

Stratford Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com

June 2017

Stratford Community House.

52 Juliet Street

Stratford 4332

PO Box 402

Stratford. 4352.

Phone. 06 765 0913 ext. 4.

Branch Contact-

Carol Spragg.

c.spragg@xtra.co.nz

Inside this issue:

Page 2:

Websites; mystery building in Whanga; Legacy Learning

Page 3:

AGM Results & Report

Page 4:

Bilderbeck Family

Editor:

Maureen Armstrong

Email:

mearmstrong@kinect.co.nz

Phone: 06 762 8837 or

027 630 9099



Convener's Comment

I am sometimes asked what we do at the Rooms!

Indexing is a major on-going project; research is another.

In recent weeks we have:

- 1). helped a new member start his research in England;
- 2). identified a young girl who was attending school in Eltham in 1920's;
- 3). attempted to find a photo of the mother of the Hamblyn sons, killed in WWI;
- 4). found a photo of an airman killed WW2 for a publication in UK;
- 5). searched for extra information on a family we researched several years ago;
- 6). assisted in an adoption enquiry
- 7). had success in finding the Taranaki family for someone in Holland.

We aim to contribute to our community by assisting locals who want to research, and to provide information to those in other places who have family connections here.

Carol

NB: there will be no Branch Meetings in June, July or August.

The rooms will be open on the usual days and hours, Except for Sat 10th June, when they will be closed.

Branch Rooms

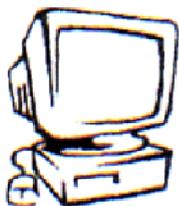
The Stratford Branch Rooms open

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am – 3pm;

Saturdays 12 noon -2pm.

Our Branch Newsletter is now available each month on our web page-

www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com



Web Sites

www.thetreasury@gmail.com— The Coromandel Heritage Trust—information re early Thames and Coromandel.

www.deceasedonline.com—digitised burial records in East Staffordshire, also West Yorkshire.

www.genteam.at/ - based in Vienna, many vital records for various countries in Europe.

<http://digital.nls.uk/gallery.cfm>—Scottish family histories, including memoirs, genealogies, clan histories from National Library of Scotland.

What is a Genealogist???

A full-time detective
 A Thorough historian
 An inveterate snoop
 A confirmed diplomat
 A keen observer
 A hardened sceptic
 An apt biographer
 A qualified linguist
 A part-time lawyer
 A studious sociologist
 An accurate reporter
 An hieroglyphics expert
 AND
 A complete nut!
(Author unknown)

Legacy Help

The next in Marilyn's series of Legacy sessions will be on Sunday 7 May 2017 at 1:30pm in the Branch Rooms. Future meetings are planned for every second month; 9 July, 10 September and 12 November.

Please note that there is a \$2 door charge.

Please contact Marilyn Armitstead for further information or if you have any questions. Phone: 757 2599 or email g.armitstead@xtra.co.nz

Do remember to save used HP & Canon printer Cartridges and hand them in to the group . They provide an excellent fund raiser. The sales of books on trademe are going well. Thanks to Carol for her efforts .

HAMBLYN:

We've had a request for a photo of Mary Ann (Polly) HAMBLYN nee HOSKIN, who was the mother of the four HAMBLYN brothers killed in WW1. She produced 13 babies in 17 years and lived to 90.

Can anyone help with this one???

Carol (765 0465)

We have received this photo of a disused church at Whanga. It must be Methodist or Presbyterian but neither of the Stratford centennial books for either church mention having a church building at Whangamomona.

Can anyone suggest where we might find information for this building?

Carol



FUNNY ADDRESSES (From MemList)

Up the River, Auckland

.Burnthouse Farm, Sheepwash Lane, "Blackboys" *East Sussex*.

Paradise. Diamond Lake, between Mt Alfred and Mt Earnslaw.

Heavenly..... !!

Mud Cottage, Collingwood Street, Nelson.

(from Sth Waikato Newsletter)

Every month we receive copies of branch newsletters from all over New Zealand. If anyone would like to see those we have at the moment, please email Maureen and I will send them on to you. If you don't have email let me know and I will get a copy printed for you.

Snippets



STRATFORD BRANCH NZSG Convenor's Report AGM 1 April 2016-31 March 2017

This is the 30th Annual Report of the Stratford Branch and the sixth since we moved to the Community House.

Research enquiries are received regularly, many from overseas and a number that are for families which we have previously researched. Pioneer Village, Stratford Library and Fiona Harvie, Archivist at Stratford District Council forward enquiries on to us and we can usually find some information. Our web page and Facebook page are sources of communication within New Zealand and overseas. Our databases of school, church, war personnel, biographical entries, surname envelopes and book entries have continued to grow and are an invaluable source when we receive research queries. Our subscription to Ancestry often helps us to get the clues we need to add information for an enquirer. One advantage of having our rooms here at the Community House is the reliable internet access to Ancestry, Papers Past, Archway, Family Search etc . BDM notices from "Daily News" are being indexed. We have been able to present displays of historical photos onto the large noticeboard at the Community House.

