 days which I presume meant they were becalmed. Then the south-east trade winds proved unsteady and impeded their progress. On 8th June passed the Cape of Good Hope. On 9th of June they experienced a tremendous westerly gale which had the ship scudding along under close-reefed topsails. On the 16th June it encountered another violent gale from the south-west. They passed

the south of Tasmania on 16th July at 9.00 am, then a twelve day run to the Three Kings sighting them on the 28th July.

The record continues there were no deaths or births all arrived and the ship a fine, roomy vessel came into port in a clean and creditable condition (*so I say eat your heart out Team New Zealand. I think the Captain Crombies of that era were mighty sailors*).

The total number of passengers was 108 - 41 English, 37 Irish and 30 Scots and they included many trades from a land surveyor, 9 farmers, 2 tailors, 17 labourers and so on.



By the way, the Captain's log had all the latitudes and longitudes which I have left out. The cargo was just mind-boggling from loaf sugars, first class teas, candied fruit, Fry's cocoa, salad oils, pickles, Huntley & Palmers biscuits, Coleman's starch, curry powder etc. etc. and also the more mundane things such as candlesticks, umbrella stands, buckets, Avery's weighing machines, iron barrow wheels, tea and coffee pots, wire rat traps just to name a few. When we realise this is only 22 years after the Treaty and you are amazed at the advertisements in the paper. A Grand Concert of vocal and instrumental items with the Band of the 2nd Battalion 14th Brigade and several talented voices. Admission 4 shillings reserved seats, 3 shillings unreserved. The Young Men's Christian Association has a library of over 1,500 books, including Livingstone's Travels, Pickwick Papers and Tom Brown's School Days. While the YMCA was having a lecture on Freedom of Expression and Opinion which could be subject discussed in the present day.

My grandfather was born on the 24th May 1848 on the same date as my birthday; unfortunately he died before I was born. We were always told he arrived all alone in New Zealand at the age of 15 but going by the dates he may have been only 14 years when he left home.

Back to Robert George whose name is clearly on the passenger list. I am grateful to our friend Nola Jones who when the date criteria for membership widened urged me to join Founders. My grandfather spent

most of his life in Wellington so that was where I was looking for the ship. He was a Prison Officer and the family home is still there in Karori. Luckily, my late cousin, Kerry Orange, Robert's great-grandson, got interested and found me much of the Auckland information. We had a lot of fun doing it all and I miss him. We got our data before the general computer use so research did not go on and on but we exchanged photos, etc and interesting information.

My grandfather's father was John George and his mother Margaret McGowan. We knew he came from Derry or Derryork in the Dangiven Parish, Northern Island. The genealogy centre in Londonderry identified one mention in the Bovevagh Presbyterian Church while the George name is linked to Derry since 1740. Back in the 18th century, Presbyterians could only be married or buried under the rites of the Church of Ireland. To complicate matters along the way there was the 1740 Protestant householders' list, the flax growers' list of 1796 was in effect another census. Then in 1864 a civil registration began. The genealogy centre in Londonderry concluded that our George ancestor's ancestral home was Dungiven Parish Derry. As there seemed to be a lot of Georges there we decided to settle for that. Robert's wife was Elizabeth Jones. We only knew that she came from North Wales. That seemed an impossible task. We did not even go there! There were seven children born to these two. Of course my dad was one. Three predeceased them, two in infancy. There is a lot more interesting stuff in Robert's life but as this is really about voyages I'll settle for this much.

I feel blessed that I have one grandparent Irish, one Scottish, one English and one Welsh. Look at all the days I can celebrate. A doctor once told me a Celtic mix is not a bad thing.

Betty Catt  
Wairarapa Branch



## **N Z Founders Creed**

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.

## **Acknowledgements**

The Society's grateful thanks is extended to all our members from various branches who so willingly provided material and photographs for this 2011 Bulletin. A special mention is made of the work done by the National Secretary, Janet Robinson and the editorial team of Barbara & Glen Robertson.  
Thank you all.

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