



BULLETIN

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Photograph of James Farrelly (seated) with his wife Susan and their 11 children taken in 1904 at Hamua, just south of Pahiatua, in the northern Wairarapa.

See the story behind this photograph on page 41.

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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.

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Founders Society Inc.
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Contents

The 78 th Annual Report New Zealand Founders' Society—2016	3
From the Ed	4
News snippets	4
Waikato Branch 2016	5
Auckland Branch	6
Bay of Plenty 2015-16	7
Hawke's Bay Branch Annual Report	8
Hawke's Bay Branch activities 2016	9
Taranaki Branch 2016	11
Wanganui Branch	11
Wellington Branch	13
Wairarapa Branch	13
Re-starting the Canterbury-Westland Branch	14
Founders logo explained	15
 <i>From around the Branches</i>	
A glimpse of life for girls and women in rural, early 1900s New Zealand	16
The end of an era	19
Sorting the facts from fiction in my family's history	20
Exploring Carterton's history – and a settler's name change	22
Arrivals – Six Wellington stories, 1850s-1950s	23
More about carte de visite photos	25
My thrifty Granny	26
When the railways came to Wanganui	27
Surviving the Digital Dark Age	29
 <i>Our feature story from the regions</i>	
Carpenter, Builder, Undertaker and Architect	30
 <i>Overseas corner</i>	
Glimpses of Chatsworth House	34
 <i>Remembering our World War I Centenary</i>	
Major-General Sir Andrew Russell	36
A kiwi aviator in World War I	38
Paul Frances Hussey Brickell	38
Of life on the home front, New Zealand in World War I	39
New Zealand in poems from World War I	40
 The story behind the family on our cover and on the Founders website	
NZ Founders Society New Members for January-October 2016	42
New Zealand Founders Society Inc Financial Statement	43
Annual Research/Book Award	43
About Founders	44

The 78th Annual Report New Zealand Founders' Society—2016

National President, Adrian Gover

In my Annual Report last year I stated that my objectives were firstly, to involve all the branches in the National Executive and in the decision-making of the national organisation. This was trialled via several teleconferences and has resulted (collectively) in a branch member from each branch becoming effectively, the National Executive.

Secondly, by means of an up-to-date web site, Founders can present matters of 'who we are' and 'what we do' to all enquirers in a way that is accessible to everyone.

Thirdly, it was my aim to see that the book grant, which had not been awarded for some years, was once again awarded in support of a worthy writer.

We then sought to re-organise the Society Officers, as Kathy Dent had expressed a wish to relinquish the Secretary part of her portfolio in order to concentrate on the Treasurer role. And Glen Robertson resigned as Bulletin Editor.

Lastly, it was my aim to re-establish the Society in the South Island.

The following reports on the above objectives:

I am pleased to report that teleconferencing among the Executive has run smoothly. The result has been that participation in the decision-making is now effectively in the hands of the branch representatives across the North Island, on a monthly basis. In the process we have come to recognise each other's voices. This has resulted in a closer bond and a more cohesive relationship has developed among the branches. No more are branches a separate entity within the Founders framework; we are now an integral part of a national organisation. It has been a most worthwhile change in how we conduct our affairs.

The Founders website has been online for over a year and I am told it has resulted in several enquiries about membership. Certainly this is true in my home branch, and to the question "What is Founders, and what do you do?" I have been quick to reply, "Look us up on the Web."

The Founders book grant was awarded this past year to Laraine Sole, an already published author.

Our grant will support her newest research and publication. My thanks go to the Wanganui Branch for recommending this recipient. It shows that together we can achieve our goals. Other prospective authors applied last year but unfortunately did not meet our criteria for a grant. Naturally, we seek to find another recipient in 2016-17.

The re-organisation of our officers has yielded several good results. Peter Watt took over the editing of the Bulletin and in conjunction with graphic artist, Stephanie Drew, also a Founders member, produced the Bulletin in a new format which has attracted many complimentary comments. Peter is full of ideas for the next one as well. The cost will need to increase by \$2 next year, reflecting the increased printing and producing costs. I can foresee the time when we will be able to place the Bulletin in libraries and perhaps even provide it for sale to the public in a limited form. This new format and content are certainly worthy of that. I recommend Peter's reappointment as Editor.

The post of National Secretary is now held by Carolyn Adams of the Waikato Branch. It shows that this post can be held outside of the Society's head office and demonstrates the way communications have changed with the advent of e-mailing and computers. Carolyn brings considerable skills to this position and is most able in this role. My thanks go to her for filling this vacancy and I recommend her reappointment.

My grateful thanks also go to Kathy Dent, our National Treasurer, who presently has a painful back condition. Kathy has done a sterling job in the past year, looking after the Society's investments and keeping us on track financially. I recommend her reappointment as Treasurer.

I have not been able to reach the goal of re-establishing Founders in the South Island. We will need to develop a strategy for this in the coming year and make financial provision for advertising to assist us to achieve this. Fruitful areas could be Nelson/ Marlborough and of course, Christchurch. [See developments on this on page 14.]

CONTINUES ON PAGE 4

The Vice President, Mike Norris, suffered a heart attack and has had to give up all forms of public life. We wish Mike good health and offer our grateful thanks for his contributions to Founders over the years. (The office of Vice President was vacant; Paddy Bayley was elected to this role at the 2016 AGM.)

Because of the telescoping of the National Council and the Executive into one, where the members are from all the branches, we have had to look at our Constitution and format the adoption of

amendments to incorporate this. These amendments have been discussed and ratified and have become incorporated into our Constitution.

I thank you for giving me the privilege to lead Founders into these times of change. We are a closer knit and fully functional group, with a publication that reflects us well.

If re-elected, my major goal will be to see to the re-establishment of our organisation in the South Island.

From the Ed

Two main themes emerged this year as I prepared your material for this Bulletin.

The first is how enormously important it is for our descendants and future generations, that we distil, prepare and preserve our family histories in such a way that the records passed on are accurate and capable of being preserved and shared. In this regard, John Webster, Founders, Auckland, has prepared a delightful article which shows the need to separate fact from fiction when recording those family stories which are 'handed down.' And Stephanie Drew, our graphic designer for this Bulletin and Founders member, Hawke's Bay, reminds us of the fleeting nature of the images captured so easily in digital photography, and the need to take certain steps to preserve them.

The other major theme is the enjoyment to be had in Founders when our activities enable us to discover linkages which improve our understanding of our past, locally. To take just one example, in October 2015, our Hawke's Bay Branch visited the historic homestead of Oruawharo at Takapau. And here's the link. The life of Charles Tringham, the architect of that grand house, and of the well-known Plimmer House, Wellington, is featured in a story (page 30) by Marjorie Harris of Founders, Hawke's Bay.

From your contributions, we bring you another mix of our present-day activities and some very human stories from our past – from an (almost) forgotten war hero to a granny who (was she or wasn't she?) a Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Victoria? All is revealed. Enjoy the read.

Peter Watt, Editor

News snippets

From Paddy and Richard Bayley, Founders, Hawke's Bay

The Toitu Otago Settlers' Museum

Whilst in the South island, we visited this outstanding settlers' museum which surely resonates with the aims and themes of Founders. It has excellent displays across a wide range of subject areas concerning European settler and Maori history. Collections and exhibits include, transport and technology, wearing apparel, household appliances, and extensive archives and art collections. It is centrally placed in downtown Dunedin, close to the railway station at 31 Queens Gardens. View their attractive website at www.toituosm.com

Surviving the 7.8 quake

What a shock, but thankfully we came through this emergency relatively unscathed. We were travelling back to the north island by car and stopped over at Kaikoura, only to be shaken awake violently just after midnight on Monday 14 November. Our motel room heaved and shook so hard it was impossible to stand up and we really feared for our lives. As the news reports have shown, roads out were impassable. We had to leave our car behind, and several days later, courtesy of the New Zealand Navy ship, *Canterbury*, made our way to Christchurch and then flew to the north island and home. It was sobering to reflect that this was the same magnitude of earthquake that devastated Napier in 1931.

Branch President's Reports 2016

Waikato Branch 2016

From Adrian Gover, Branch President

The Waikato Branch meets on the third Thursday of every second month, (February, April, June, August, October and November), at the Colours Room, Te Rapa Racecourse, Hamilton.

At the Annual Meeting in April, Adrian Gover was re-elected as Chairman, with a full committee. Carolyn Adams has again continued as the Secretary / Treasurer.

We meet at noon to enjoy a good meal provided by the Racecourse Caterers; this is followed by a short business session and a speaker. We conclude by about 2.00 pm.

In June last year we hosted the National Annual General Meeting, (which was combined with our June meeting.) Our members were able to observe what happens at the AGM, listen to the reports, and observe the election of national officers. Susan Norris from Wanganui Branch was our guest speaker at that meeting. She spoke on the publishing of her book which is based on the diaries of her grandmother, Annie Montgomerie. This story contains all the trials and tribulations of a family whose sons served in the First World War. Her book is titled *Annie's War*. Max Hill also spoke on his latest book, *To the Ends of the Earth and Back Again*.

At the August meeting our member, Joy Carter, spoke of life on a Mission in Africa, and the challenges of tribalism. Joy also showed us many artefacts and crafts from the region.

At the October meeting, Bruce Crook told of exploring his family roots in Britain and Ireland and the surprises he found during this journey. He illustrated the talk with slides of the places he mentioned.

November again saw our Christmas programme of stories, songs, anecdotes and carols provided by our own members. Santa was very much in attendance, dispensing lollies to all those whom he thought had been good. Our Christmas meal was all that we could wish for.

I was unable to attend the February meeting owing to being in hospital, but our member, Lois Raynel, amused the members with her tales of life in Galatea. Galatea is in the Whakatane district and has the large Kaingaroa Forest to its west.

My thanks go again to Carolyn Adams for her work behind the scenes, to make each meeting the success they all have been. To the Committee, who make the Branch what it is. To our faithful bar attendants and to Gwendoline, who organises the raffles. Also Hilary for the Christmas Carol sheets and Miriam for putting together our Christmas programme. All help to make our Branch run smoothly and their efforts are most praiseworthy.

Our branch is still very viable financially, and our meetings are always interesting, with a variety of speakers and topics.

Sadly, we record the passing of our immediate past President, Kath Townsend. Her loss was felt deeply. Our eldest member, Jim Phillips, passed away in January.

Our caterers have continued to provide meals of quality and variety of the highest standard. Their efforts contribute to the high standards of our meetings.

The year ahead will likewise prove interesting, with a number of good speakers planned. We would welcome members of other branches to join us at our meetings if and when they are able to.



Auckland Branch

From John Webster, Branch Manager

Following our 2015 AGM, the Auckland Branch of Founders has continued to hold meetings over the past year at Kinder House, Parnell. However, meetings for two of the months were missed owing to medical problems and the needs of the Manager and our choice not to start directly after the Christmas break.

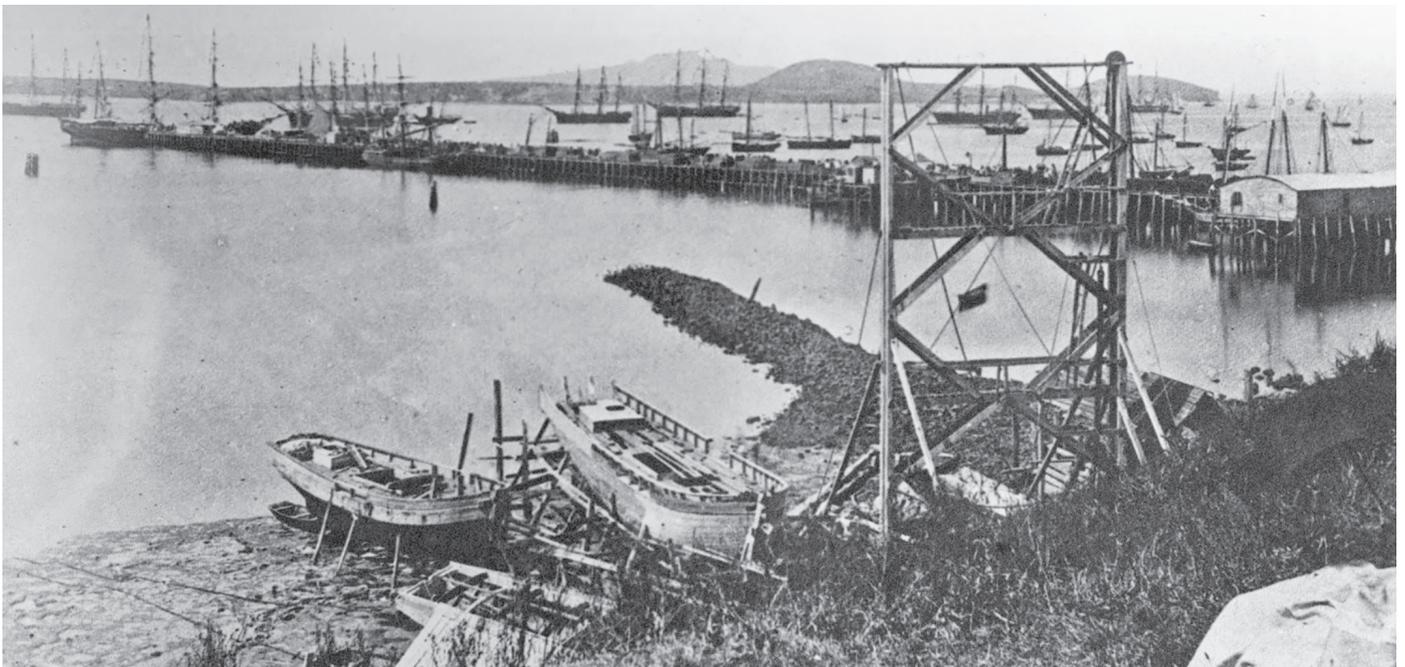
Apart from relaying business to the members from items discussed during the telephone executive council conferences, and items of local news, we have spent considerable time in planning for a suitable monument or commemorative plaque, for Auckland's harbour front. Specifically, the intended memorial would be placed on the harbour front of the central business district and it would depict the arrival in Auckland in 1842, of the vessels, *Jane Gifford* and *Duchess of Argyle*. Their arrival marked the first and only organised settlement scheme for Auckland at that time. Presently there is nothing on the Auckland waterfront to indicate this fact.

One can imagine the complexities of trying to organise a venture like this in Auckland, with its layers of red tape and overlapping local authorities

and specialist departments of Council, plus stand-alone divisions of Council. We thought if we could surmount all the perceived obstacles it would be great, but were pleased to consider another path which has proved acceptable.