Thanks to all those who assist in any way with additions to our records. Special thanks to Marie, Helen , Maureen and Lesley who work at the Rooms regularly. Thanks to Maureen for continuing her high standard of presentation with our monthly newsletters. The majority of our members don't attend monthly meetings and the newsletter is a valuable source of contact with those members and with other NZSG Branches. Maureen is also the person to thank for keeping the Minutes of meetings for us.

Thanks to Kate for her financial skills and for her monthly financial reports. The three laptops are in their 3rd year of use and planning for their replacement will be a financial priority for the next financial year. We purchased the two more filing cabinets for the Envelope Collection. The Community House Trust brokered a deal with TET Trust which included funds to pay for rent and electricity. Selling books through Trademe and recycling computer cartridges adds to our funds. We didn't apply for a TSB Grant due to our bank balance, as you will see when Kate presents her Annual Financial Report.

We have been concerned that our membership of NZSG has been decreasing and that the number had fallen below the rules of NZSG. In September we were approached by Inglewood Branch with a proposal about a merger of our Branches as an affiliated Branch of the Society. We have met several times with our Regional Councillor and surveyed our members about their approval or disapproval of the idea. A Special General Meeting resulted in a large majority supporting the merger. I am disappointed that we have not made more progress, but other commitments of the Inglewood members has meant that the merger is still some way off.

We held a Special General Meeting to accept changes to the NZSG rules. We have maintained positive relationships with the other three Taranaki Branches. Lesley and I have attended the Regional Meetings and we regularly exchange resources which are more relevant to the other Branches.

Carol Spragg
Convenor

Results of Election of Officers,

AGM may 2017:

Convenor:	Lesley White
Deputy Convenor:	Marie Walker (also contact person)
Secretary/Treasurer:	Kate Payne
Minutes Secretary/Editor:	Maureen Armstrong
Librarian:	Marie Walker
Committee:	Helen Love, Carol Spragg, Maureen Armstrong

No 3 in our records for Midhirst Old Cemetery:**NORA MARGARET?? (BILDERBECK)**

Cemetery Records show plot 71 being 'Nora Margaret' no surname recorded, but paid for by BILDERBECK. This immediately caught my eye as unusual, so I decided to try and find out who 'Nora Margaret' was.

On Papers Past I found her – 'BILDERBECK, Nora Margaret at Stanley Road, Midhirst on May 6th 1906, dearly beloved wife of Herman BILDERBECK of Bulls. Aged 28 years. Deeply regretted.'

Well, that solved the name, but why was she in Midhirst and her husband in Bulls? Especially if she was 'dearly beloved' as the notice said. After exploring all sorts of different sites such as 'Archway', 'Ancestry', and all the usual suspects, I found that Nora Margaret NIELSON married Herman BILDERBECK in 1895. Nora's parents were Rasmus and Anna NIELSON from Denmark, who, for a time farmed at Midhirst. Rasmus had at least one brother living in Midhirst, too, although, by the time Norah died, her parents had moved down to Palmerston North.

Herman was the eldest son of Hans Herman Leberecht BILDERBECK of Germany and his wife Christina, of Feilding and was a timber worker, who moved around the various mills in Taranaki and further afield. At the time when Nora and Herman were married, he was working at the Midhirst timber mill. Later, he moved to Turangi, and then to Bulls. It seems Nora must have been ill by that time, and she stayed in Midhirst, possibly with family, until she died. Herman then moved to Mercer where he worked in a timber mill, and stayed for the rest of his life. He died in 1956

Nora and Herman had 3 sons and a daughter. Two of their sons went to WW1, and the eldest son, Harry Claude, was killed. I found no records of the sons being married, and have not found the deaths for either of the other 2. The daughter, Annie Daphne Gwendoline, married Loder Hills ALLEN of England in 1922. The BILDERBECK family is quite small, even though there were several sons. Sadly, many of them went to war and never came back. There is a Bilderbeck in the New Plymouth phone book.

Hans Hermann Leberecht BILDERBECK	m. 1. Christina	Parents: Rasmus NIELSON	m. Anna S
b. 14/2/1845 Lubeke, Germany	d. 24/10/1915 Feilding	b. d.	b. 1843 Denmark d. 1891 b. 1857 d. 1928
Hermann BILDERBECK – m. 1895 – Norah Margaret NIELSON			
b. 1871	d. 1956	b. 1878	d. 6/5/1906 at Midhirst
Harry Claude b. 1895 d. 1918			
Alfred Roy b. 14/5/1897 Stratford NZ d.			
Stanley Roland b. 1900 d.			
Annie Daphne Gwendoline b. 1902 d. m. 1922 Loder Hills ALLEN b. d.			
H.H.L. BILDERBECK	m. 2. 1907 Tracey Celestine Veronica BLAKE	b. 1878	d. 1956
Lindus Charles Herman b. 18/9/1908 d. 1995			

Maureen

Members' Queries:

Do you have any brick walls with which you need help? Don't know where else to look? Well, come along to the Rooms at Stratford Community House, Juliet street, next to the Anglican Church. We are there on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm, and Saturdays 12 noon to 2pm. We'll do our best to help you find answers. We have a lot of local school, Church and cemetery records available, also Electoral Rolls for several years.