



# GORE BRANCH of the NZ SOCIETY of GENEALOGISTS

NEWSLETTER - February 2009

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<b>WEBMASTER</b>	Alan Taylor	2089 053
<b>WEB SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsggb">www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsggb</a>	
<b>NZSG WEB SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.genealogy.org.nz">www.genealogy.org.nz</a>	

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	Tuesday 3 March 2009; 7pm. Hokonui Heritage Centre, Norfolk Street, Gore
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**REMINDER:** Subs now due for the six months 1 Oct – 31 Mar 2009. A bargain at \$5!

*From Hanley Hoffmann, NZSG 18871:*

*I scored 60 copies of the Family Tree Maker Programme from the Australian distributors and am passing them on at cost + freight to whomever wishes to buy. This programme is far more user friendly than the 2008/09 updates and at this price, cheaper!*

*This is not profiting me; I am simply doing it for the benefit of NZSG members exclusively.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Hanley Hoffmann. refer across the page ->*

**Land Information NZ has announced that public counters in their Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin centres will close from 23 February 2009.**

**Limited counter services will remain available in the Hamilton and Christchurch processing centres for a small number of exceptions to electronic lodgement.**

**The closure of counters will result in some changes in how records are accessed.**

**See the website: <http://www.linz.govt.nz> and put "public counters" in the search box for more information.**

*Thanks to Ray Turner NZSG Emailing List*

*Spanish singer Julio Iglesias was on television with British TV host Anne Diamond when he used the word 'manyana'. Diamond asked him to explain what it meant. He said that the term means "maybe the job will be done to-morrow, maybe the next day, maybe the day after that. Perhaps next week, next month, next year. Who cares?" The host turned to Irishman Shay Brennan who was also on the show and asked him if there was an equivalent term in Irish. "No. In Ireland we don't have a word to describe that degree of urgency.", replied Brennan.*

(Mary Heaphy Co Tipp Rootsweb Mailing List)

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Hanley & Doreen HOFFMANN

14 Huia Street

WAIKANAE 5036

Phone: (04) 934 3276 or (04) 904 3276

Fax: (04) 905 3276

EMAIL: [hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz)

*This was in the latest Wellington Branch Newsletter*  
From: Peter Nash, Executive Officer, NZ Society of Genealogists.

For implementation of the provisions of the Births, Deaths, Marriages Act.

The President and I had a meeting with the registrar some weeks ago. The following points were made:

The BDMs are divided into 2 classes:  
(i) Historical data –

Births 100 years or more;

Stillbirths 50 years or more;

Marriages 80 years or more;

Deaths 50 years or more or 80 years of age calculated from birth date.

(ii) Non Historical data - the rest.

2) The on-line index to historical data will go live in late January. We were assured that there would be sufficient information on-line for a researcher to positively identify the certificate or entry they are seeking. No proof of identity will be required to purchase a certificate or entry of historical data. There will be ability to order and pay on line.

3) Non historical data: This is not on-line. Proof of identity will be required. This will take the form of a statutory declaration plus a signature from a JP, teacher, doctor, solicitor etc similar to the process for a passport but there are more options for the person who signs the declaration for you. There is no requirement to show a relationship to the person whose certificate or entry is requested.

4) When the system is bedded down the registrar will explore a system for identifying regular customers so that they do not have to get a statutory declaration every time. This has to be in agreement with the Public Services Commission and run as a pilot scheme. No decisions have been taken yet and the NZSG is highly likely to be involved in this process.

5) The Registrar will have an article in the Jan-Feb magazine explaining the new systems. I cannot go into much more detail but the Registrar is working to make the purchase of certificates and entries much better than at present. Most of the changes have been forced on him by politicians, in particular, the proof of identity, and he has to make a silk purse from a sow's ear.

If everything goes to plan I believe the proof of identity will not be a major problem as propounded by a number of people. BUT it will take time. The Registrar must move in a step by step manner.

*Thanks to John Wilson and Tony Cairns*

## **“Illegitimate” Births on NZ Birth Certificates or Copies of Birth Entries**

The deletion of the word "illegitimate" is required by section 86 of the current Act, the Births, Deaths, and Marriages Registration Act 1995, which says: "Entries relating to illegitimate children: All entries in any register made pursuant to section 25 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1924 or the corresponding provisions of any former Act shall continue to be deemed to be expunged and deleted." (this is essentially the same as section 40 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1951, though section 40 goes into more detail). Section 25 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1924 says:

(1) On registering the birth of an illegitimate child the Registrar shall enter the word "Illegitimate" in the sixth column of the form numbered (1) in the First Schedule hereto.

(2) The father of an illegitimate child shall not be required to give information under this Act concerning the birth of that child.

(3) Except as provided in section fifteen of the Destitute Persons Act, 1910, the Registrar shall not enter in the register the name of any person as father of any such child unless at the joint request of the mother and the person acknowledging himself to be the father; and that person shall in such case sign the register together with the mother.

So the word "Illegitimate" which was required by the 1924 Act (and possibly by the previous 1908 Act) was deemed to be expunged from 1951, although some Registrars may have provided certificates with the word in error.

When the current Act is again amended we should ask that this section 86 does not apply to "historic" records, so that an image/scan can be supplied. The father's name appeared in court records when the mother applied for maintenance (many of these are being indexed). And the father may appear in the Police Gazettes if he defaulted on payment or absconded.

NB re still-births; section 26 of the 1924 Act says that the birth shall be registered, but that it is not necessary to register the death.

*Thanks to John Wilson, NZSG Emailing List*