



# Stratford Branch

*New Zealand Society of Genealogists.*

Stratford Community House.

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Branch Contact-

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## Convener's Comment

### Report On New Plymouth Branch Open Day, held on Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>

Four of our members attended this day and thoroughly enjoyed it. The guest speaker was Jan Gow, a well-known and very respected genealogist, who spoke on a) A genealogy guide for beginners and b) looking at records, documenting, recording and searching. Sharyn Guthrie from NP Branch reviewed some Genealogy Computer Programmes, particularly –“ Legacy” (more about Legacy elsewhere in this newsletter). Michael Butler from NP Branch spoke about genealogy resources at Puke Ariki, our Taranaki museum and library. There was plenty of information for everyone, whether experienced or a new researcher, and all for a very modest entry fee.

Carol

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**TIP - TradeMe.com has a genealogy message board that is very active - have a look at other postings - may be worth trying.**

*Has a 'Sticky' note at top of list so it stays at the top of the list, with instructions for beginners, otherwise scroll off end of list - [www.TradeMe.co.nz](http://www.TradeMe.co.nz) > Community > Message Boards > Genealogy - need to register (but doesn't cost anything)*

### **Branch Meeting—Wednesday November 15th starting at 7.30pm.**

#### **Last meeting for this year**

- tell us about a Christmas tradition in your family.
- Any suggestions for a theme for our next meeting—Wed Feb 13th, 7.30pm?

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## Branch Rooms

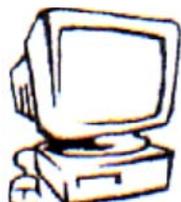
The Stratford Branch Rooms open

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](http://www.stratfordgenealogy.homestead.com)



## Web Sites

<http://archive.org/details/nationallibraryofscotland>

Some items from the **National Library of Scotland**, an information treasure trove of Scotland's knowledge, history and culture, with millions of books, manuscripts and maps covering every subject.

<http://globalgenealogy.com/countries/scotland/searchable-data.htm>

**Scotland & Scottish Searchable Online Data.** Contains online searchable databases for those researching their Scottish roots. Some sites are free and others charge a fee.

<http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk/>

**Peoples Collection Wales** – a government sponsored website with thousands of photographs from museums, archives, and individuals.

[www.llgc.org.uk/probate](http://www.llgc.org.uk/probate)

**Welsh Probate records pre-1858.** Free access is now available to digital images of wills through the new online index. (Currently no digital images are available for Hawarden, Brecon or St Asaph pre 1660.)

### Tempero Reunion

A reunion is being planned for early March 2013 in Christchurch and Oamaru for the Tempero family and connections. Henry Tempero, Penelope Tempero (nee Justice) and their children arrived in Port Chalmers in 1870 and settled in Oamaru where further children were born. Some of the first generation of the Tempero family moved to Taranaki . Val Lee of Christchurch is arranging the reunion programme with Lesley Instone of Invercargill assisting with preparation of the Family Tree. Please contact Lesley Instone [[lesleyi@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:lesleyi@actrix.gen.nz)] for information about the reunion, if you have any information about the family or would like a draft of the family tree to check your branch. Please pass this on to any members of the family you may know. A number of the American and English cousins are planning to attend.

**Do remember to save used 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 .**

We have a collection of the NZ Genealogist Magazine from 1994 to 2008, mostly complete years with the Indexes. If anyone would like to browse through some of these, please contact Maureen. There are many interesting articles and items of interest in these magazines, and I have found a couple of family connections so far!  
(Phone 762 8837, or email [armstrong21@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:armstrong21@slingshot.co.nz))

### **ANCESTRY**

The best time to use the Ancestry site if you want help with it, is to come on Tuesdays when there are usually 2 or 3 of us at the rooms to help. You can also come on Saturdays when Carol and Lesley are here. As we said before, this is a full membership, not the limited one that you can use at the Public Library. At \$2.00 per hour to use, it's a very cheap source of valuable information. Ancestry are adding new files all the time, so just because you could not find something a year ago does not mean it's not there now!

### **LEGACY GENEALOGY SOFTWARE**

As a result of attending the NP Branch Open Day, I've started using Legacy 7.5.

Some years ago I recorded my family on "Brother's Keeper". When my PC "died" my information went with it and I hadn't committed myself to a programme since. The demonstration of Legacy has inspired me to download it (FREE!!!!) and I can upgrade to the full version for a modest sum in comparison with the cost of genealogy software a few years ago. So far I haven't had any problems with recording data and the full version includes all the "bells & whistles" I'm likely to need. Another advantage is that there are a number of Legacy users in Taranaki and Sharyn Guthrie will probably be holding hands-on tutorials next year. In the meantime, I'll be happy to help anyone wanting to see what the programme offers and to get started. Carol.

• **JESSE & JANE (née DUNKLEY) PRESTIDGE FAMILY REUNION.** A reunion has been planned for the 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013, to be held in Christchurch, to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the arrival of Jesse and Jane Prestidge and their family of Thomas, Walter, Henry, Jesse Jnr, Edward, Mary Jane, Samuel, Charles and Joseph, from Rugby, England, to Canterbury, New Zealand in 1863, on the "*Lancashire Witch*" along with Sarah (née Prestidge) Glennie, Jesse's sister. We look forward to seeing as many of the descendants of the family as possible, and should you be a family member, or know of someone who is, please contact Sandra Marris (née Prestidge) Nelson, Phone (03) 546-7888 for further details as

## Snippets



### WHO WAS THE FIRST CHILD BORN IN STRATFORD?

Compiled by David Walter and published in "Stratford Press" 30 June 1999.

