

## Convenors Report

GCG AGM - 15 June 2024

Our Annual General Meeting of the Genealogical Computing Group was held on Saturday, 15 July 2023 at the NZSG FRC Meeting Room at 1:30 pm.

Since then, the GCG has been busy conducting our open meetings and the Expo.

The following GCG public open meetings were held in 2023 and 2024.

- August No meeting, as this was the 2023 Auckland Family History Expo. Once again this was an excellent weekend. Our members did a very good job.
- September Lorraine Rice spoke on Maori Research at the FRC including looking at some associated websites.
- October Dorothy Walker spoke on "Simple Enhancing & repairing of old Photos".
- November We held a "Christmas Special" - free research all day at the FRC with a Christmas lunch provided. GCG paid for the use of the Library for each of our members. The committee was disappointed that the turnout was lower than we had hoped for.
- February '24 We had a Q&A session where members & visitors put forward questions. It turned into a productive meeting, the question-and-answer session turned into a few of us speaking on the filing systems we used for genealogy on our computers, which were varied – something to suit all. We also had a discussion and demonstration of using Gedcom file transfer on Legacy followed by an introduction to a new website for NZ, searching called 'NZ Ancestor Search Helper'. We ran a couple of test searches on it.
- March We conducted this meeting using Zoom and had another Q & A session.
- April This was a Zoom meeting where we connected with Luke Howison in Wellington. Luke demonstrated his NZ Ancestor Search Helper (ASH). He also introduced us to his version of a NZ Archives search which works much better than the official one.
- May Dorothy Walker gave us a walk through the UK Society of Genealogists (SOG) website with some examples. It was very enlightening.

I want to thank our committee, Chris Bayley, Bryn Smith, Dorothy Walker, Alan Cobcroft and Marilyn King for their hard work and dedication to keeping the GCG running. Also, Pam White for her assistance with Expo and Kevin Crowe for editing GENCOM, not forgetting the many people who have helped us along the way.

Once again, we are in the late stages of organising the 2024 Auckland Family History Expo to be held again in the Fickling Centre in the weekend of Friday 9th to Sunday 11th August.

This year is our tenth Expo and the GCG will have our own table to promote the group. We will also be hosting Luke Howison with ASH, and I will be displaying some 'old' computer technology. Ancestry will be giving away a special door prize.

W. John Soppet (NZSG 10681)  
Convenor