A decision to write to the National Maritime Museum on the waterfront proved to be the right move. They took up our quest. After our first meeting they became very enthusiastic and at our second meeting, in September 2016, they produced more variations for our consideration. As a group, we supported their ideas and we look forward to a collaborative effort resulting (we hope) in a grand day of celebration in October 2017. The Museum will be putting some funds toward the project by way of organising and advertising, while our Branch will also support it.

We would like to thank the contacts we had with the Founders branches of Taranaki and Masterton, for the information they supplied regarding their memorials and how they achieved their results successfully. It made us think it all out again – thank you.



Auckland Anniversary Day Regatta and Queen Street Wharf from Smales Point, 1864.

Auckland Harbour Board website

A fitting sentiment on Founders and the settlers, from John Webster, Founders, Auckland

"I quietly thank all my forebears for their courage in breaking away from their homelands and coming here to make a new and different life, providing us all with a sense of achievement and pride in our new land."

Bay of Plenty 2015-16

From Maree Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer

The Bay of Plenty Branch of Founders has spent their second year with just a Secretary/Treasurer at the helm, so it's been a busy time for one person booking, planning and executing our five meetings and several other outings annually. Members from each area have taken turns at chairing the meetings.

We have had an interesting programme of events, including a talk in Whakatane from Mayor John Forbes of Opotiki, who enthusiastically explained how his town was attacking rampant poverty and unemployment by establishing mussel farms off the coast. Initially the catches consisted of spat, sold internationally, with proper mussel harvests commencing late in 2016. A move to re-open the harbour entrance, once a busy trading port, has received sufficient funding to commence as soon as the engineering phase is complete. This will be huge progress for the area.

In Rotorua, our guest speaker was Alan Bines, a former curator of the RSA Museum, who told the sad story of the *HMS Neptune*, sunk in WWII in a minefield off Tripoli with the loss of 758 lives, including 150 New Zealanders. This was the worst British naval disaster of WWII, but it received little publicity because England was desperately recruiting volunteers at that time. However, Rotorua City remember this tragedy every Anzac Day because there were local boys amongst those lost.

We held a pre-Christmas luncheon at 'Kiwi 360', near the recently-opened Tauranga Eastern Link motorway, and enjoyed a mini-Antiques Roadshow. Exhibits ranged from a tiny diamond ring (in an equally tiny, hinged leather box), to a piece of the Berlin Wall, with each of the owners speaking briefly about their treasures.

January 2016 saw us visit Opotiki for a casual 'Big Day Out', with lunch at the Golf Club and visits to the historic St. Stephen the Martyr Church, and the new Opotiki Museum which has lovely household displays and a vast array of farm machinery. With spaces set out as rooms in pioneer homes, this museum, manned by volunteers, is a credit to the small town. Many of our party were very envious.

At our AGM in Tauranga in April, we welcomed Fernleigh-Ann Nielsen (nee Gilkison) from Katikati.

Mrs. Nielsen was born in highland Papua New Guinea just as the Japanese-threatened invasion of WWII broke out; her parents being missionaries. The natives brought mother and baby out along the Kokoda Trail to safety, but her father lay ill, and he died a short time later. Fifty years later, Fern re-visited her birthplace to see her father's grave, and she met again the native people who had known and cared for her parents and their baby. She displayed for us many of the gifts bestowed upon her by these primitive but wondrously productive and artistic people, and made us smile as she explained how 'wealthy' these gifts had made her, and how extra security was then needed to ensure she wasn't harmed by dangerous neighbouring tribes. This was a very touching insight into a very different lifestyle.

In Katikati in September, a new member, Robyn Ramsey, told us the story of her ancestor Neil McVicar, an early English nurseryman in Nelson. Despite losing his wife and a child on the 1846 voyage of the *Cornwall*, within a year of his arrival, McVicar was advertising a wide variety of shrubs and trees for sale in the infant town. He built a substantial home for his family and later remarried, but this talented and hard-working man succumbed to TB after only five years in New Zealand. Robyn had the joy of being present when descendants upgraded and re-dedicated the headstone on the grave of this pioneer horticulturist.

In the spring, a dozen members and friends took a trip to the impressive new Tainui headquarters at Taneatua, and this was an eye-opener. The complex is completely 'off-grid', and re-circulates all the roof water, which is collected and stored on-site. Banks of batteries store solar power, and the building itself is quite beautiful, with light-filled spaces, mud brick and stone heat storage areas, and tribal artwork on display. This was another enjoyable outing.

Even with five new members gained in 2015 and several more in 2016, the Bay of Plenty Branch is only just maintaining our membership, at around 40. We have only nine members who are under 80 years of age, and a few who are over 90. We are averaging only 22 members attending our meetings, and as this figure is barely viable, we hope to make some changes in 2017 in an effort to improve our situation.

Hawke's Bay Branch Annual Report

From Paddy Bayley, Branch President

It is with pleasure that I present the 37th Annual Report of the Hawke's Bay Branch of the New Zealand Founders Society Inc.

My first year as your President has proved to be very busy, with many new challenges. However, I have found it very rewarding and it has been a most enjoyable year. I wish to thank our Past President, Nanette Roberts, for her guidance and support. I also wish to thank my very supportive husband, our Secretary, Richard, for his dedication in keeping up continued personal contact with our members. Richard and I enjoy conducting small 'social lunches' in between our major activities. These provide an opportunity for members and prospective members to meet in a smaller setting.

Thank you to our Treasurer, Andy Duncan and my committee. I have really appreciated your support this past year, with the organising of meetings, activities and speakers. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

We were delighted to welcome Peter Watt as our reporter for our Branch during the year. Our Branch was honoured when Peter was also elected as the new Editor for the New Zealand Founders' Bulletin. He has been ably assisted by Stephanie Drew, another member of our Branch and a graphic designer, in bringing us a much-appreciated 'new look' to our Bulletin.

As your President, one of my official duties is to link up with other New Zealand branch delegates, by Teleconference, each month. This is an excellent way of holding meetings in the modern era. As your representatives, Richard and I attended the National AGM, which was held in Hamilton in June. We were honoured to receive the Trophy for the Branch with the most registrations during the year, for the second consecutive year.

Throughout the year, we continued to update our membership records. Fifteen new members and 'friends' have been added to our Branch in the past year.

Activities

The Annual Founders Luncheon at the end of January 2015, held in the Havelock North Function Centre, was attended by 63 members. Mr Alan Scarfe spoke about a history he has researched on the Donald McLean family of Marekakaho. His book about them, *A Changing Land*, covers the period 1820-1912.

Our AGM was held in March at the historic Duart House in Havelock North. We were delighted to welcome our New Zealand Founders National President, Mr Adrian Gover, and his wife, Margaret, as our guests. This was a very momentous AGM, as Nanette Roberts retired from the position as President, after 19 years. We surprised Nanette with a lovely basket of flowers and dinner voucher on

behalf of all our members. It was a huge honour for me to be elected as the incoming President, and I was so pleased to have Nanette as our Past President to guide me during the forthcoming year.

New Zealand Founders President, Adrian, was our guest speaker and he spoke about his founding family. He also updated us on how the National Executive uses the modern form of monthly teleconferencing in place of the former meetings that were usually held in Wellington. He also announced the new Founders website would soon be 'live'.



Paddy Bayley, front right, President Hawke's Bay Founders, and Founders members setting off for historic Tuna Nui Station, Sherenden, Hawke's Bay.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

In May, 50 members went on a most enjoyable 'Scandinavian history' bus trip to Dannevirke. Commentary was given by committee members, Barry and Pauline Erickson, as their ancestors had lived in the area. After lunch at the Dannevirke RSA and Citizens Club, we visited the Dannevirke Gallery of History followed by a visit to the 'Fantasy Cave,' an award-winning attraction situated in the High Street. Founders member, Millicent Wiggins, was an active participant in its early years

Eighty-four members attended our July luncheon at the unique and picturesque setting of the 'Wild Olive' restaurant at the Bluewater Hotel, Ahuriri, Napier. Our guest speaker was Mr Ewan McGregor, a retired farmer and ex Hawke's Bay regional councillor. Ewan gave a brief, illustrated history of the Hawke's Bay A & P Society (1863 – 2013) and also related his experiences and learning as an amateur historian.

August was our Members' Meeting at Duart House, attended by 57 members. Two new members, a mother and daughter, received their New Zealand Founders' Certificates. We were thrilled to make a very special presentation to Past President, Nanette Roberts. New Zealand Founders approved an Honorary Membership for her dedication to our Branch, and National level. She also received a 'For Service' Founders Badge. Four members gave a brief talk on their family history. At the conclusion, to remember our ancestors who fought in World

War I, a beautiful song by Marion Burns – 'Fallen Soldier,' was played.

In October, our 'Mystery' bus trip took 53 of our members on a guided tour of Napier, followed by lunch at the historic 'Old Church' restaurant. We then travelled into the country to the beautiful and historic, 'Tuna Nui' homestead at the foot of the Kaweka Ranges. Founders members thoroughly enjoyed the warm hospitality, a talk on the station's history and afternoon tea provided by hosts and present day owners, Andrew and Pip Russell. Andrew explained the homestead is the second house on the site; it was built in 1913-1914. It was also the home of his ancestor, the much-decorated Major General Sir Andrew Hamilton Russell, a brilliant field commander in World War I.

For our annual 'Christmas' outing held in November, 56 members came on the bus trip and lunch to the historic 'Oruawharo' homestead in Takapau, Central Hawkes Bay. This grand homestead was completed in 1868 for Sydney and Sophia Johnston. Present-day owners and hosts, Peter and Dianne Harris, are fully restoring this beautiful building.

It has been a pleasure to be your President, and I wish to thank you all for your loyalty and support this past year. Our Branch continues to go from strength to strength, as a result of a wonderful commitment from each one of you. We are all so proud of the dedication of our ancestors.

Hawke's Bay Branch activities 2016

(to 30 September 2016)

From Paddy Bayley, Branch President

In February 2016, 80 members attended our Annual Founders' Luncheon which was held in the Havelock North Function Centre. Guest speaker, Tessa Tylee, explained that project-managing the passage of the acclaimed book, *Kereru Station: Two Sisters' Legacy*, opened a window for her on the interesting lives of two of her great aunts, Ruth Nelson and Gwen Malden. Tessa was delighted to take on a different project which resonated with her farm upbringing in the TukiTuki valley and with her family roots.

Fifty-three members attended our Annual General Meeting in March. Two members of the Duart

House Historic Society, Peggy van Asch and Carrie Greenwood, presented their experiences in seeing Duart House and its grounds restored from a long decline. Built by Scottish-born Allan McLean, in 1882, Duart House was given a new lease on life when the property was purchased by the former Havelock North Borough Council in 1975.

In May, 60 members enjoyed a 'Mystery' sight-seeing adventure into the beautiful TukiTuki Valley, which took them over the scenic Maraetotara Gorge Road to the attractive seaside settlement of

CONTINUES ON PAGE 10

Waimarama. Following lunch at the Havelock North Club, the trip continued back out into the country to a hidden gem, being 'Marty's Red Shed' on Kahuranaki Station. Marty's Red Shed is in fact a museum containing artefacts which are mostly derived from seven generations of Greenwood families extending back to the arrival of Dr Danforth Greenwood and his wife Sarah. They arrived in New Zealand in 1843 and settled in Motueka. The collection also includes items from the A'Court family who came from Jersey in the Channel Islands.

Our mid winter lunch in July was held at the East Pier Restaurant, Ahuriri, Napier, with Branch member, Stephanie Drew, our guest speaker. She spoke to 78 Branch members on 'Writing our own History'. Stephanie has been a freelance book designer and editor for the past 20 years.

Our afternoon meeting for members, originally planned for August, had to be deferred for three weeks owing to the emergency created by contamination of the Havelock North water supply. It was moved on to early September; at which five of our members talked briefly about their family histories. We were delighted that even after changing the date, 70 members attended.

In between these more formal functions, my husband Richard and I also invite small groups of members from throughout Hawke's Bay region, to 'social lunches' during the week. These have been very well received by all those attending.



Hawke's Bay Founders gather at 'Marty's Red Shed' settler and farming museum at the foot of Mount Kahuranaki.

Taranaki Branch 2016

From Branch President, Graham Cowling

Membership this year has remained constant, with our total membership at 43, which is up slightly from previous years.

The mix of activities has varied this year with the focus on getting out and visiting historical sites. The most popular of these activities continues to be the commemoration luncheon and service in April. Previously this service has been held at the memorial above Ngamotu Beach, but with the International multi-sport triathlon taking over the area, we were able to put the recently installed plaque at Puke Ariki to good use. This occasion proved to be beneficial resulting in three prospective enquiries about Founders.

February of this year saw Mr Gavin Faull speak to us about his family's history. This family arrived on the *William Bryan* and the descendants still farm at Tikorangi. Their dairy shed is a tourist draw card.

In May, a group of 14 visited Wilkinson's Castle, north of New Plymouth, while in September, another party travelled to North Mount Egmont to visit a bunkhouse which had served in the late 1800s as a

barracks for the colonial soldiers serving in Taranaki. This building is clad in hand-wrought corrugated iron. The bunkhouse reputedly had a number of bullet holes from days gone by, but none could be found despite a thorough search. Afternoon tea at the Department of Conservation's Visitor Centre proved popular and most followed a track which showed previous eruptions and the devastation caused.

October was a busy month with the launch of Graeme Kenyon's book on *The Battle of Waireka*, introduced by Mr Len Jury. October also marked the 175th anniversary of the landing of the *Amelia Thompson*.

Teleconferencing has increased the Branch's awareness of general Founders' business and a regular meeting is put aside to update our Branch members on the relevant points.

Activities planned for the coming year include a visit to the Lepperton-to-Waitara rail line, Pioneer Village, and a group trip away to Te Papa and the National Museum to view the WWI displays.

Wanganui Branch

From Acting Chair, Lynley Fowler

2015 to 1 May 2016

The past year has been a varied and happy one with guest speakers, Murray Crawford, Joan Worthington, David Harrop and Ken Pfeffer sharing with us their stories of family, books, and businesses.

We have also joined with the Watt family reunion of Taylor and Watt fame, to hear snippets of their family history and of their exploits in the growing of early Wanganui. To cite The Community Archive – National Register of Archives and Manuscripts: they say, "Taylor and Watt were the leading merchants, ship owners and landowners in Wanganui from the 1850s to the 1870s".

