

Introduction

The Waipu group was started around 1984, with NZSG being advised of the group's existence in 1987. Today the group has about 25 members, most of whom are also members of NZSG.

Membership

Membership to the WIGG is currently \$5 per year, which gives the member access to the group's resources as well as free assistance and guidance from the group.

Meetings

The group meets once a month, February to November, on the fourth Monday of the month at the Caledonian Society rooms on St Mary's Road, Waipu. Meetings start at 11am, and usually run to 2 or 3pm, depending on the day's activities. A door charge of \$1 (\$2 when there is a guest speaker) is payable by all attending. The day's activities can range from a guest speaking on a topic of interest to a research day where use is made of the resources held by the Group and its members as well as borrowings from the NZSG library, to a field trip.

The group breaks for lunch around midday, with a shared lunch on the days a guest speaker is visiting (otherwise bring your own lunch). The library is available for research before and after the meeting, as well as during the lunch break.

The November meeting is traditionally the Christmas outing, where members visit somewhere for a tour and have lunch together. Past outings have been to places like the Kauri Museum in Matakohe, the Dargaville Museum and the Maritime Museum in Auckland.

New Year's Day 2007 saw a new (to us) activity, which may become a group tradition – the Waipu Highland Games (see www.highlandgames.co.nz/). The Group manned a tent for the two days of the Games, displaying materials and helping people take the next (or first) step in their personal family history research. Discussions are under way to decide if the Games will become a regular feature on our group's calendar. Most years the Games are held on one day, extending to two when the competitions require it.

Research

Some members have close ties to the original Nova Scotian settlers in the district, others have no Nova Scotian connections. Amongst the Group is a wide range of experiences and resources which members are keen to share with each other, especially new member. A catalogue of the library's holdings is available to members.



Anyone wanting to investigate their family ties with Waipu is encouraged to contact Waipu Museum (see www.waipumuseum.com/) to make use of its extensive genealogy database. NZSG members who are not members of the Waipu Group are welcome to make contact to arrange a time to access our library, which will be charged at \$5 per hour.

The Group has an unofficial web page which gives information about where and when the group meets, the calendar for the coming year, and members' interests with links provided for visitors to the page to contact the submitter via email.

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