



Memories to Memoirs

So your nearest and dearest are never forgotten

New Zealand's full-service family history publisher of coffee-table books

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Welcome to our December newsletter

Happy Christmas and New Year!

With your clan gathered and looking back over this year and forwards to the next, this is a great opportunity to start organising your family history.

- Since the August newsletter, the editor has been working with refugees to help them tell their stories in English. They're mostly Afghans, Kurds, Burmese, Sudanese, Chinese and Eastern Europeans. Christian, Muslim and Falun Gong. A living history of the world, all in one room! Couldn't be better.

- Next year, Memories to Memoirs will be running family history workshops through Selwyn College's adult education programme. If you're in Auckland's Eastern Bays area come along and see us strut our stuff.

- We'll also be taking the workshops into retirement villages.

- Many thanks to the Society of Genealogists for its support over the year. Memories to Memoirs contributed an article to its magazine on the value of the Society's first national fair. The Society has decided to run another fair in Hamilton in 2012 which promises to be even bigger and slicker.

- To those of you who have taken advantage of our free consultation, it was always a pleasure and privilege to share a window on

your family stories, all of which have a unique power. Keep at it, we look forward to working with you next year as required.

- Memories to Memoirs featured in Wellington papers in September. There was a very strong response to a comment that we would like to hire a genealogist in the Kapiti region. The editor will be conducting interviews after Christmas. If an appointment is made, we will have four Kapiti staff members.

- Here's a taste of the responses to our challenge in the last newsletter "what's the collective noun for a group of genealogists?": a clutch, a clump, a confusion, an exaltation, an enchantment, or a geniality of genealogists.

However, perhaps S. Hawirth captured something of the eagerness of the breed with a reference to a "venue" of vultures. Indeed, as one highly regarded genealogist puts it: "genealogy is the bones of family history and the story is the flesh."

- New challenge: who put the "s" in "lisp"? Replies via Contact Us on our website please.

Get organised NOW so your family can give itself the best possible gift – it won't get broken, it will last forever, and from a Christmas point of view it's probably cheaper than everyone buying presents for each other. Most of all, it's good for the spirit!

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Family histories are an enduring expression of love and identity. Books are our medium, heart and soul our skill.