We also visited the Heads Road Cemetery to unveil the newly refurbished monument there.

Other outings have been to Putiki Memorial Church to hear Huia Kirk deliver Part I of her Massey University lectures talk on the early Putiki Mission, and a bus trip to the Marton Museum village. This

place is well worth a visit and it is a credit to the many volunteer hours put in by the Marton community.

Our end of year outing for 2015 took us to Hilary Haylock's marvellous historic home, 'Lethenty', in Bulls, and a really interesting visit was made to the Stewart home in Plymouth Street. This residence, as well as being a family home, has also served the district for many years as the Karitane Home.

For our members, we hope that you have found something of interest in the programmes we have arranged and please let us know if we have the right balance of outings and guest speakers to suit all tastes and abilities. What would you prefer?

Each year the Founders Society make a grant to help an author research and write a local history book and we are happy to say that Wanganui author and historian, Laraine Sole, has the grant for this year (2016). She is researching for a new book on

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12

Upokongaro, an historic settlement, 12 km upriver from Wanganui.

We are now committed to the stained glass window which will feature in the District Council Chambers. It will depict the schooner, *Elizabeth*, when she arrived in 1841 with 13 settlers as part of the New Zealand Land Company initiative. This window is part of a project by the Wanganui District Council to depict groups and events from Wanganui in a series of stained glass windows which will completely surround the Council Chamber.

In this window project, Julie Greig now takes over as artist from Craig Hooker and Greg Hall is the glass artist who will make the window. The art work will portray all the historically accurate elements we have been striving for. That is, the right ship (the schooner *Elizabeth*), which was identified by a particular mast configuration. Also featuring will be the recognisable landmark of Wanganui's Shakespeare Cliff in the background, and a suitable number of whares which we know the local Maori built in preparation for the first New Zealand Company settlers.

We have raised \$2,264.00 so far and any further donations to help us reach \$5,000 will be gratefully received. This is still a tax deductible donation and Hugh Ramage has the receipt book.

Anyone wishing to donate may do so by sending funds to:

Mr Hugh Ramage
Treasurer
New Zealand Founders Society
Wanganui Branch
c/-80a Nixon Street
Wanganui East 4500

Our Chairman, Michael Norris, is still not well enough to take up the reins again so please forgive this hurried version of our year's events. We wish him a full recovery and look forward to welcoming him back.

Other meetings and events: 1 May to 25 September 2016

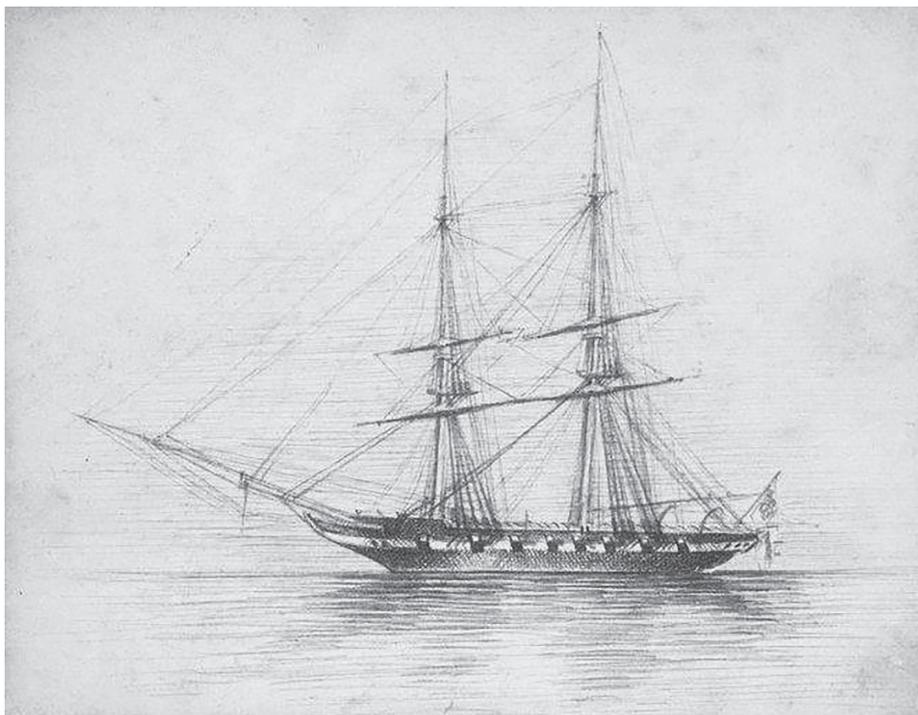
Anne Flutey talked about her book on early settler, David Peat.

Huia Kirk delivered part 2 of her Massey lecture about early missionary, Richard Taylor, at Putiki Memorial Church.

Geoff Lawson spoke on Wanganui's historic Krupp gun from the Boer War.

Timothy Crowe spoke about Civil Defence and provided details of early earthquakes and tsunami in Wanganui.

Laraine Sole told about research and writing for her most recent book on Early Wanganui Hotels.



The schooner, Elizabeth

Wellington Branch

(to 31 December 2015)

From Branch Chair Person, Carol Hurst

Another year has passed with some happy functions enjoyed by those who were able to attend. We all enjoyed listening to Roma Foley's stories about her experiences as a nurse in the Royal New Zealand Air Force during World War II, and we encouraged her to allow them to be printed in the Founders Bulletin.

As our active members grow older it is harder to get them to meetings as their health intervenes. Nyree Fea's illustrated talk on conservation in the Wellington district and the predation of fledging fantails was very interesting. Later in December we enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Westpark Plaza Hotel.

The committee continues an interest in the Women's Committee and still needs time to decide on the papers to digitise as there are large numbers of letters to sort over.

We also made arrangements with Premier House to hold the Founders National Annual General Meeting there on 25 June 2016, with Jock Phillips as our speaker.

This year, two of our committee members, Margaret Collins and Natalie Duncan, resigned because of ill health. We wish them well and thank them for their help in the past. Yvonne Lawrie, Janet Robinson and Jane Watts have been an enormous support and help at a difficult time when our elderly membership is declining owing to ill health.

Wairarapa Branch

From Wairarapa Branch President, Anne Woodley

It is my pleasure to present this report to members on the 76th year of the founding of our Wairarapa Branch of Founders. I would like to welcome our new members and extend our sympathies to the families of those no longer with us.

In February (on Waitangi Day), we were the guests of Hayden McGrail and Lyn Tankersley at their Mount Bruce property, 'Forest Home' Not only do they run a plant nursery but Hayden and Lyn have an area of native bush under the protection of a Queen Elizabeth II covenant. This is an excellent way to protect these precious remnants of old New Zealand for our future generations.

At our March AGM, a large gathering of members welcomed four new members to our ranks. Our officers remained unchanged, but we voted Ngaire Greger onto our working committee. Our guest speaker was Halina Kania who spoke about her life as a child in Poland. Halina was among a number of Polish immigrants who came to New Zealand when her home country was over-run in World War II.

In April, we visited the Cobblestones Museum at Greytown where we learned about the history of the Featherston Camp from 1916 to 2016. Local World War I historian, Neil Francis, provided an introduction before we viewed his displays.

Our May meeting saw many of us assembled at our local printing building run by Webster. We will never again just bin our junk mail after watching it whizzing by at an incredible speed during the highly automated process.

Members gathered at the Wairarapa Services and Citizens Club in June for our annual Robert Miller Memorial Luncheon. Robert was a long time branch member and benefactor and we endeavour to keep his memory alive.

In July, we enjoyed a social gathering and shared the memorabilia gathered for our 2015 75th anniversary.

In August, collector and local historian, Diana Stidolph, opened her Museum of Childhood for us. All of those present shared their nostalgic memories of an era before there were video games.

During September, we were fortunate to be able to visit the historic Bideford Church, St Francis of Assisi. Bideford lies some 35 km north-east of Masterton and this most attractive little church, built in 1875, now has a Category II Heritage listing. Ex-councillor and district stalwart, Judith Callaghan, gave us an insight into its past before we carried on to Judith's wonderful 'Dursley' garden, designed by

CONTINUES ON PAGE 14

landscaper, Alfred Buxton. Our day out ended with our hostess serving Devonshire tea and coffee.

In October we travelled to our northern most point, the town of Woodville, where we had lunch before joining an enthusiastic group of locals who have put many hours into restoring the pioneer 'Old Gorge Cemetery'. Tours are available several times a year and we booked in February 2016 to get into a group. We came home with a wealth of ideas for improvements within our own QE II Pioneer Cemetery.

Our Wairarapa members are involved with other interest groups to help retain and preserve memories of our early settlers. Watch this space.



St Francis of Assisi Church, Bideford, Wairarapa
Reproduced by courtesy of Caryl Forrest

Footnote:

In doing some online research on churches in the Wairarapa, it was delightful to find a comprehensive website has been created which lists photographs, and the history and background of a large number of Wairarapa churches including the Bideford church, as mentioned above. Go online to 'Wairarapa Churches: About Wairarapa Churches.'

It is gratifying to see marvellous efforts by local communities in restoring these treasured buildings which played such a vital role for our settlers and were the focus of not only their past worship, but for their births, deaths and marriages and for their school, Sunday School and dances.

In next year's Bulletin we will bring you a story of the Algie family of northern Wairarapa and their efforts along with the local community in restoring the church, St Aidan's, at Alfredton. Ed.

Re-starting the Canterbury-Westland Branch

From Paddy Bayley, Founders, Hawke's Bay

This has been an aim of our National President, Adrian Gover, and we are pleased to report we have made a promising start in seeing this vital Branch resume participation in Founders. Richard and I coordinated a meeting held at the Cashmere Club, Christchurch, on 3 November 2016, which was attended by 12 prospective members. The meeting

concluded on a positive note and resulted in Mr John McSweeney and three others undertaking to form the nucleus of a new committee. Since that meeting, Mr McSweeney represented Canterbury-Westland in the Teleconference meeting of 22 November 2016. On behalf of all other Founders, we wish the new group every success.



Founders logo explained

Founders members are sometimes asked, "Who is the person on your logo?"

He is the Englishman, Edward Gibbon Wakefield, prominent in our country's history for his large-scale plans for the British settlement of New Zealand via the New Zealand Company, formed in the 1830s. Wakefield also played a major role in the settlements of South Australia and Canada.

Centres of settlement under the Wakefield scheme included Port Nicholson (Wellington), New Plymouth, Wanganui, Christchurch and Otago. The Canterbury Association was formed in 1848, as a Church of England colony. While residing in New Zealand, Wakefield became a member of Parliament for the Hutt Valley. He is buried in the Bolton Street Cemetery, Wellington.

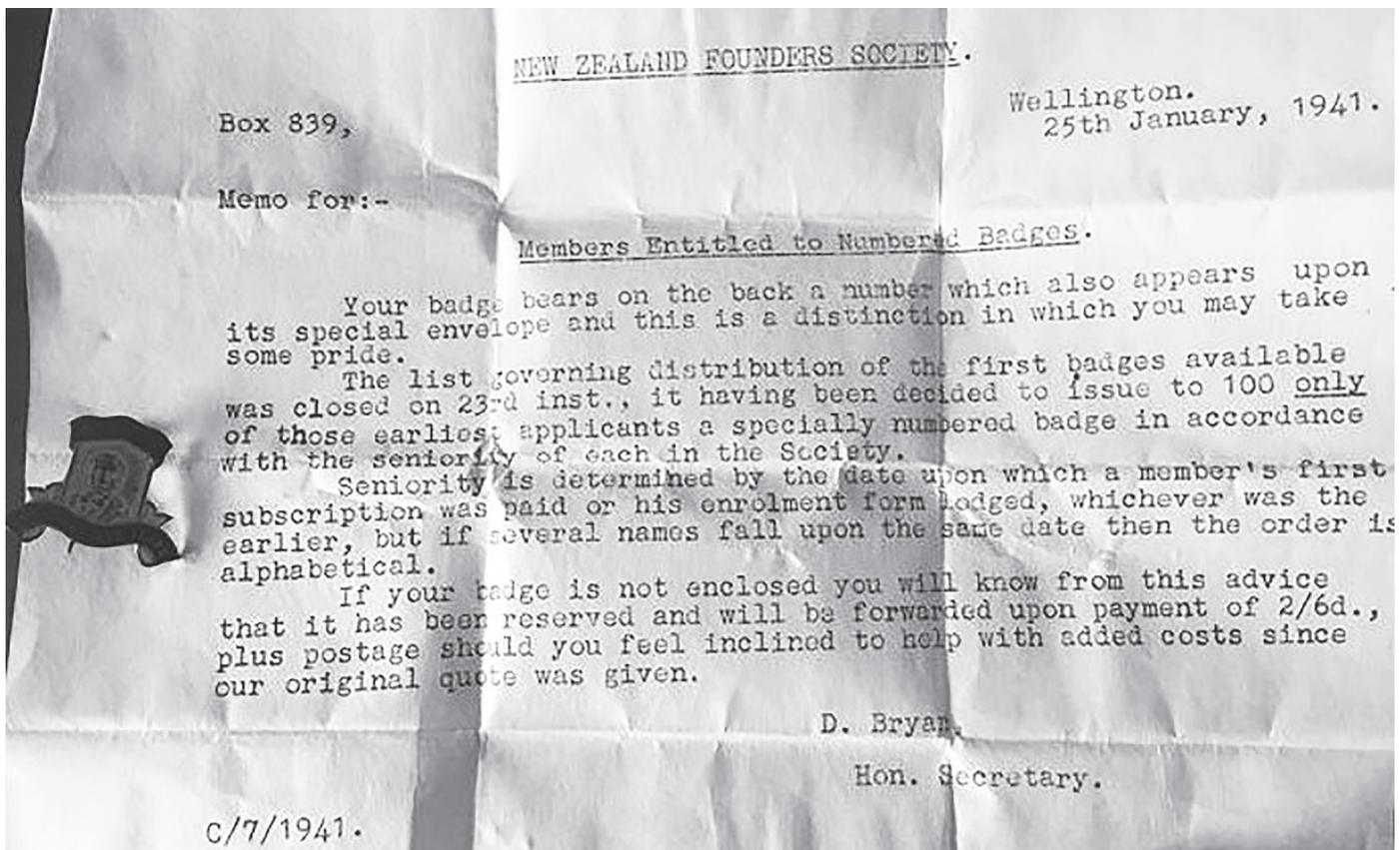
At the second meeting of the Founders Society Committee on 26 April 1939, the Committee passed the motion, "That the Society's crest consist of the head of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, as shown in Mr Fitzgerald's design."

