



WANAKA GENEALOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2016

Hello All

INTEREST GROUPS

All the Interest Groups are up and running and we had some people at all of them, so that is a very good start!

Next meeting

Wednesday 4 May

When: 11am
Where: Wanaka Library
Project: Ferryman's Cottage, Albert Town
Jo Wilton 443 8123
wiltonnz@hotmail.com

LOCAL HISTORY EXPLORERS

The first gathering was held in the Historical Records Room, Wanaka Library 2.00 pm, 2 March 2016 to ascertain our objectives for the future. Attending were Marie Lewis, Louise Primrose, Lesly Stewart and Jo Wilton. The initial discussion was positive and informative:

All wished to learn more about our local Upper Clutha history, everyone wanted to do some research towards an agreed goal and the information would be deposited with the Upper Clutha Historical Records Society to add to their collection.

The topic chosen was the history of the first ferryman's cottage currently situated at 4 Arklow Street, Albert Town and now owned by Marie Lewis. Marie was tasked with acquiring the Title of the property and sharing what information she has already collected with the group. Louise is following up looking for any photos of the cottage. Once we have details of who previously owned the cottage including NORMAN and TEMPLETON families, Lesly and Jo will search for the existing family information held on records.

The next gathering will be Wednesday 4th May in the Historical Room to face the next research challenge of this project.

SCOTTISH GROUP

Next Meeting

Friday 20 May

When: 2pm
Where: 105 Aubrey Road
Neal Brown 443 1044
brown.hawea@actrix.co.nz

The group met on Friday 18 March with five present and three apologies.

We have agreed to meet on the 3rd Friday of every second month. So the next one is on 20 May at 2 pm at 105 Aubrey Road as it was a bit public in the library (then July 15, Sept 16 and Nov 18)

A varied and interesting program has been put forward.

The topic of the next meeting will be Margaret Thomlinson talking about, ‘Solving the Cook’s Family Problem’

Future topics could include: Social history at the time of our ancestors, Healers and Herbs, Famous Scottish battles, Inverness families.

IRISH GROUP

Next Meeting

Wednesday 13 April

When: 2pm
Where: 86 Kings Drive Wanaka
Topic: Searching www.rootsireland.ie
Matt Primrose 443 8977
mprimrose@xtra.co.nz

A very enthusiastic Irish Group met for the first time on Thursday 17 March (St Patricks Day!) A useful handout was given out “Searching for Irish Ancestors” with a valuable summary of what records are available and where they are.

We all want to learn more about Irish history and the social aspect of the times our ancestors lived in but we primarily want to search so we identify

ourselves as a “Working Group”. Our next meetings will be on a Wednesday as Thursday didn’t suit so well (13 April and 27 April)

We will be looking at various websites, concentrating on www.rootsireland.ie in our next session. Bring a name you are researching and as much other information you have such as County, Barony, Parish, Townland. Bring your computer/tablet if you have one and be prepared to work.

COMPUTER USE IN GENEALOGY

Next Meeting

Thursday 31 March

When: 5.30 pm
Where: Wanaka Library
Topic: Gedcoms

Louise Primrose_443 8977

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Computer Group met on Thursday 3 March at 5.30 pm in the library. Our first job was to find out what people wanted to cover from this rather large subject. All who were present preferred to do something practical to further their knowledge. We decided to meet fortnightly on a Thursday in Wanaka Library at 5.30 pm (31 March, 14 April, 28 April). We wanted to know more about various Genealogy Software programs so it seemed a good idea to set small tasks to complete for the following session.

As our first exercise we decided to investigate ways of creating **Charts** either by Genealogy Software programs or in Word. We each had to create a chart, save and print it to compare the results of different programs.

On Thursday 17 March we met to compare results. Legacy, Family Tree Maker (Ancestry) and Family Tree Builder (My Heritage) came out top. We only tried the free version of RootsMagic which proved to be quite limited. Charts created in Word allowed more customisation but were time consuming to produce. As Family Tree Maker is experiencing some uncertainty we concentrated on Family Tree Builder which can be download for free at www.myheritage.com It definitely allows the widest choice with a free version of software.

We looked briefly at the privacy controls on My Heritage. This will be covered in a further session when we will also look at **Privacy settings** in other Software programs.

On Thursday 31 March we will look at **GEDCOMS** – How to Import and Export from 1 program to another. How to import part of a GEDCOM. GEDCOM fields etc.

Task before the next session: Create a small new family tree to use as your practice GEDCOM file and we will practice moving them around. Bring your computer.

If you don't have any genealogy software come along anyway. You can always have a "play" with my practice file.

Further topics will include Privacy Settings, Downloading an app to sync and Genealogy Software – general discussion and anything else that comes up during our sessions!

RECORD KEEPING & WRITING

Record Keeping & Writing

Monday 4 April

When: 5.30 pm
Where: Wanaka Library
Topic: Create a system for basic BMD documents
Louise Primrose 443 8977

Record Keeping and Writing met for the first time on Monday 7 March at 2pm in the Library. The first thing we all established is that we all have lots of “Stuff” and we are all tremendously busy. Sometimes we spend a lot of time searching for things we can’t find, even paying for things we have already got! It seems like an impossible task.

