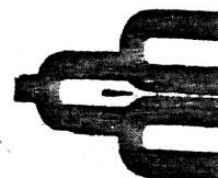


Kapiti Group Newsletter

NZ Society of Genealogists Inc

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MEETINGS	PARAPARAUMU COMMUNITY CENTRE	
	7.30 pm	First Wednesday
APRIL 1993		February - December
%%%%%%%%%		
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
%%%%%%%%%		

MARCH MEETING.....55 persons welcomed Mr Ian Tyler from the Family History Centre, Totara Park, when he addressed Kapiti Group on 3 March. He particularly explained the Locality Index for the Library, & the new features of the latest edition of the I G I. Many questions were asked & ably answered by Mr Tyler. We really appreciated Mr Tyler coming out to our group to explain these things which can be very bewildering, not only to beginners!

BEGINNERS & OPEN DAY.....despite there being fewer registrations this year, the day was a decided success, certainly everyone had a thoroughly good opportunity for research, with help aplenty. Morning tea was served whilst registration was in progress, followed by the opening address & instruction for beginners by Brian Mountjoy. Following the lunch break it was time for hands-on research, into the microfiche records. This year we had a selection of books from the NZSG Library, which was a valuable resource tool. Everyone seemed to have a 'find' of some sort, certainly enough to whet the appetite.

Cafe Boswell is a perfect venue for this annual event, & once again we are indebted to Cheryl & Jim Hodges of Waikanae Motor Hotel for their generosity in making their premises available to us, & to Gerry Cole for transporting our microfiche library to & fro for us in his van.

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CORNISH INTEREST GROUP OPEN DAY.....this was held on Sunday 21 March at the Waikanae Hotel.. Invitations were extended to those in the Group who live in the lower half of the North Island. Gael Thompson, Convenor of the Group & Chairperson of the NZ Society & her husband Neville, also Virginia Graham all-travelled South for the occasion. 21 members attended & the day was spent listening to Virginia & Gael, & pouring over the newly-acquired 1891 census of Cornwall, marriages all Cornwall 1812 - 1836 & the wealth of books which have been brought back from Cornwall by Virginia Graham. It was a very busy day & it was great to be able to put faces to names. Cheryl Hodges was heard to say 'Wow, my Great Grandfather was still alive in 1881' Our sincere thanks to Cheryl & her husband Jim for the wonderful hospitality shown by them both & for the use of their wonderful venue. Contributed by Jan Bonnett.

WANGANUI DAY TRIP.....be at Rimu Road, outside Kapiti Public Library at 8.45 am on Sunday 18 April with your lunch, camera, notebook, change of shoes, & warm jacket. Coach departs 9am sharp, for a visit to Wanganui. Waikanae people - your pickup point is the Waikanae Hotel at 9.10am. Our day will include a visit to the Wanganui Museum, where the archivist will speak to us & explain their resources for research. There will be time for a picnic lunch in the park & visit to the Pioneer Cemetery. Our organiser is being mysterious about other arrangements for the day, so you will just have to come along & find out for yourselves how a coachload of Kapiti Genealogists get their thrills. The price of \$18.00 for the day includes entry fee to the museum.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR MAY.....is Professor Rollo Arnold, author of 'The Farthest Promised Land', who will speak to us about immigration.

18 April... bus trip to Wanganui

5 May... Professor Rollo Arnold

BE SURE TO CAST YOUR VOTE.....all who are members of the NZSG should have received their copy of Mar/Apr 1993 magazine. Included with it is the Notice of Annual General Meeting, Sat. 15 May 1993 and Annual Reports for y/e 31 Dec 1992. Also the postal ballot papers for the 1993 Election of Officers for the NZSG. **BE SURE TO VOTE.** Please follow instructions carefully for your vote to be valid, and mail in freepost envelope provided.

REMINDER.....AGM & Annual Conference, 14,15,16 May at Massey Palm. Nth.

Statistics.....OF KAPITI'S 128 MEMBERS, ONLY 87 ARE FINANCIAL. ARE YOU ONE OF THESE? Membership fees are well overdue for this year.

THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT - THE NORSE HERITAGE.....By the 12th century, the Dales were inhabited by a mixed race, predominately Norse. The nature of the terraine encouraged small, self-contained communities, loosely linked. A great number of place names contain a Norse surname/Danish characteristic, eg.-by & -thorpe (a hamlet) Many placenames in Norway today are similar to Lake District names such as Braithwaite/Braethviet; Rusland/Rüsland; Birkbridge/Birk (birch trees). There are also still signs of the Norse language in names like: Fell, Scar, Scree, Gill, Tarn, Beck. These Norse words at once name the landscape & bring it to the eye, making sure that the lake scene will not only look different to any other in England, but will sound different too. There are others which have the same expressiveness, Pike, Gable, Knot, Mire, Force (a waterfall), Nab, (land projection) & Hawes or Howse from the old Norse Hals, meaning neck or pass. Many Norse words are also common suffixes in place or surnames, -thwaite (a clearing), -ness, -land, -mere, -kelo (a spring), -biggin (a building) -wath (a ford) & water. Unfortunately the true Dale dialects, which are full of Norse words are dying out.

Taken from 'THE LAKES' by Norman Nicholson.

From St Matthews Register - Ipswich.....*Sarah Starkey midwife aged 66 years was buried 6 July 1750. *Who by the office of a midwife brought into the world 1776 children as appears by her books.. and... from the Parish registers of Northfield 1560 - 1757 we noted: William Thickbroom, Obedience Blunn, Joseph Knowless, Providence Aston, Sarah Careless, Eliz. Halfpenny, Shusanna Gincks, & Sarah Daffy. ...register of banns 1759 James Sylvester & Sarah Edwards both of Rednal, yield, Mar 4, 11, but forbid 16 Mar 1759 by Sarah Edwards the elder, widow & mother of the said Sarah Edwards the younger.

THE THISTLE.....This is another reminder of Scotland. It's role as a Scottish emblem relates to an incident in an early battle against Scandinavian invaders. The Scots, it is said, were alerted to a raiding party advancing under cover of darkness after one of the barefooted raiders yelled in pain after stepping on a thistle!

SIGNED WITH AN 'X'..... many of us find our ancestors did not write their names on documents, but signed with an 'X'. Today we still receive letters from loved ones with 'Xs' at the bottom to tell of their love for us. How did X come to be so significant? Here is one possibility. During the Middle Ages, when few persons could write, many documents were signed with an 'X'.. Signers kissed the letter to affirm their sincerity in the same way that they kissed the Bible when taking an oath. The letter X was not selected at random. It was the sign of St Andrew and implied a sacred promise to fulfill one's obligation on the saint's name.

(the above two items from 'The Scots Link' No.23 Nov. 1992)

AT LEAST TWO MAJOR NEWSPAPERS interstate provide a free service for people seeking details on family history. They could be useful if you are seeking information interstate.

The Sydney Morning Herald each Tuesday publishes "RSVP - Requests from our readers". The section focuses chiefly on re-unions but genealogy requests are also published. To access this service write to the Editor, Sydney Morning Herald, GPO Box 3771, Sydney 2001 or FAX 02-282 1640. It is suggested that you keep your requests brief.

The West Australian publishes "Can you help" each Monday. It is a weekly service for people seeking information about their families, re-unions or other items of interest. Many of the requests are genealogical. Write to the Editor, Private Bag 54, GPO, Perth 6001. Again you are advised to keep your requests brief.

A similar service in South Australia would be a great asset to family history researchers.

POST IT NOTES - The yellow "Post It" note has become indispensable equipment on the desk. However the adhesive, after a month or so, hardens and leaves a film that becomes acidic and could cause staining and permanent damage. They should not be used on material that you wish to preserve.

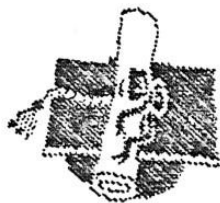
Today's Grandma presents a different image to the memories of our own grandmothers. In time to come I presume this is how Grandmas will be remembered. I cannot acknowledge the source, as I do not know it, but feel this little item should be shared..... Gwenda

The old rocking chair is empty today
For Grandma no longer is in it.
She's off in her car to visit or shop
And buzzes around every minute.



No one can shove Grandma back on the shelf:
She is versatile, forceful, dynamic.
"That's not a pie in the oven, my dear,
Her baking today is 'ceramic'."

You won't see her trundle off early to bed
From her place in a warm chimney nook -
Her typewriter clickety-clacks through the night,
For Grandma is writing a book.



Grandma never takes a hesitant step
To slow her steady advancing.
She won't tend babies for you anymore,
For Grandma is taking up dancing.

She's not content with the crumbs of old thoughts,
With meagre and secondhand knowledge.
Don't bring your mending for Grandma to do,
For Grandma has gone back to college!