As a postscript, the words at the base of the logo were subsequently changed from "The first ten years" [of settlement] to "The founding years."



Edward Gibbon Wakefield (1796-1862)

Acknowledgement: Photo from the New Zealand History website



Letter to a Founders member in 1941, advising of receipt of the Society's badge. At that time it cost 2/6d (25 cents). The first 100 members had their own number stamped on the back (in order of joining).

A glimpse of life for girls and women in rural, early 1900s New Zealand

By Ngaire Greger (nee Ward), Wairarapa Founders

I am pleased that many years ago I talked to my grandmother, Hilda Maie Brickell, (nee Knapp), about her early life and wrote this down. She was born at Morrison's Bush, outside Greytown, Wairarapa, on 25 October 1898.

Here are some of the things she told me.

Hilda and her brothers and sisters all walked four miles to school and back. If a southerly wind was blowing, they would walk backwards.

When she was 10 she learned to milk the cows, which was all by hand in those days.

Hilda finished school at the age of 13, having gained her proficiency. She also learned to play the piano.

So what would she do after leaving school? To her, all the lady teachers seemed to be 'old maids', and 'going into service' was not appealing. So she stayed and helped on the family farm.

She said that on wash day her mother would start at 8.00am and spend all day washing. The washing was done once a week and it resulted in four big lines of washing. It took her all day washing in the open under the trees. She would not let others help as, to her, they did not do it well enough. A copper outside was used to boil the washing in and the washing had to be spotless.

They used washing soda to get the washing clean, then, when it became available, something called 'Laundry Help non Rub', which came in little cakes. She said it was a marvellous product; it was put into the copper once it came to the boil. Before that, you had to soak all the washing before it could be done. Her mother would finish by 4.00pm and would be so tired she could hardly move. She would then cut herself bread for a sandwich, as she was so tired.

The next day Hilda and her eldest sister Clara would do the ironing, with one at each end of the big kitchen table. The ironing was done with flat irons which were heated on the stove. Ironing took them all day as, in addition, everything was starched. The beds had valances which had to be starched, also the men's collars and the women's best dresses.

In order to make the irons run smoothly, they were cleaned with suet under a cloth. An iron was considered hot enough to iron with when a drop of water on it would sizzle. When an iron cooled, you would take another, from about six irons on the stove at any one time.

With nine siblings there was always company and there were always things to do on the farm. She obviously thrived on country life and enjoyed sleeping in a bedroom on the top storey of the house because it 'rocked in the wind'.

The house had eight rooms with four bedrooms upstairs and one down. There was a dining room, sitting room, kitchen and a big porch. Her father cured his own bacon which was hung in the porch. However, some of it was stolen from there, so he put a lock and key on the porch door.

Among their chores the girls had different rooms to keep clean downstairs. Hilda had the dining room to start with until her sister, Clara, complained that her room, the sitting room, was always untidy, because she had a fire place to clean. Once they changed over then there was a complaint that the dining room was now the untidy one. They looked after their own bedrooms.

The floors had to be polished every day once linoleum was put down; before that, the boys had to wash the bare floor boards. One day when Clara was giving them cheek they washed her face with the floor cloths.

Hilda was a great reader. She told me that one night one of her brothers came home and on walking past her bedroom he saw her asleep with a book in her hand. One of her long plaits was hanging over the side of her bed, just above a burning candle. He rushed in and put out the flame, saving her and the house from a potentially fatal fire.

There was also the time when she and her brothers got lost in Morrison's Bush. With great trepidation they all stayed until it was dark and guided themselves home by the moon.

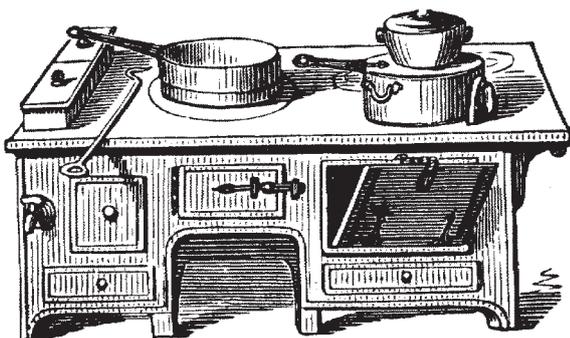
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Hilda's mother always had a lot of people to cook for. Apart from her large immediate family (her grandparents had 15 children) there were often friends of her brothers and sisters who visited. It was not uncommon in that household to have up to 30 people for Sunday dinner. So there had to be two sittings. Cooking and preparing took most of the day!

On those days Hilda's Aunt Lill Gooding would come and bring food, saying that they had gone on a picnic. However, another relation, the Huntley's, who owned a bakery in Featherston, would come to the house and never bring so much as a loaf of bread. Hilda said that by the evening her feet were so sore she could hardly drag them across the floor. She said at least in those days she didn't have to help with the milking.

She also remembered the colonial oven with a rack, and that this (the oven) was cleaned with suet. A stew pot hung from the rack and it was put to good use. Everyone queued up for a helping and then came back in line for seconds.

She recalled that they didn't get a 'proper' stove until her brother Henry was married. This stove had to be black-leaded every morning. This task was a dirty job



In this photo, Hilda Maie (centre) is with her mother, Elizabeth and sister, Clara, right. Hilda is wearing her first bought dress which was made by Mrs Bouzaid in Greytown. It was considered all the best dresses at the time were made by her. Hilda Maie's dress is calf-length as she was still only young, but by now, at 14 years, she had been put into corsets. She remained in corsets all her life and said she suspected this contributed to her having a bad back.

as it went into a powder. When cleaning in this way they would cover their hair to prevent the powder getting into their hair.

With no thermostats in those days, the test to see if the oven was hot enough for baking, was to sprinkle flour on a tray, and if it browned the oven was ready.

Hilda remembered that they would put kerosene tins of milk over the fire to make the milk curdle. This was then fed to the hens and it made them lay well. The hens were also fed wheat and mixed grains. Table scraps and peelings were mixed in a barrel with whey from the dairy factory and fed to the pigs.

In winter, the milk was set in pans and the next day the cream would be skimmed off (the dairy factory was shut in winter). The cream was then made into butter using churns which were operated with a foot movement. Hilda remembered an occasion when she was curious to see if the butter was beginning to come. While churning, she took off the lid to check progress but didn't put it back on properly. Cream flew out of the churn once she re-started churning.

Once a month they went to town in the trap, Hilda's brother, Sydney, had to clean all their boots the night before. This was done with dubbin which was mixed with water.

As a little girl, Hilda sat between her mum and dad in the trap because she had a habit of falling asleep and they were afraid she might fall off.

On the way home, father would stop at the local Morrison's Bush Hotel and, because women were never seen inside hotels, he would bring drinks out for the family. Mother would have raspberry and stout and there was lemonade for the children.

Groceries were delivered; a man came round on a horse to take orders and the next day deliveries would be made by the Wairarapa Farmers Co-op.

Hilda said her brothers were quite happy to take her and her sisters around with them, even if they were teased. They went to 'the pictures' in Greytown in the time of silent movies, with piano and violin playing.

Hilda recalled an occasion when she had an 'accident' with a fishing line. She and her sister, Clara had been eeling and while following Clara, who had a fishing line over her shoulder, Hilda tried stepping on the line, only to get a fish hook embedded in her big toe. On another occasion she had an injury tended to on her leg, only to have it hurt again at a later date.

Hilda married Paul Francis Hussey Brickell at Morrison's Bush Church on 31 March 1920. They had two children, Cranley and June.

We look forward to learning in next year's Bulletin of Hilda's life following her marriage, and we thank Ngaire for recording and sharing these memories of her grandmother. Ed.



Acknowledgement: from website nzhistory.govt.nz



Acknowledgement: from website natlib.govt.nz #8580

The end of an era

On behalf of the Wanganui Founders Branch, Lynley Fowler, reflects on the passing of branch member, Merle Higgie, a true stalwart of Founders with a passion for keeping alive an appreciation of the settler spirit which shaped New Zealand.

The Wanganui Branch records with regret, the death of their patron and last of the original members, Mrs Merle Stafford Higgie (nee Richardson). When she passed away on 13 November 2015 at the age of 89 years, she had been a member of the Founders Society for a remarkable 70 years.

Merle was a descendant of some of Wellington's earliest settlers. Duncan and Marjorie Fraser arrived on the *Blenheim* in 1840 and later farmed at Parewanui in the Rangitikei district. Thomas and Delia Richardson came on the *Arab* in 1841. Thomas was a builder and spent the rest of his life in Wellington, building some of the largest buildings in the old town.

In a reminiscence for the Wanganui Branch's 50th Anniversary Journal in 1995, Merle wrote: "Beyond sorting out the contents of cupboards, there is little a 17-year-old can be given to do when her grandfather dies. I was given one other task – that of informing the NZ Founders Society that Harold Richardson had passed away. I knew that my grandfather had been invited to join the Society when it was formed in 1939 as New Zealand was approaching its centenary.

When the advertisement appeared in the *Wanganui Chronicle* for those interested in forming a Wanganui Branch to attend a meeting on Wednesday 26th September 1945, that suited me well as I had music lessons on Wednesdays and petrol was still scarce for extra trips to town."

The Christmas luncheon in 1995 was attended by the national president, Sir John Mowbray, at which he presented Merle with a 'For Service' medal to mark her 50 years of membership of the Wanganui Branch, including 36 years on the committee. She continued on the committee for at least another 10 years, including several as deputy chairman, until being elected as patron following the death of Dorothy Marks.

Over the years, Merle was a regular participant in Founders' activities. She was a generous person,



Merle Higgie, 1926-2015

hosting Christmas celebrations at her home, giving afternoon tea to thank various helpers, and donating a complete set of members' name badges, to include the first ships of their forebears.

She had a deep appreciation of the contribution of our forebears to New Zealand, and strongly advocated encouraging younger people to join. Her husband, Malcolm Higgie, joined in 1952, and other members of her family have all been members of Founders.

Her 1995 article concludes: "The time when the early settlers were just a grand-parent away is over. The time when we have pride and remembrance for our ancestors' pioneering spirit is not. Nor should it be watered down. It is for present members to publicise the aims of our Society, not only to their own but also to descendants of families not with Founders."

As an Honorary Lifetime Member, Merle truly merited the Award and the Wanganui Branch warmly appreciates her exceptional contribution.

Sorting the facts from fiction in my family's history

... was Grandma really a Lady-in-Waiting for Queen Victoria?

by John Webster, Founders, Auckland Branch

Anyone researching their family history will have encountered plenty of facts, but also a lot of fiction. Generally both types of story are of great interest and often, when related to family members, the facts will be disputed and the fiction embraced as absolute truth. It is a very interesting quest and an enormous amount of enjoyment can be had, but one must learn to act as a judge with the ability to sift the right from wrong and in the process, please all descendants.

The facts must be supported and the fiction explained carefully (there may be a modicum of truth somewhere in the fiction) even if eventually the fictional belief, held by an individual for years, is still regarded as fact. Many of the former often back their belief with the statement that 'mother' or 'father', said 'grandfather/mother' told us that and they would not lie. It must be remembered that there was no deliberate lie, just confusion. They (the descendants) do not like the thought of the parents being wrong, plus, they do not have the ability to accept the hard facts. This may also be the fault of your rendition.

The following illustrations from my family history may prove of interest to others. My New Zealand Founders' credentials are based on arrivals in 1842, 1857, 1859 and lastly 1864, with my maternal grandfather missing out on acceptance as being a 1905 arrival from Norway, while the previous ones were Scots, Irish and English.

Was she a Lady-in-Waiting?

I have had my struggles which are reflected in the title of this article. I had been raised with the idea that grandma, without any formal title, had been at some time, a Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Victoria. When I was able to, I researched the facts. My grandmother was born in Auckland and never left the area, let alone travelled out of the country – her furthest adventure was to Dargaville during the 1890s.

The fiction states that grandma left New Zealand at the Royal command and served until the Queen died in 1901, then returned and married granddad. How the Queen knew of her cannot be explained except by the fact (sorry, fiction) that girls in all

'British' countries were chosen at random to serve Her Majesty.

Fact: Grandma was born in Auckland in 1869 and married in 1887. Thirteen children later (the last in 1911), she was still in Auckland.

Fact: While 99 per cent of the family accepted my argument, one cousin did not, and disputes the archival evidence as being incorrectly recorded, and of course, she has never attempted any research.

So, how did the story come about? Well, my grandma was fortunate, or not, to have a great imagination, such that the books she read and the films she viewed, she interpreted as being true. She argued with the characters, speaking about them in conversations with the family, and detailing how they interacted with her and the family. For instance – "I told that woman that her boyfriend was no good – but would she listen to me? – no. If it all goes to ruin it serves her right. I'd have a word with her family if they hadn't been killed." Only later would it dawn on the listener that grandma was talking about someone she had read about, or had seen in the pictures, and was not a real person. My father told me that she once (or more than once), was asked to leave a picture theatre after advancing on the screen and hitting it with an umbrella, shouting to the character on screen in a most derogatory way.

Other examples

In the family, it was regarded as being an absolute truth that the novel and film, *John Halifax, Gentleman*, by Dinah Craik, published 1856, was about granddad's forebears. I was not able to verify this as a young person. I do have memories of my grandparents, but when people were involved in conversation with my parents, in the old terms, we kids were to be seen and not heard.

Case of the missing scar

My paternal great-grandmother during her voyage in 1859, was said to have slipped on the wet deck of the ship and cut her forehead from the top of her head down to just above her eyebrows. As the story went, thereafter she deployed a hairstyle that concealed the scar. However, I'm left wondering

CONTINUES ON PAGE 21

about this, because in a photograph taken in about 1900, she has her forehead fully revealed, with her hair drawn up into a topknot bun, with not a trace of the deforming scar. And one doubts that she would have been a candidate for early plastic surgery, or heavy makeup, or that the photographer brushed aside irregularities of nature before developing the glass plate. So, I'm left uncertain.

And other stories

This is an abridged version of John's material. He also describes:

- * In order for Uncle Arthur to have accomplished the exploits attributed to him in the appropriate time periods, he would need to have been married at the age of nine.
- * Uncle George – reputed to have had his milk from a beer bottle when he was an infant, which was blamed on his developing a liking for beer later on. Whether or not it was partly to blame for his habit of wandering up and down the main street of Coromandel, discharging a gun at random, is open to question.
- * Aunt Ethel had voted for Richard Seddon. Well no, Seddon had died by then.
- * Granddad was a captain of his own coastal vessel. Not really. He was a builder and shipwright.