Some of us with a “System” brought them along and pros and cons were discussed.

There are no tricks but the only thing to do is to **make a start**. With this in mind we decided to meet once a month on the first Monday (4 April, 2 May).

Task for the next session: To choose a family or just 1 person you would like to write about. Organise their basic documents (B,M,D) on the computer, in a file or any other system so you can find them easily and more importantly, someone else can find them. Discussion will follow.

Further topics include:

“Other” types of information - places, occupations, newspaper articles, photos – How would you arrange these in your filing system?

Using your newly arranged documents write a small piece about your chosen ancestor to share.

RESEARCH MEETINGS

When: **Last Friday of the month 2pm**

Where: Wanaka Library

(Please note - No Meeting Friday 25 March – Good Friday)

These research meetings are for anyone actively researching an ancestor/family. Bring a name and any information you have. You can use the library computers or bring your own tablet/laptop.

Books may be borrowed from the Genealogy Group library cupboard. The library also has a selection of genealogy books.

There will be people to help you!

If you are not researching but feel able to help others search, please do come along.



SOCIAL MEETINGS

When: **First Friday in February, May, August and November 2pm**

All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Friday 6 May

Where: Meeting Room, Wanaka Hotel, 71 Ardmore Street, Wanaka

Gold Coin donation



Tea and Coffee available!

A.G.M.

Topic: DNA

What to bring? Anything you have to share for the topic of each month.

This will be our Annual General Meeting which we will hold first. It generally does not take very long and then we can move on to the fun part – our topic is DNA

DNA

There is such a lot of information about DNA tests. Which one do you choose? Have you had a test done? What was your experience? Were you able to interpret the results? Bring anything along and we can share our experiences and information. If you are unable to attend but have something you are able to share please get in touch with me and I will present it for you.

WANAKA SHOW Report

We borrowed the gazebo from Martin Curtis once again this year and it all went up much more smoothly (once the wind had died down a bit on Thursday evening that is). We had a bigger site (5x5m) and this was much better as the gazebo was a better fit and there was more space for people to come inside. Our spot was R2 which was also better than last year - sunny in the morning, shady in the afternoon, a little bit sheltered from the wind.

We had displays of old photos of Wanaka from 1946 which proved to be very interesting for people to compare them with today. Not many buildings in those days. We hung 2 boards of photos on the side walls. We also had 2 free standing display boards on How to Join the UCHRS and the Genealogy group.

The display boards take up a fair bit of space and not everyone comes into the tent so miss the information on the other side of the board. A suggestion was made that in future we have the displays all around the sides of the tent hung from the side and back rails. We then have much more open space to invite people in to look at them and also to talk to people.

On a table at the front we displayed the books for sale, along with a poster of the WW1 book "Courageous and Free" which advertised pre-ordering (one name and address taken). Also

along the back wall we put up A3 sheets of all the soldiers and one photo each that will appear in the book.

We sold 1 copy of "Skirt tales" and 3 x History of the area. David Simmers has the total tally of books sold.

We had a number of interesting inquiries, some offers of information and photos that we may not have, 2 potential members of the UCHRS and 2 potential members of Genealogy group. I will pass on the enquiries to the relevant people. It certainly raises the profile of both groups.

The photo board of our "Family" again did a superb job in bringing people over to the stand. Children came and their parents followed.

Many thanks to all who helped, Ken Allan, Judy Thompson, Jo Wilton, Marie Latta, Sue Sweet, Alison Brown and especially Matt Primrose and David Simmers who gave so much of their time.

Committee

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SUMMARY OF DATES FOR YOUR DIARY MARCH TO MAY 2016

Date	Group	Place	Time	Topic
MARCH				
Thursday 31 March	Using Computers in Genealogy	Wanaka Library	5.30 pm	GEDCOMS
APRIL				
Monday 4 April	Record Keeping & Writing	Wanaka Library	2.00 pm	Record Keeping systems
Wednesday 13 April	Irish Group	86 Kings Drive	2pm	Working Group – Roots Ireland website
Thursday 14 April	Using Computers in Genealogy	Wanaka Library	5.30pm	
Wednesday 27 April	Irish Group	86 Kings Drive	2pm	Working Group Research
Thursday 28 April	Using Computers in Genealogy	Wanaka Library	5.30pm	
Friday 29 April	General Research	Wanaka Library	2pm	Bring the name of an ancestor to research
MAY				
Monday 2 May	Record Keeping & Writing	Wanaka Library	2pm	Write a small piece about your chosen family or person to share
Wednesday 4 May	Local History Explorers	Wanaka Library	11am	Project Ferryman's Cottage Albert Town
Friday 6 May	Social Meeting DNA & A.G.M.	Meeting Room Wanaka Hotel	2pm	All Welcome Bring a Friend
Friday 20 May	Scottish Group	105 Aubrey Road	2 pm	Talk: "Solving the Cook's Family Problem"
Friday 27 May	General Research	Wanaka Library	2pm	Bring the name of an ancestor to research

Friday 11 August

Family History Month Topic: T.B.A.