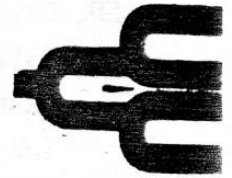


Kapiti Group Newsletter

NZ Society of Genealogists Inc



MEETINGS

PARAPARAUMU COMMUNITY CENTRE

7.30 pm

First Wednesday

MARCH 1993

February - December

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CHAIRMAN	BRIAN MOUNTJOY	297 0710
SECRETARY	BARBARA HUMPAGE	298 6970
TREASURER	JOHN ROSS	293 3771
MINUTE SEC	MICHELLE WAPP	298 8483
PROGRAMME SEC	JENY HAXTON	297 0391
LIBRARIAN	LORRAINE GUTHRIE	298 6874
PROJECTS	MARK SCHERF	298 2520
PROJECTS	CAROL PROCKTER	298 6826
HOSTESS	VALERIE FREEMAN	298 7396
FUND RAISING	CHERYL HODGES	293 3009
NEWSLETTER	GWENDA COLE	298 5466
MICROFICHE OFFICER	BRIAN MOUNTJOY	297 0710

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FEBRUARY.....A busy night opened our 1993 calendar. A good crowd attended on 3rd Feb, & popped questions at the panel chaired by Brian Mountjoy. Our thanks to Brian & his team for their assistance in answering our queries. The second part of the evening was a demonstration of filing aids & systems presented by Jan Bonnett, all guaranteed to be a big improvement on supermarket bags under the bed!

The bus trip on 26th to Lands & Deeds & National Archives was a huge success. 29 took advantage of the day planned by Jeny Haxton, including some members of the Kapiti Historical Society, & some of our own group members who were making their first ever visit to these repositories. Judging by the report that everyone had a little 'find' in one area or another the day was a resounding success.....

FOLLOWING ON FROM THAT.....the committee is planning another outing, this time to Wanganui. Sunday 18 April is the date to set aside for a visit to the Wanganui Museum & Archives. Committee is negotiating with bus companies, & we are open to suggestions for other venues to visit en route. We envisage a picnic in the park & anticipate as enjoyable a day as we have had on our other bus trips.

SO, Dates to note: Sat 20 March, open day & research at Cafe Boswell, Waikanae Motor Hotel, 9.30am registration, for 10 am start. (A selection of books on loan from NZSG Library will be available). Tea & coffee provided, \$5.00 for the day.
Sunday 21 March, Cornwall Special Interest Group meets at the above venue, 9am, tea & coffee provided. Gael Thompson, president of the NZSG will be present. A cordial welcome is extended to all with interest in Cornish research. Contact Jan Bonnett Ph 298 5834.
Wed 7 April, meeting night, Mr Robin Startup, Postal Historian.
Sun 18 April proposed bus trip to Wanganui museum & Archives.

MARCH IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH.....display in Paraparaumu Public Library. If you have something to contribute to this please see Valerie Freeman or Jeny Haxton. Let's make this a worthwhile display.

SCHOOL REUNION.....the Awahou School (incorporating the Awahou South, Awahou North & Komako Schools) of the Pohangina Valley near Ashurst, will be celebrating their combined centenary 1 - 3 April 1994 (Easter weekend). Contact for registration &/or information to contribute is Prue Smart, Secretary of the Centenary Committee, Awahou South, Utuwai R Ashurst. (from Kapiti Observer)

CONGRATULATIONS.....to Hutt Valley Group of NZSG..

HUTT VALLEY GROUP are celebrating 10 years of achievement, & have produced the 100th edition of their newsletter, 'News & Views' to mark this auspicious occasion. We as a group extend our sincere congratulations, & wish them continuing success in the next ten years.

WELLINGTON GROUP ADVISES.....change of venue, now Connolly House, Guilford Terrace (off Hill Street), Central Wellington. Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month, Feb - Nov at 7.30pm. Their new postal address is P O Box 2223, Wellington 6015. An invitation is extended to our members to attend their meetings. (Advise that you are from Kapiti).

A MOTHERS.....if you had a child (or children) born at Paraparaumu Maternity Hospital prior to or during the 1970's, your hospital records are available to you on application, (free of charge). Phone 04 298 6069 between 9am & 5pm. A 'different' sort of keep-sake.

X LIBRARY NEWS.....a valuable addition to the group library is the 'Roll of the Graduates of the University of Otago to May 1988'. This includes names, year of graduation, date of birth, degrees obtained, employment, & address. There is also an index of maiden names.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE CONTRIBUTED BY VALERIE FREEMAN.....