- * Great grandmother had been a nun who had escaped from a closed order in Scotland, by jumping over a wall. She then made her way to New Zealand in 1842. Not true (about jumping over the wall.) This notion probably stemmed from a book by Monica Baldwin, in about 1949-50, titled, *I leapt over a wall*.

John concludes his story on the need to pare away the fiction from the facts in our family stories:

“Honestly, I implore you to research very carefully all you've been told. The uncovered facts are always great and the suggested fiction may be more interesting, but resist it and stick to the truth.”

And, also cited at the front of this Bulletin, John says:

“I quietly thank all my forebears for their courage in breaking away from their homelands and coming here to make a new and different life, providing us all with a sense of achievement and pride in our new land. Were it not for them I would not be here, so it really doesn't matter greatly that my granny was not Queen Victoria's Lady-in-waiting.”

John Webster joined the Auckland Branch of Founders in 1965. Since about 1967-8 he has been on the Branch Committee and has held the office of President for the past 20 plus years.

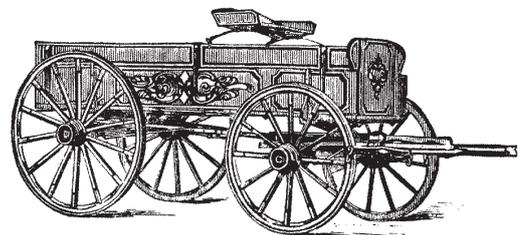


Volunteer researchers at Cobblestones Museum, Greytown, examine a dessert set which was brought back to New Zealand from WWI by Mr Paul Brickell. This set is now held in the Cobblestones Museum.

In 2018, a century on from the final year of World War I, the Cobblestones Museum will open an exhibition to commemorate the war-time history of Greytown. The exhibit will commemorate the soldiers and nurses who served on the front lines as well as the history of how the war influenced day to day life in the town during that war.

The museum believes that life in Greytown reflected life in many other small New Zealand communities during the war years. They therefore expect that this exhibition will appeal to people not just from the Wairarapa, but from throughout New Zealand.

See more about Paul Brickell on page 38.



Exploring Carterton's history – and a settler's name change

by Adele Pentony-Graham, Founders, Wairarapa Branch

Research I have conducted over recent years on the background and naming of the Wairarapa township of Carterton, has revealed a subtle shift in the surname of a member of one of the founding families. I was interested to get to the bottom of how the family surname, Robertson, later became known as Robieson.

Carterton is named after settler and main benefactor of the Three Mile Bush, Mr Charles Rooking Carter, who was originally from Westmorland, in the north-west of England. Charles Carter married Jane Robertson in 1850 at Westminster and some time later, emigrated to New Zealand, bringing with them Jane's young brother, James, who was just 12 at the time of their journey.

James Robertson became known in New Zealand as James Robieson. How was that? The answer was revealed by a witness and signatory at Charles Carter's wedding, Barbara Anne Shepherd, whose name is on the Carter marriage certificate. To the descendant, Barbara Shepherd was her great grandmother.

Barbara Shepherd married Matthew Gardener and they set out for New Zealand in 1879 with their children. Sadly, Matthew Gardener died and was buried at sea on the journey. The Gardener family proceeded and set up a hardware store in Carterton's High Street. One of their sons, Basil, left for Levin and later became that town's Mayor.

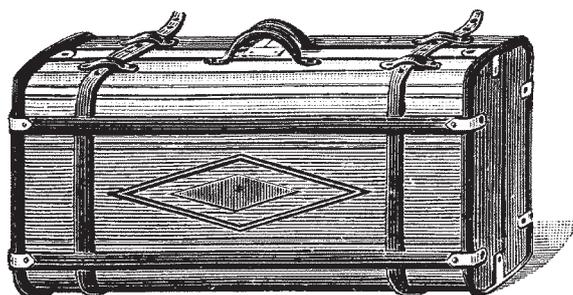
And the riddle in the name change? James Robertson (with the name change to Robieson), married Eliza Percy. The descendant of the Shepherd and Gardener families as noted above, said the most likely reason for the change was a shift in the spelling owing to the way the name was pronounced.

The lady who gave me this information visited from Hastings, and we greatly enjoyed exploring the sites in Carterton which bear the Carter name today: Carter's Line, Carter's Bush, Carter's Barn, (and others) and yes, there is also a statue of Charles Carter in the Memorial Square on High Street, unveiled in February of this year.



Prime Minister John Key at the unveiling of the bronze statue of Charles Rooking Carter, Carterton, 11 February, 2016.

Acknowledgement: Photo: NZ Herald/Wairarapa Times Age, #1503414



The following has been kindly contributed by Judy Siers, a member of Hawke's Bay Founders, now living in Wellington, and a recipient of a Founders grant for research towards a book on a topic concerning local settler history. Judy is presently writing six migrant stories of people who arrived in Wellington to start their new lives. The collection is named 'Arrivals' and it covers six different time periods spanning the 1850s to the 1950s.

Following her description of the series, Judy presents an extract from the first story, about settler, Mr John Chew and his family, in the 1850s.

When published, the books will be available directly from the author or from the publisher, Millwood Press, and independent booksellers.

Arrivals – Six Wellington stories, 1850s-1950s

by Judy Siers

Arrivals is a collection of six Wellington stories over the 100 year-period, 1850s to 1950s. The stories are about immigrants from six different periods within that century; they are introduced to the reader and their arrivals are documented. All have contributed to the city in their own way – some invested their life savings into property and established commercial businesses, others were accepted as war-torn survivors and made a new life as best they could. But all brought their own skills, culture, religion and ethics, adding to the rich diversity of first, the British colony, then from 1907, the Dominion of New Zealand, and by the 1950s an independent nation. Their integration into a new country, on the other side of the world from their birthplace, is explored and their legacies are recorded.

Wellington's population grew as more immigrants settled.

The selection of the people and their stories is personal to me; they or their legacies have played a part in my life. So, the text is an amalgam of autobiography, biography and history, drawing the reader into an intimate connection with the people portrayed.

The stories are about:

John Chew of Chew's Lane, 1850s

Thomas Green the tailor, 1870s

The Hill Bros from Devon, 1900s

Emma Rainforth of *Chevening*, 1930s

The Polish children of Pahiatua, 1940s

Galina and Wassili Wassiliev, 1950s

Arrivals

An extract from the first story, *John Chew of Chew's Lane, 1850s*

"Mr Chew, this will be my home, I will not sail again."

Esther Chew on arrival at Wellington.

John Chew sailed into Wellington harbour on 20 September 1858. He was accompanied by his wife, Esther (nee Horsfall) and their four children, Sarah Jane, 13 years old, Edward John, seven, Mary Jane, five, and Betsy, two years old. They had travelled frugally, as steerage passengers, therefore were not without hardship. Family anecdote records that Esther Chew was so delighted to be on *terra firma*, that with one admiring view of the city, she told her husband, "Mr Chew, this will be my home, I will not sail again."

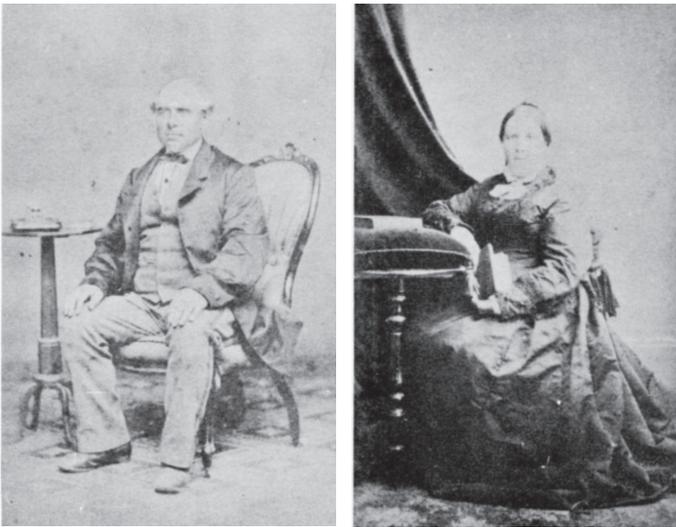
Her first impressions were strong ones and Wellington would be the home of John and Esther

Chew for the rest of their lives; also, for their children until they finished school. After they married, they moved on, but only as far as Porirua and Wairarapa. None would return to England to live.

Origins

The Chew family were of old English origin. The name has roots either from Anglo-Saxon "ceawa," derived from the French "ceowan," to eat, to chew; and/or from the French, "ew," from "eau" meaning water, and combined with the "Ch," meaning narrow passage and winding stream. The area settled by the Chew ancestors was Somerset, around the River

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John Chew and his wife, Esther Chew, from carte de visite photographs taken c. 1865 in Wellington. These photos were taken by William Henry Davis and are from a private collection.

John Chew was the son of Abraham Chew, attorney in law, and Elizabeth (nee Strong). He was born on 18 May 1825 at Middleton, Lancashire, England and died on 6 March 1888 at Crofton, Wellington, New Zealand.

Chew. Named by the family, it was not a winding stream, although there were many tributaries, but a large and powerful waterway that ran for 17 miles (27 km) through the countryside. It was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1066, including the mill sites on its course. Names like Chew Magna, Chewton Mendip, Chew Stoke and Chewton Keynsham are local reminders of this old family. A Chew Valley Lake was created in the 1950s and much of the Chew River area is now heritage reserve land.

Hazardous journey

The Chews sailed to New Zealand on the SS *Oliver Lang*, under the command of Captain Joseph Mundle, departing from Gravesend, London, on 18 June 1858. Although it was a speedy journey of 92 days, it was not without incident. Indeed, it was a memorable experience (which no doubt added to Esther's relief on arrival), with the collision of two sailing ships in the Pacific Ocean – a drama on the high seas at its best. What would those Chew children have thought about it? Pure adventure no doubt.

It is worth a pause in the story for the explanation, which has been well researched by historian, James Ashwell. Soon after crossing the equator, the passengers on the *Oliver Lang* spotted the barque *Shan* sailing in the opposite direction. As was the custom, they asked the captain to signal to the ship

to approach so they could off-load a mail bag. There was an agreement and the ships drew close.

“For all those homesick immigrants aboard the *Oliver Lang* this was the perfect opportunity to write home... Many letters were no doubt hurriedly written as the two ships approached each other. Then, the unthinkable happened: in calm, clear weather, open water and in broad daylight, the ships collided.”

from: *What happened to the Oliver Lang?* by James W E Ashwell, *The Onslow Historian*, Volume 36, nos 1-4, 2007.

The figure-head and part of the jib-boom of the *Shan* was left on the deck of the *Oliver Lang*, and trail boards, several of the stanchions and covering boards, from her (the *Oliver Lang*), were taken away by the *Shan*. Water started to leak into the *Oliver Lang* soon after, and it was a case of all hands on deck, so to speak, crew and passengers pumping out excess water for the rest of the voyage.

Arrival, Wellington

It was relieved passengers, an anxious captain, a weary crew and an embattled ship that entered Wellington harbour. But the drama was not all over. Soon after the passengers had disembarked, the renowned Wellington wind turned mischievous, and a nor'wester drove against the ship and took her on to the beach, at Te Aro, on her beam end! A change of wind some days later returned her to deep water; then a third time with a heavy, northerly gale blowing, despite all attempts, she was dragged across the harbour and driven onto the beach again. The delays of a decision about her future added poignancy to her fate. Eventually, she was towed across the harbour again, and ended her days tragically beached in low waters off the mouth of the Kaiwharawhara River.

But her passengers were loyal and had deep respect for the ship that had bought them safely to their new home. The ship's bell was taken by Ohariu Valley settlers to their Holy Trinity Church to call the faithful to worship. And so the *Oliver Lang* lived on in their hearts, none more so than with the Chew family who were reminded of her as they travelled down the Ngaio Gorge from their home in Ngaio, into town, and looked out to sea where the wreck was visible.

On arrival, the Chew family settled into the city in temporary domestic arrangements, while John Chew explored business and investment potential.

In 1858, Wellington was a frontier town, well developed for its short life but not looking its best in consideration of the severe 1855 earthquake that destroyed precious buildings, and from the flood of sea water from the tsunami that followed. John Chew, an engineer and businessman, could see the great potential. Above all was the enthused settler

community, eager for the prosperity that would surely follow if they all worked hard. The town needed serious residential investors, not fly-by-nighters who came, tried to make a quick buck and moved on. The Chews were serious new comers, proved true to their intent and Wellington was the better for their commitment.

More about *carte de visite* photos

These small photos became an extension of the practice of handing someone a visiting card, and literally that's what *carte de visite* means. Often abbreviated to CdV or CDV, the photographs were almost exactly the size of today's standard business card, 54 mm x 89 mm. From 1859, when these photos first appeared, and throughout the remainder of Queen Victoria's reign, the collecting and sharing of photo cards, usually of famous people, became enormously popular throughout Europe, then America, then the rest of the world.

Source: Wikipedia

Queen Victoria, reigned 1837-1901



An early 'letter card' to send locally or back 'home' to England. Because these could be sealed around the outside edge, they provided more privacy of information than postcards.



My thrifty Granny

by Maree Lewis, Founders, Bay of Plenty Branch

My granny's middle name was Adeline, but it should have been 'Economy,' because throughout her long life she wasted nothing. Words such as 'fashion' or 'style' played no part in her vocabulary and everything she owned was either used until it fell apart, or worn until it was threadbare.

To illustrate this, let me tell you about Granny's grey-checked costume.

The fabric for it, a strong woollen worsted, arrived from England in 1943 as a gift from her daughter Linda, who was then a cook on the New Zealand troopship, *Oranje*.

Making 'the costume'

Granny took the fabric into Te Puke to an Indian tailor who wore a turban and a piece of cloth draped around his nether regions, instead of trousers. (I accompanied granny on this venture when I was four years old). In order to be measured, the tailor sent granny behind a curtain to remove her street attire. She was, of course, wearing a generous full-length petticoat of peach-coloured, silky lock-knit fabric, with wide shoulder straps. It was a very modest garment, but when she appeared from behind the curtain I was appalled to see her in her underwear! The tailor then proceeded to measure Granny from top to toe, this way and that, collar to nipple, shoulder to finger-tip, and all around her girth. He wrote things in his little book, smiled and bowed a lot, and then, when granny had replaced her clothes, we went off to do our shopping.