One authority says the first birth was that of Mrs William TISCH's daughter on October 13, 1878 but she died a few weeks later on 31<sup>st</sup> October. The second may have been Edith BRANNIGAN on 6 April 1880 and the third, Ernest TISCH on May 19, 1880. Gilbert ELLIS was born on Bird Rd on 27 Aug, 1880. Other 1880 births were Valentine SMITH, a female CAPPER baby and Willie GARDINER.

### London Language

How the definition of 'Cockney' has changed over time. Cockney was originally a surname, and not always as London-based as you might think. In 1881, Ellen Cockney was a 50 year old hawker living in the heart of the East End – in a lodging house in the notorious slum area of Flower and Dean Street in Whitechapel. She was actually from Ireland! There were also lots of Cockneys – as in the surname – in Northamptonshire and County Durham.

Although Cockney has been used to refer to someone born within the sound of Bow Bells since 1600, always implying personality traits as well as origin, the first recorded use of the word to mean someone with a London accent or dialect was relatively recently – 1890, according to the Oxford English Dictionary. It's tempting to see the inclusion of a lodger in the Kettering census as evidence that prior to this, people described those with a southern accent or dialect as Cockney; this lodger, who originated in Portsmouth, was listed simply as "Cockney" – with no first name or surname.

### ALL 1911 TRANSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW FREE ON GENES REUNITED AND FINDMYPAST.CO.UK

Leading family history websites [genesreunited.co.uk](http://genesreunited.co.uk) and [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk) have teamed up to offer their members free access to all 1911 census transcriptions from today until 18<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The 1911 census is a great place to start researching your family history as the records are the most detailed of any census. It includes places of birth, details of siblings, occupations, how many children have been born to the marriage, how many still alive at the time of the census and how many had died.

Debra Chatfield, Marketing Manager of [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk), said: "The 1911 census is an invaluable resource for tracing your ancestors and it's fantastic to be able to offer this to our members for free."

### 100 YEARS AGO—1912

(From the archives of the Hawera Star)

For Sale: 40hp motor car, standard make, nearly new. (Imagine 40hp???)

Hardware dealer has for sale a lawn mower your wife can use!!! And will take pleasure in using. As easy to push as a go-cart. Priced from 44 shillings for a 12 inch cut, and 15s 6d for an 18 inch cut.

Sydney: 117 women were fined 5 shillings each for wearing protruding hat pins.

### November Quiz: (answers next month)

1. Where was the last commercial wind-powered mill in New Zealand?
2. When was the Kelburn Viaduct in Wellington built?
3. How long has Wellington airport terminal been in use?
4. Who was James Dilworth?

### Answers to October Quiz:

1. Tommy Solomon. Died 1933 aged 50.
2. Te Puia Herangi was daughter of Maori king Tawhio and niece of Maori King Koro-ki. She was instrumental in the establishment of Turangawaewae in Ngaruawahia, among many other achievements.
3. Stratford was one of only 3 towns to have electricity.
4. Newtown.

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. At the moment I have—Blenheim, Canterbury, Dunedin, Gore, Hutt Valley, Inglewood, Wairarapa, Wanganui, Wellington for September. We also get Christchurch, North Canterbury, Hawkes Bay, Matamata, and New Plymouth (which is available on their website.)

## Story Writing Competition

2012 winner—Maureen Armstrong, with “The Elusive Evans’s Part 2”. This year’s Judge was Mrs Elwyn Barnes, wife of the new Anglican Priest in Stratford. Mrs Barnes had no idea who had written either story, and was very impressed with both entries.

Members, please step up next year—the more entries the better.

### Any suggestions for next year’s competition?

**How about each a doing personal profile, including a brief outline of our family research up to the present???**

#### **THE HISTORY OF APRONS** Contributed by Doreen Mander from an anonymous source

I don’t think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma’s apron was to protect the dress underneath. Because she only had a few dresses it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a pot holder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children’s tears and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

When the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big, old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow bent over the hot stove.

Kindling wood was brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the pods.

In the Autumn, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out to the verandah, waved her apron and the family knew it was time to come in for dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will Be as special as Granny’s Apron.



### WARNING FOR CHESHIRE RESEARCHERS

*Message from Ian Hartas, UKBMD.*

Hi this is just a quick note to highlight the need for caution when accessing the various BMD websites. The majority of the sites under the UKBMD project all end with “.org.uk”. One exception is the Shropshire BMD website which is a “.info” site.

**Recently the domain name CheshireBMD.com has been registered. It is nothing to do with the BMD websites - it’s a scam site set up purely to trap the unwary.**

So, as usual, the safe and recommended way to access all of the BMD sites is to have <http://www.UKBMD.org.uk/> in your browser’s favourites list and always click on the “Local BMD” menu button. This way you will always be guaranteed to see the full list of BMD websites and that the link from UKBMD will take you to the correct site.

**Source - Hibiscus Coast Newsletter**

**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.