In its issue of September 7th, 1850, "The Illustrated London News" has the following account of the final farewell to the passengers by the first four ships:-

"On Monday we had the pleasure of being present at a dinner given to the labouring emigrants as a kind of farewell on leaving their native land. It was held in booths erected for the purpose in the fields adjoining Wate's Hotel, Gravesend, the hotel itself not being able to accommodate so large a party. About 600 persons sat down to an excellent dinner of good old English fare, while many friends of the emigrants were within the tents, and appeared to take great interest in the proceedings. Nor were parties outside at all inactive, a regular fair appearing to have sprung up on the spur of the moment, to meet the wishes and the wants of the multitude assembled in the vicinity of the refreshment booths. The emigrants sat down to dinner shortly after one o'clock, the Rev Thos Jackson, Bishop Designate of the new Colony, presiding in the absence of the Right Hon. Lord Lyttleton, who afterwards took the chair."

Mr and Mrs Chas Brown the parents of Martha Barrett Brown were of the emigrant class - the labouring class - Charles Brown being a sawyer. The monied class, those who were to be the purchasers of land and leaders of the new colony were termed 'Colonists'.

"The Illustrated London News" of Saturday, August 3rd, 1850, contains the following account of a dinner given on board the Randolph as a farewell to the colonists:-

"On Tuesday last a very interesting festival took place at Blackwall. The occasion was the approaching departure of a body of colonists, who are proceeding to found the Settlement of Canterbury, in New Zealand.

This first expedition is to consist of four ships of the first class, of great size, each of which will convey about 250 emigrants. These frigate-like vessels - the Randolph, Sir George Seymour, Cressy, and Charlotte Jane - are lying together in the East India Export Dock; and they were early on Tuesday variously prepared and decorated for the reception of the expected company. On the lower deck of the Randolph four tables were laid, occupying the whole length of the ship, and covered with a luncheon for 340 persons. Of the company, which assembled at two o'clock and occupied every seat a little after three, we were informed that about a 160,

reckoning ladies and children, consisted of actual colonists, whose passages were taken in the ship. The daily journals almost express surprise at the absence of 'emigrants', and seem to have been unconscious of the presence of so many 'colonists'. We may, therefore, state that passengers of the labouring class, usually termed emigrants, are to be regaled separately, just before their departure, on the old English fare of roast beef, plum pudding, and John Barleycorn, and that those to whom the 'fete' on Tuesday was given are exclusively cabin passengers - purchasers of land, and their families, who have helped to form the plan of the Colony and are going out as leaders to carry it into effect"

The DEPARTURE OF THE SHIPS and ARRIVAL AT LYTTLETON.

The Charlotte Jane, Capt Alexander Laurence, was the first vessel to take her departure, leaving Plymouth Sound on Saturday, September 7th, 1850. She carried 26 cabin passengers, 19 intermediate, and 80 in the steerage. The Randolph, Capt Wm Dale, left Plymouth a few hours after the Charlotte Jane, having on board 34 cabin, 15 intermediate, and 161 steerage passengers. The Sir George Seymour, Capt Goodson, weighed anchor at 11a.m. on Sunday, September 8th, with 41 cabin, 15 intermediate, and 164 steerage passengers. The Cressy, Capt J.D.Bell, left Plymouth at midnight of September 7th with 27 cabin, 23 intermediate, and 105 steerage passengers.

After a passage of 99 days the Charlotte Jane arrived at Lyttleton on Monday, December 16th, 1850. The Randolph entered the port at half past three in the afternoon of the same day, and the Sir George Seymour turned up at ten o'clock next morning. The Cressy did not arrive till December 27th.

The immigrants by the first three ships were met on arrival by the Governor, Sir George Grey, and Lady Grey, who had come down specially from Wellington to welcome the new colonists, and Mr J.R. Godley had also returned from a visit to Wellington in time to be present at the landing.

FROM THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NZ.....The Old Age Pensions Act of 1898, provides for small monthly pensions for the deserving aged & poor. The amount of the pension was small, £18 a year to applicants who could pass stringent tests, to prove that their income was less than £34 a year, & that their property not more than £80, that they were 65 years of age & over, & had been in New Zealand for 25 years'.

This is why the Social Security Dept. has files showing what ships folk came out on, as this was the way that they proved how long they had been in the country. (Contributed by Brian Mountjoy).

X **DID YOU KNOW?.....**that in the Turnbull Library there is a card index of shipping & passenger lists from the NZ MAIL, a weekly newspaper. Also an index to names from early NZ LISTENER, containing obituaries etc. Ask about these.