The following Tuesday, the tailor draped pieces of fabric across and all around my grandmother, each bit with the paper pattern stitched to it. Onto the paper he wrote mysterious symbols, which probably said "Make a tuck here," or "Too tight," and then the man again smiled and bowed, and ushered us out into the sunlight to get on with our busy day.

On the next visit the fabric was visible, some stitching was complete, and the costume appeared. The sleeves were pinned into the arm-holes, the wrists were pinned up, and then Granny stood ram-



Granny – Byrl Adeline Bragg (nee Morgan), in her new costume, 1947.

rod straight on the raised platform while the little man, sitting cross-legged on the floor, pinned up the hems of both skirts. In those days (if there was sufficient fabric) two skirts were made, thus prolonging the life of the costume.

The following week, granny collected a big parcel, and when she got home she hung her new costume in the wardrobe, with a few mothballs stowed in the pockets. There it hung, awaiting an important event.

A garment for all seasons

Such an event came along when granny's elder daughter Mary, was married on 28 January 1947, which was one of the hottest days on record. The jellies melted at the reception, yet granny was wearing her thick woollen costume, with a cream felt hat and her practical fawn lisle stockings. In contrast, my mother wore a short-sleeved emerald green, silk suit.

I have other photos of granny and her costume, taken in the mid-fifties by a street photographer in Wellington, and in New Plymouth in the sixties, which clearly show that fashion had simply bypassed my granny. She considered her costume a multi-purpose garment, and so wore it to my parents' Silver Wedding party in November 1954 (which was a warm night), and again to a house-warming party in August 1959 (which was a cold night!).

My grandmother had a stroke when she was in her early eighties, and life lost its sparkle; all her natural get-up-and-go was gone. She couldn't get about to wear her costume, as she would have liked to do. She died in 1971, and no! She was buried in a plain white nightgown. Several weeks later, my aunt Linda called me to come and choose a few of my granny's 'things.' There was a pretty cream jug and sugar basin for which I had long lusted, and some plated silver teaspoons, but very little else. Then my aunt produced the '*piece de resistance*.' Would I like to have Granny's costume? There was, she said, still a lot of wear left in it!

I was 32 years old when my beloved granny died, and only four years older than the costume.

When the railways came to Wanganui

Compiled by Lynley Fowler, Acting Chair, Founders Wanganui Branch

Based on *The Foxton and Wanganui Railway* by K R Cassells and *The Wharves of Wanganui*, by Bruce Attwell.

Overland travel initially difficult

Picture this – in the early days it was a little difficult for our first settlers to get from the first New Zealand Company settlement of Wellington to the satellite settlement of Wanganui. Coastal shipping was the preferred option but for those who couldn't afford it, or who had awkward cargo such as a herd of bullocks, a trek along the beach and fording the many rivers and streams was the only alternative. Gradually, roads were negotiated and formed, often with the property owners responsible for the maintenance of their bit of road, just as today we are expected to look after our grass verges.

Vogel's Public Works Scheme saw the beginnings of developing a railway line in the late 1860s and 70s. Reaching out for land was one of the main drivers and little settlements were established as it progressed. However, the hills separating Wellington from the rest of the North Island were deemed too expensive to create a rail line, so they built a river port at Foxton to be the southern terminus.

Folks would either travel overland by horse-drawn coach, or by coastal ship from Wellington Harbour, round Sinclair Head and Cape Terawhiti, up past Kapiti Island and into the mouth of the Manawatu River to Foxton.

Developing the rail lines

The engineer-in-charge of rail development in the area was John Tiffen Stewart, later to become one of Wanganui's leading citizens. He gave detailed instructions on specifications for the ballast, sleepers and rails to be used. For the most part the line ran along the edge of the existing road.

The first track was a tramway owing to it having wooden rails – there being a plentiful supply of timber in the vicinity; and the gauge was 3 feet 6 inches (1067 cm). The first wagons were pulled by horses and no-one knew how the wooden rails would stand up to the traffic. This new development was greatly welcomed by the people of Foxton who could now travel to Palmerston North, 24 miles

distant, in about five or six hours, all being well! The times did improve and by 1887 the journey took only one and a half hours.

There was another line being built at the same time; south-eastwards from Wanganui with iron rails (a railway). Eventually, the wooden rails were converted, so the same rolling stock could travel the whole distance. A link was also heading north towards New Plymouth at the same time as the Taranaki people were building southwards.

Railway carriages and engines were brought to Wanganui by sea and lifted off the ship and on to the Eastown wharf using sheerlegs (crane-like devices).

The first section of line constructed from Wanganui was Eastown-to-Turakina which was completed in early 1877, and included the Whangaehu and Turakina bridges.

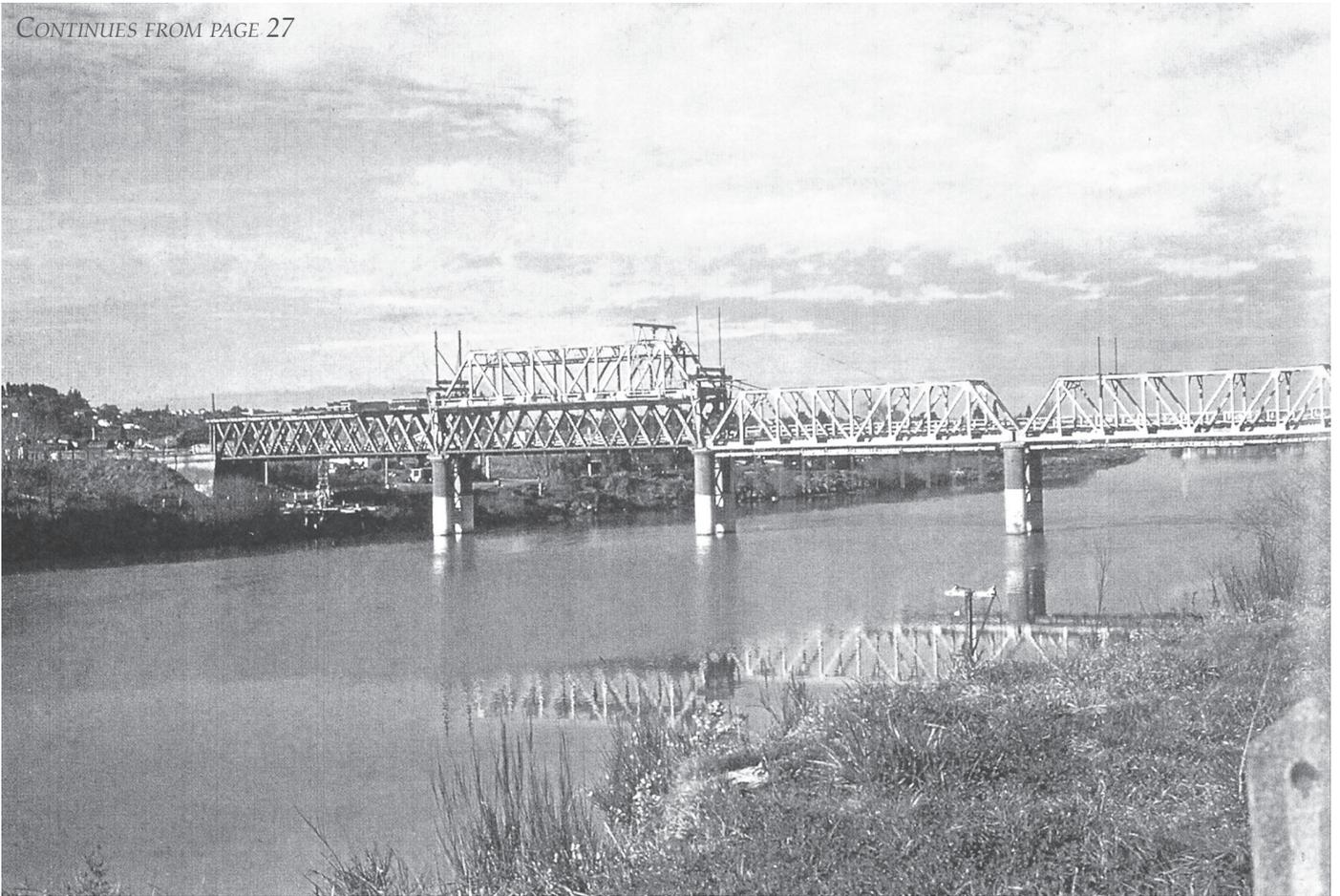
At the same time, the railway bridge over the Wanganui River was being constructed and the station at Aramoho established. This bridge was opened on Friday 18 May 1877, with great fanfare and excitement and a crowd of more than 600 enthusiastic onlookers.

Before the opening, they had tested that the bridge would take the weight of the rolling stock by running one of the small engines backwards and forwards a few times. Then a second small engine was added, and finally a heavier Fairlie. On each run they stopped for 15 minutes in the middle of each span and then ran the Fairlie across at speed. Such was the quality of the construction that there was barely any vibration perceptible at any stage. The piles of the bridge are still in daily use 140 years later although the decking and superstructure were replaced span-by-span in 1960.

Gradually, the two ends of the line got closer and closer together and finally met between Greatford and Marton on 20 May 1878; the journey now taking four hours to get from Wanganui to Palmerston North.

Until the town branch line was completed in January 1878, passengers were met at Aramoho Station by Gordon's horse-drawn bus. The work of laying the branch track proceeded faster than expected and the line reached the proposed site of

CONTINUES ON PAGE 28



Aramoho Railway Bridge, Wanganui. Photographed in 1960 as the replacement of decking and superstructure nears completion.

Source: *Memories of old Wanganui*, Vol. 2, photo by L Roberts.

the Wanganui Station and railway yards before the land was reclaimed from the river bank, so they had to build a temporary station at Churton Street.

In the mid 1880s, a direct link between Wellington and the Manawatu had been forged by a private company. Now, the Wanganui people could ride on the train all the way to the capital, shortening the journey from about 18 hours to a more respectable eight hours. The line to New Plymouth was finally completed on 23 March 1885 amid great celebration. Wanganui was now 'connected'.

It was the intrepid pioneering spirit that led our ancestors to New Zealand and it was that same spirit that enabled them to greet each new invention with such enthusiasm. Nowadays, that spirit has waned a little but new inventions and technologies are still happening and we will be fearless in getting on board, just as our ancestors were.



Surviving the Digital Dark Age

– some tips on preserving digital photographic images

by Stephanie Drew, book designer and editor, Hawke's Bay Founders Society

Our modern-day reliance on technology, with all the wonderful opportunities it offers, is also resulting in a gradual loss of knowledge, information and even records of events. In other words, we are in a 'Digital Dark Age'. This is happening because the technology that we presently love to rely on is rapidly become obsolete, or in a worst-case scenario, is failing, and is taking with it all the stored information that has not been backed up elsewhere. This Digital Dark Age is also happening because we are not actively archiving material in a form or system that will preserve it, regardless of changes in technology.

Our photographs are a classic example of this problem.

One hundred years ago, photographs were still something of a novelty and a single photograph of a friend or family member was a treasured item. Black and white or sepia-tinted photographs were the norm, except for those who could afford a carefully hand-tinted print. Then came the more mass-produced cameras and access to photography became more common. There was still the wait to get negatives printed, and the hope that the photographs were correctly exposed and not blurred, but these were still images to be treasured. We still kept photographs in albums or boxes, because with these we could record who we were, who we were with and what we did. But unfortunately as the production of photographs became cheaper, we took more of them and probably saved fewer.

Enter the digital age

The advent of digital photography has been marvellous but it has caused further problems, as it has given people the chance to take any number of photographs, depending on the size of the memory storage in their camera. These can then be sorted or deleted in the camera itself and the images shared over the internet and various social media sites. But if these images are not saved or filed as they are, or more helpfully with appropriate descriptive information, they are gone, as there is no way to get another copy if the image is deleted.

What to do

As much as we value the photographs of our ancestors, which we work hard to preserve, we also need to actively archive our own photographs to enable future generations to refer to them and to enjoy them. This can be done in a number of ways, and should include more than one format, and storage or preservation of them in more than one location.

While archiving your own photographs it is worth taking the opportunity to scan and archive older printed photographs as well. These should be saved in a .jpg (.jpeg) or .tif (.tiff) format, with a resolution of at least 300 dpi (dots per inch). See later description of dots per inch. Smaller photographs can be scanned at 600 dpi so that they can be enlarged later. This will create files of the images that retain more detail.

If possible, include at least one person's name and a date in the title of the file so that it can later be linked to more information. Some computer programmes allow for layers of information to be created and stored with the images. This is a great option but it only works while that particular programme is available. Remember that there are always going to be new updates of programmes, or, the supplying company might decide to stop supporting that programme and then your information can be lost.

Importance of keeping some hard copies (prints)

While digital photographs can be stored electronically on multiple devices, it is also advisable to have at least one set of your images printed on archival quality paper and file these, along with the information you have about the images, in a safe place. Doing this means that you will have copies of your images in a form that is not reliant on technology.

Dots per inch explained: Dots per inch refers to (linear) dots per inch (not per square inch). As a general rule, scanning of an image at a higher resolution (higher dpi number) provides for greater definition or detail when the image is enlarged. Sometimes dots per inch are referred to as 'pixels.' The terms mean the same thing. Think of them as 'picture particles,' the more of them (density), the more detail in the image.

Carpenter, Builder, Undertaker and Architect

Contributions made to provincial New Zealand architecture by an early settler

by Marjorie J Harris, member, Hawke's Bay Founders

During the early settlement years in Wellington, there were probably many immigrants who altered or exaggerated their occupations. At that time educational opportunities were scarce or non-existent and it would have been impossible to gain formal qualifications in New Zealand, especially in the professional subjects. How tempting it would have been in the 19th century to claim certifications that are available now in New Zealand but were not in the 'New World'. Perhaps Charles Tringham represented such an example of an 'expansion of occupation' and an exaggeration of experience.

The early years

Born in 1841, in Hereford, England, Charles Tringham did receive basic education, however, there is no evidence of a university attendance that would have provided architectural studies. He and his five brothers were brought up in the Winforton School House, near Hereford, where their father was the Master. Together with their mother Mary Ann, they were living in that building in the 1841 and 1851 censuses. Before the next census, in 1861, Charles, aged 20, had begun searching for adventure in the Pacific. Consequently, he arrived in Auckland in December 1864.

After a short sojourn there, he travelled south to Wellington where he perceived the opportunities lay. Initially he joined in partnership with a builder named William Lawes. However, by December 1866, this business was dissolved. Charles then settled in

the suburb of Thorndon, Wellington, and began advertising in the papers for employment as a carpenter and undertaker. His work must have been satisfactory, for in 1868, the advertisements enhanced his skills to that of an architect looking for contracts to plan houses, hotels and church buildings. He also asked for tenders from tradesmen to fit out his buildings.

During this time, Tringham appears to have been leading a successful social life in Thorndon while mixing with successful people. The newspapers of 22 April 1868 announced Charles Tringham's marriage to Margaret Hunter Bennett, the daughter of Dr J Bennett, New Zealand's first Register General. The couple were to have five sons and one daughter while living in Pipitea Street, Thorndon. One son, Charles Winforton Tringham, later became a prominent barrister and solicitor in Wellington.

Tringham's legacy in early New Zealand architecture

In the following years, Charles Tringham became a sought after architect, designing the following known buildings in the Wellington Province:

Built in 1868, the Wesleyan Chapel in Manners Street, Wellington, was a replacement for an earlier chapel that collapsed in the 1848 earthquake. However, this too was destroyed by the Manners Street fire of



Plimmer House, c. 1910. The home and garden of Miss Ella Plimmer, Boulcott Street, Wellington.

Acknowledgement: From the National Library of New Zealand website. Photo by James Walter Chapman-Taylor.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 31

March 1879. A timber building, Tringham designed it in the Gothic Revival style.

In 1872, Tringham was the architect for the vicarage of the Church of St. Mary's the Virgin, in Karori. Due to a lack of funds, however, he was not paid his fee for a further two years.

By 1873, Charles Tringham was designing for the more influential residents of the town. This was when he designed the Gothic Revival styled Plimmer House, off Thorndon Quay, as a town house for the solicitor, Henry Eustace de Bathe Brandon. The surviving building is now listed by the Historic Places Trust.

In about 1870, William Clayton, the Colonial Architect, built a house for himself in Hobson Street. Clayton was a promoter of building with concrete, and he did so with this property. It has survived Wellington's earthquakes and today is part of the complex that is now Queen Margaret's College. In 1873, Charles Tringham added an extension, using this base as a residential home for the then owner, Thomas Coldham Williams. Thomas Williams was a son of the Reverend Henry Williams, leader of the Church Missionary Society in New Zealand. Thomas Williams was a merchant and run-holder with interests in some large properties in the Wairarapa. These included Brancepeth Station, through his wife, the former Annie Palmer Beetham.

Linked with the above, Tringham was the architect for the three-storey entrance tower which today dominates the Hobson Street building. Originally, there was a superb spiral staircase which gave access to the viewing tower. The original building also had 30 rooms, but it is much altered today.

In 1874, Charles Tringham designed an Italianate style house for Sir William Fox, four times Premier of New Zealand, for his property at Kakariki, near Marton. Sir William named the property *Westoe*, after the village in England where he was born. The property is now operated by the Lincoln/Westoe Trust as a farm training facility. A feature of its design is the central tower.

1875 – The Church of All Saints, Foxton, was another of Tringham's architectural projects.

In 1877, Charles Tringham offered a grand plan for a Wellington Town Hall building; the council did not accept it.

Also in 1877, The Church of St. Thomas's, at Sanson, was designed in Mid-Victorian Gothic style. It was one of a group of country churches designed by Tringham.

1879 – Tringham designed the homestead of *Oruawhoro* on the 27,000 acre property of Sydney and Sophia Johnston at Takapau. This 64-roomed house was built of kauri and matai woods by Waipukurau builder, D McLeod. The house has been restored and is

in use for social functions.



Westoe, in the Rangitikei district, home of William Fox.

Acknowledgement: From the Te Ara New Zealand Encyclopedia website, image of a watercolour by William Fox, held by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington. Fox painted this picture in 1872.



Orouaharo homestead, Takapau, photographed in 2015.

1884 – Charles Tringham designed the plans for new premises for James Tocker, the Bootmakers, Featherston. At that time, Tringham was described as a ‘retired Wellington Architect of Pigeon Bush Station’.

In 1903, Charles Tringham wished to build a block of shops on the north side of Petone, between Jackson Street and Nelson Street. However, the council decided all buildings must be moved back five metres to enable the road to be widened. Although the buildings were set back in this way, the street changes were not completed until between 1926 and 1930, long after Tringham’s death.

Life at Pigeon Bush, Wairarapa

With the intention to retire from architecture and become a sheep farmer, Charles Tringham began purchasing blocks of land between Upper Hutt and Featherston in c. 1870. His name appeared from then on in the annual sheep owners’ returns and electoral rolls for Southern Wairarapa.

In 1883 he purchased a portion of William Lucena’s land at Pigeon Bush, near Featherston. Further land purchases followed. Pigeon Bush is south of Featherston and is flanked by the Rimutaka Ranges to the west and Lake Wairarapa to the east.

Tragedy struck the family when Charles and Margaret Tringham’s eldest son, John Boyle, aged 23, contracted typhoid at Pigeon Bush and died there on

15 April 1893. He had been assisting his father to run the property, probably with the intention of taking it over in due course.

Although retired to Pigeon Bush, Charles was elected president of the Wellington Association of Architects in 1895, no doubt in recognition of his 30 years of service to the building industry.

On 7 July 1897, Pigeon Bush celebrated the marriage of the Tringham’s only daughter, Horatio, known as Rita. She married Edmund Thomas Costello, son of the late Reverend J E Costello of St. James, Whitehouse, Belfast, at St John’s Church, Featherston. Pigeon Bush is given as the family home address although it is believed her mother still resided in Oriental Bay, Wellington.

Some six years later, Margaret Tringham died at Otaki on 5 October 1903, while staying with her daughter. Like the eldest son John, she was buried at Karori Cemetery.

The following year, in 1904, Charles remarried. His bride was Margaret Douglas McNeill, daughter of Mr John McNeill of Dunedin. When resident in Wellington, the couple were to live in the Oriental Bay property. They are known to have travelled extensively around New Zealand and overseas, over the next few years, though Pigeon Bush remained their home.



Charles Tringham, left, and his second wife, Margaret, right, accompanied by Margaret's niece and husband and their three children.

By 1890, the run at Pigeon Bush featured a two-storey homestead known locally as 'The Grand House'. It is believed to have been a substantial place with at least 12 rooms and was set back from the Western Lake Road among the trees. Although the architect is unknown, it appears likely that Charles Tringham was instrumental in it being built, using local builders.

On 20 November 1890, a party of German guests and the Governor General travelled by train to the property where John Tringham acted as host. It was reported that he addressed the Governor saying that the "*Grounds and mansion were at his disposal*". The party held a picnic there and then returned by train to Wellington. Another newspaper item written in 1900 states the "*residence is very good and prettily sits in trees*".

After Charles' second marriage, he ordered a specially built, modified Model T Ford for his wife's use. It had a higher head room than usual and had a wider wheel base for Charles' comfort. It was said that Charles did not drive but Mrs Tringham was a very competent driver and chauffeured him around the district. The car garage remains on the property to this day.

On 24 December 1916, Charles Tringham died at Pigeon Bush. His estate was probated in Masterton in 1917. The land agents, Harcourts, advertised the Pigeon Bush property on 30 April 1917 for sale as a 10,000 sheep grazing run made up of 5119 acres freehold and 5239 acres leasehold. They described

the homestead as a very fine building with every modern convenience. However, a sale did not eventuate. It appears the trustees continued farming until Charles Winforton Tringham, and Edmund T Costello put it on the market on 28 July 1927. It was sold to a Featherston sheep farmer, Morgan Davies.

The homestead is not mentioned in the listing but is believed to have burnt down between 1917 and 1927. Mrs Margaret Douglas Tringham died at Gladstone Terrace, Wellington, on 20 June 1927.

An accomplished life

From carpenter to architect, Charles Tringham had a successful transition within the building trade. He provided much needed skills at a period when there were dire shortages of experience and abilities. Looking back from this century it appears that his lack of formal architectural training was sufficient for the town's needs. Whether there were shortfalls or not we can never know.

He was a Wellington Provincial settler!

References

A wide variety of resource material was consulted in compiling this study. For the sake of brevity in this publication, just three major ones are cited here:

The making of New Zealand, edited by David Hamer and Roberta Nichols, Victoria Press, 1990

Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, by Raewyn Dalziel and Keith Sinclair, 1991

Papers Past

Our intended subject for this year was the restoration of an old English home. However, on the advice of the owner, it will be more suitable to run this story next year. Meantime, because our members share a love of things to do with heritage, the following gives a glimpse of one of Britain's most popular grand houses, Chatsworth, the home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and the seat of the Cavendish family since 1549.

My wife and I were privileged indeed to visit this beautiful property in July of this year. Ed



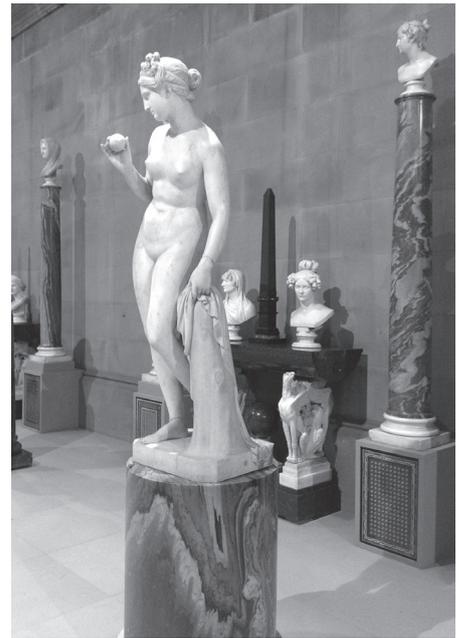
Chatsworth House

Acknowledgement: Photo from the Chatsworth House website

Glimpses of Chatsworth House

Chatsworth sits magnificently in the beautiful Dales of Derbyshire, in expansive fields dotted with trees and with a backdrop of woodland. The grounds were designed by the famed Capability Brown in the 1700s (for that sweeping rural look) and the gardens were developed by the renowned Joseph Paxton, gardener, architect and greenhouse pioneer and engineer.

Opened to the public in 1949, the house contains one of the most comprehensive and prestigious art and sculpture collections in Britain and Europe. The delight of the place for the visitor, is the realisation that these treasures are available for viewing by anyone, simply by paying an entrance fee. Admittance fees provide the funds for the maintenance and continuity of this property for future generations. And how popular it is! More than 1 million visitors a year come through its doors and a staff of 700 are employed in the running of the estate.



CONTINUES ON PAGE 35

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Remembering our World War I Centenary

Major-General Sir Andrew Russell

*... perhaps not well known today,
but one of New Zealand's most accomplished and decorated soldiers*

From the Ed

A book was handed to me recently which opened my eyes to a most remarkable man who it seems, deserves a much greater recognition for his military accomplishments than is the case in our country today.

The biography, *The Forgotten General* (2014), by New Zealand author, Jock Vennell, is referred to in the following.

Despite having served in command roles which earned him distinction at Gallipoli and on the Western Front (Messines, Passchendaele and the Somme), and being highly decorated, the name of Major General Russell is not well known today, for reasons advanced by Vennell in the Preface of his book.

He says, "In part it is because of the dominance of World War II history in general, and of Lieutenant-General Sir Bernard Freyberg in particular. (and) In part it is because of the neglect of the historians themselves."



A painting of Major General Sir Andrew Russell, which hangs in the Russell homestead.



Bronze statue of Major General Sir Andrew Russell, in Russell Street, Hastings.

Andrew Hamilton Russell was born in 1868 in Napier and was known to his friends as 'Guy'.

He attended Harrow, then Sandhurst, from which he graduated as the top cadet. This was followed by five years with the British Army in India and Burma.

Then it was home to Hawke's Bay in New Zealand, marriage and sheep farming before war service again called and he commanded the New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade at Gallipoli. There he earned a high reputation for his leadership, tactical skills, care for his men and his personal courage.

At the culmination of the disastrous Gallipoli campaign, Russell was in full command of the highly successful evacuation of nearly 50,000 ANZAC troops.

A media release by the Hastings District Council on the unveiling of his statue in Hastings (ANZAC

CONTINUES ON PAGE 37

Day, 2015), said, "Following the Gallipoli Campaign, he was awarded the KCMG (Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George), promoted to the rank of Major General, and made commander of the New Zealand Division which was sent to fight in France and Belgium under overall British command."

Then in peacetime, Vennell says Andrew Russell applied his character and intellect to successful careers in farming and business; he was president of the NZRSA and was a prominent defence lobbyist.

From 100 years on, it is sobering to reflect on the enormous impact the casualties of World War I must have had on everyday New Zealand life. Again,

from Vennell's Preface, "In four years of war, over 100,000 young men from a colonial nation of just 1.1 million (20 per cent of its male population), fought overseas, and nearly 60 per cent of them were killed or wounded.

Footnote: On a sunny October afternoon in 2015, the Hawke's Bay Branch of Founders was graciously hosted by the present-day descendants of Major General Russell, Andrew and Pip Russell. Our group was delighted to hear the history of this magnificent property. The homestead, built in 1913-14, was designed by renowned Hawke's Bay architect, C T Natusch, assisted by Lady Russell.



The Russell family homestead, 'Tuna Nui', Sherenden, Hawke's Bay.

A kiwi aviator in World War I

From Janet King, member, Hawke's Bay Founders

At the outbreak of the First World War, my dad, Philip Fowler from Feilding, who was then just 19, embarked at his own expense on a journey to England where he joined the Royal Naval Air Service. After a period of training he was posted to the Aegean.

His Sopwith Camel fighter plane was equipped with twin Vickers machine guns, synchronised to fire through a protected propeller, and he carried four 16-pound bombs in the cockpit.

In 1917, Philip was posted to England where he was promoted to Squadron Leader in the newly established Royal Air Force. He was then posted to Dover, where he served under Admiral Keyes of the noted Dover Patrol. The principal aims of the Dover Patrol were to defend the sea lanes of southern England against German naval activity, and to block German naval access to the Atlantic. This saw young Philip Fowler flying numerous patrols on the lookout for surface movements by the Germans and for submarines.

On returning to New Zealand after the war, Philip Fowler took up barnstorm flying for a time, and then went into the motor business. Because of his experience, he was called up in WW II, during which he served for a period as chief ground instructor at RNZAF base, Ohakea.



Philip Fowler



Sopwith Camel fighter

Acknowledgement: Photo from the Aviation History Online Museum



Paul Frances Hussey Brickell

From Ngaire Greger, (nee Ward), Wairarapa Founders

My grandfather was Paul Frances Hussey Brickell, who was born on 19 August 1891 at Morrison's Bush, Greytown, Wairarapa.

Paul Brickell enlisted in the New Zealand Army on 15 February 1915 and was originally in the Wellington Infantry Battalion. He embarked from Wellington to Suez, Egypt, on the *Maunganui*, (20 November 1915) for Gallipoli and from there he went to Alexandria. His war records show that he was a bridge builder.

On 6 April 1916 he was sent to France, where, on 26 December 1916, he was appointed to Lance Corporal. He was discharged on 28 July 1919 and declared no longer fit for war service owing to having rheumatism in his wrists and hands.

Paul Frances Henry Brickell in World War I uniform

Of life on the home front, New Zealand in World War I

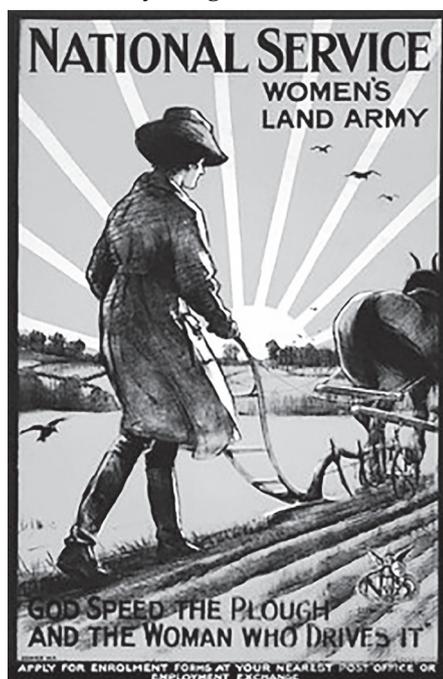
A diary entry from a farm

The following entry is by Charles Septimus Clarke, who emigrated to New Zealand from England in 1863 and farmed near Leigh, north of Auckland.

While in England ...

Women on the land in England

Poster urging women to join the Land Army, England.



Acknowledgement: From the website, www.pinterest.com

What women were wearing at home

Designs for women's clothing from the Kirkcaldie and Stains catalogue, (1915-16). Note the designs are each named after prominent battleground sites and war zones of Europe at the time.

Acknowledgement: website, World War I at home: In ephemera, by Barbara Lyon, with images from the Alexander Turnbull Library

Monday, 27 November, 1916

It was very dull in the morning and we thought it was going to rain, but it turned out a fine day.

Henry and the men got up very early and went mustering the sheep, but the Maoris did not commence to shear until the afternoon. John and Miss Kirvell came over just before lunch and both stayed the night.

I was working in the garden, I finished digging out sorrel between the young cabbage plants, I earthed up the three rows of potatoes and four rows of beans, dug out the sorrel round an apple tree and wheeled a lot of stones out of the garden.

Acknowledgement: From the website, WW100

26 KIRKCALDIE & STAINS, Ltd., Wellington and Napier.

"Raleigh Shirts"
made to measure, in Japanese Silk, Wool Flannels, Radiants, Viscella, Crepe-de-Chêne, &c.
Patterns and Prices on Application.

No. K 254—Stylish White Embroidered Blouse, neatly tucked vest, hand embroidered front, collar and cuffs embroidered with rows of narrow hemstitching 19/6

No. K 255

YPRES

No. K 257

LIEGE

No. K 258

NAMUR

No. K 254

ANTWERP

LOUVAIN

No. K 256

No. K 259

No. K 255—"Ypres." White Embroidered Blouse, collar and front of organdie muslin ... 14/6

No. K 256—"Antwerp." White Voile Blouse, daintily embroidered, neatly tucked ... 12/6

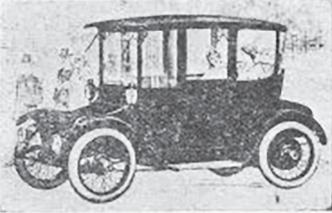
No. K 257—"Liege." White Voile Blouse, neatly tucked, Black moire bow ... 11/6

No. K 258—"Namur." White Voile Blouse, new gourd collar ... 9/6

No. K 259—"Louvain." Fashionable White Voile Blouse, trimmed embroidery and beading. 14/6

Prices in Catalogue, being compiled during progress of War, cannot be guaranteed.

THE DETROIT ELECTRIC



:: AN IDEAL LADY'S CAR ::

Fully 90% of the Electric Pleasure Cars throughout the United States are driven by Society Ladies. Not even the gloves are soiled by driving an Electric.

It is a Drawing-room on wheels, luxurious in appointments, silent in running, and Simple of operation.

The first sample has just been landed and we will be pleased to demonstrate to those interested.

**Magnus, Sanderson
& CO., LIMITED**
Opera Garage :: :: WELLINGTON

An advertisement in New Zealand in December, 1917. Thirteen thousand electric cars were produced by the Anderson Electric Car Company, Detroit, between 1907 and 1939. Their rechargeable batteries gave a range of 80 miles (133 km) with a top speed of 20 miles per hour. These cars found favour with women and doctors because they allowed for an immediate start without the physical efforts of hand-cranking. Interesting, that 100 years later, another American company, Tesla, is at the forefront of re-introducing electric cars to the public on a large scale.

Acknowledgement: website, World War I at home: In ephemera, by Barbara Lyon, with images from the Alexander Turnbull Library

New Zealand in poems from World War I

The following is from a collection of war poems by the English female journalist, humorist, children's author and poet, Jessie Pope (1868-1941). She had an appreciative and widespread following in New Zealand because she wrote with great admiration of the ANZACS.

ANZAC

We know that you're sportsmen, with reason,
At footer and cricket you're crack;
I haven't forgotten the season
When we curled up before the "All Blacks".
In the matter of wielding the "willow",
We own, to our cost, that you're it,
The "ashes" you've borne o'er the billow—
Though they're home again now, for a bit.

There are weightier matters to settle
To-day, amid bullets and shells;
And the world stands amazed at the mettle
You've shown in the far Dardanelles.
The marvellous feat of your landing
Your exploits by field and by deed,
Your charges that brooked no withstanding,
Though you poured out the best of your blood.

You left your snug homesteads "down under";
The prosperous life of your land,
And staggered the Turks with your thunder,
To give the Old Country a hand.
For dare-devil work we may book you,
You're ready and keen to get to it.
If a job is impossible, look you,
The boys from "down under" will do it.

—Jessie Pope, in the *Daily Express*, London.
(*"Feilding Star"*, 16 November 1915)

Acknowledgement: From the website of the Poetry Archive of New Zealand Aotearoa

The story behind the family on our cover and on the Founders website

By Maree Lewis, Founders, Bay of Plenty Branch

Anyone going online to look up information on Founders, New Zealand, will recognise the photograph we have used this year on our Bulletin's cover. It is also used as a banner photo on the Founders website. We feel it so well captures in time, a typical example of many of the early settlers in New Zealand from whom the Founders Society members are descended.

The photo was taken in 1904 at Hamua, just south of Pahiatua, in the northern Wairarapa. It shows James Farrelly seated with his wife Susan and their 11 children. James Farrelly was born c.1851, in County Cavan, Ireland, and arrived in New Zealand in 1865 on the *Ganges*. Susan, (nee Swan), was born in New Zealand in 1865.

Their 11 children are, standing from left, James b. 1881, Lawrence b. 1892, Herbert b. 1893, Annie b. 1888, Edward b. 1883, Minnie b.1880, Patrick b. 1890, and Francis b.1896 (blind boy in dark glasses d.1951 at the Parnell Blind Institute). And seated, from left: Ada b.1885, Arthur b. 1899 and Jessie b.1897.

James Farrelly was the oldest of the 10 children of Laurence and Mary Farrelly who emigrated to New Zealand under the false promises of the Waikato Settlement Scheme. Trying to make this voyage profitable, the New Zealand government loaded the *Ganges'* hold with a trial shipment of canned meat. With little knowledge of the science involved in preserving meat in this manner, it was unsuccessful. When the vessel reached the tropics, the cans of meat burst, contaminating everything in the hold, and the putrid smells and juices soon spread throughout the vessel.

The childhood diseases of whooping cough, bronchitis and diphtheria were rampant, and the ship lacked medical supplies and adequate food. James lost two small sisters on this disastrous voyage, during which over 10 per cent of the passengers died. A court of inquiry was held, and Laurence Farrelly



gave his evidence in the Supreme Court in Auckland. Nobody mentioned the effect of the rotting meat on the health of the passengers, and the trial cargo was never divulged publicly.

Arriving in Auckland bereft of their two little girls, the family was sent to the old Onehunga Military Barracks. Their promised farm and

house had not even been bought from the Maoris, who were extremely unwilling vendors! Indeed, the Waikato Wars were pending! An embarrassed government then dispatched the family to a special land grant (The Hutt Valley Scheme), and at Waiwhetu, they market-gardened for the next 30 years. Ten years after their arrival, the parents had their 11th child, and then their twins, Margaret and Philip, who had been left in Ireland as five-year-olds, arrived, and the family was complete.

After almost 30 years of protests and much litigation, the settlers who had been unjustly denied their Waikato Settlement opportunities, were given chances to purchase land in the Pahiatua area at what were described as "attractive" prices, and the entire family of Laurence and Mary Farrelly, now all adults, took up the opportunity and moved north.

James Farrelly (as in the photograph) was a farmer, with at various times, a country store, teams of heavy horses, and a carrying business. The family moved to the outskirts of Hamilton about 1908, and then to a farm at Mill Road, Paeroa, before WWI. Their son, Lawrence Bertram, was killed at Gallipoli. James and Susan, both renowned for their very hard physical work, retired to Tauranga in the 1920s, and James died there in 1929. Susan died in 1930, and they are buried together in the old Catholic cemetery on 17th Avenue.

Oh – I should mention, Laurence and Mary Farrelly were my great, great grandparents.

Acknowledgement: The cover photograph is provided by courtesy of the Ross Farrelly Collection.

NZ FOUNDERS SOCIETY NEW MEMBERS FOR JANUARY-OCTOBER 2016

Name	Port	Ship	Date	Ancestor
<i>Auckland Branch</i>				
Mrs T L J Surynt	Lyttelton	Indiana	1858	James DENHAM
<i>Bay of Plenty Branch</i>				
Mrs R O Storey	Lyttelton	Brothers Pride	1863	Samuel & Sarah Ann BAILEY
Mrs R K Ramsey	Nelson	Cornwall	1849	Neil McVICAR
	Nelson	Bard of Avon	1863	Emma COLES
<i>Hawkes Bay Branch</i>				
Mrs C M C Greenwood	Nelson	Phoebe	1843	Dr John & Sarah GREENWOOD
Mrs S V McNeill	Petone	Adelaide	1840	Ellen Chaffers RIDDIFORD
Mrs B J Alexander	Port Nicholson	Oriental	1841	Robert & Elizabeth WILTON
Mrs B H Galbraith	Nelson	Lord Auckland	1842	John Wallis BARNICOAT
	Wellington	Lord Wm Bentinck	1841	Anthony WALL
Mrs F D Roach	Auckland	HMVS Victoria	1860	George BYFORD
Mrs K M Watt	Petone	Bolton	1840	William JUDD Jnr
	Port Nicholson	Martha Ridgway	1840	William JUDD
	Petone	Bengal Merchant	1840	James & Mrs LANSDALE
Mrs A M Todd	Wellington	Oliver Lang	1856	Frederick & May WILLISCROFT
Mr PWT Ashcroft	Auckland	Artemisia	1854	Alfred Thornton DANVERS
Rejoined				
Mrs Faye Sherriff				
Associate Members				
Mr D F A'Court				
Mr P C Watt				
<i>Taranaki Branch</i>				
Mrs M Midgley	New Plymouth	Amelia Thompson	1841	Edward & Susan HUNT
Ms G A Hurley	New Plymouth	Timandra	1842	Charles & Hannah CLARE
<i>Waikato Branch</i>				
Mrs L J Lawrence	Port Chalmers	City of Hobart	1863	Robert & Jane LATTA
Mr R McGirr	Auckland	John Temperley	1865	James Alexander POND
Mr E W Roe	Port Nicholson	Gertrude	1841	Edward & Amelia ROE
<i>Wairarapa Branch</i>				
Mrs J A Wilson	Petone	Duke of Roxburgh	1840	Hart UDY
Mr G P Doring	Petone	Aurora	1840	Robert HOUGHTON
Mrs J A Doring	Lyttelton	Joseph Fletcher	1856	Alice Amelia HENWOOD
Mrs S Bowyer	Petone	Bengal Merchant	1840	Thomas & Mary REID
	Port Nicholson	Clifton	1842	John & Emma WATSON
<i>Wanganui Branch</i>				
Mr J C Parnell	New Plymouth	Prince Arthur?	1861	James Edward BATTEN
Mrs A C Parnell	Auckland	Columbus	1864	Margaret ATKINSON
	Port Chalmers	Aldinga	1864	William KNIGHT
Mrs R L Webb	Petone	Aurora	1840	Robert & Charlotte HOUGHTON



New Zealand Founders Society Inc. Financial Statement

To year ended 31 March 2016



The New Zealand Founders Society made a surplus of \$4853 for the year ended 31 March 2016. As we have adopted the new PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) reporting standards, our financial statements are considerably more detailed than in previous years. They can be viewed in full on the Charities Services website www.register.charities.govt.nz by searching for NZ Founders and clicking on the Annual Returns tab. They appear in full under the 'financial statements' column.

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

Who are we?

We represent descendants of the early New Zealand settlers who arrived prior to 31 December 1865.

We share a common interest in their history of New Zealand and the achievements of its pioneers.

Who can join?

Those who are descendants of persons who arrived in New Zealand before 31 December 1865.

We also accept Associate Members.

Services we offer

A reference library is available for members' use by appointment.

Material includes over 600 books & pamphlets mainly dealing with early history of New Zealand.

We also have family trees, histories, newspaper cuttings, photographs and a list of ships arriving in New Zealand before 1865 with some passenger lists.

An annual Bulletin is published and available through branches at a cost of \$7.

What we do

Prepare, publish and collect passenger lists and have available accurate lists of early settlers prior to 1865.

Administer a research award for national or local history.

Assist in preserving historic places, buildings and monuments.

Provide activities for members.

Branches hold regular gatherings with speakers.

Foster links among members.



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 2016 Bulletin. Thank you all.