

Kapiti Branch Newsletter

NZ Society of Genealogists Inc

OCTOBER 1993

MEETINGS

PARAPARAUMU COMMUNITY CENTRE

7.30pm

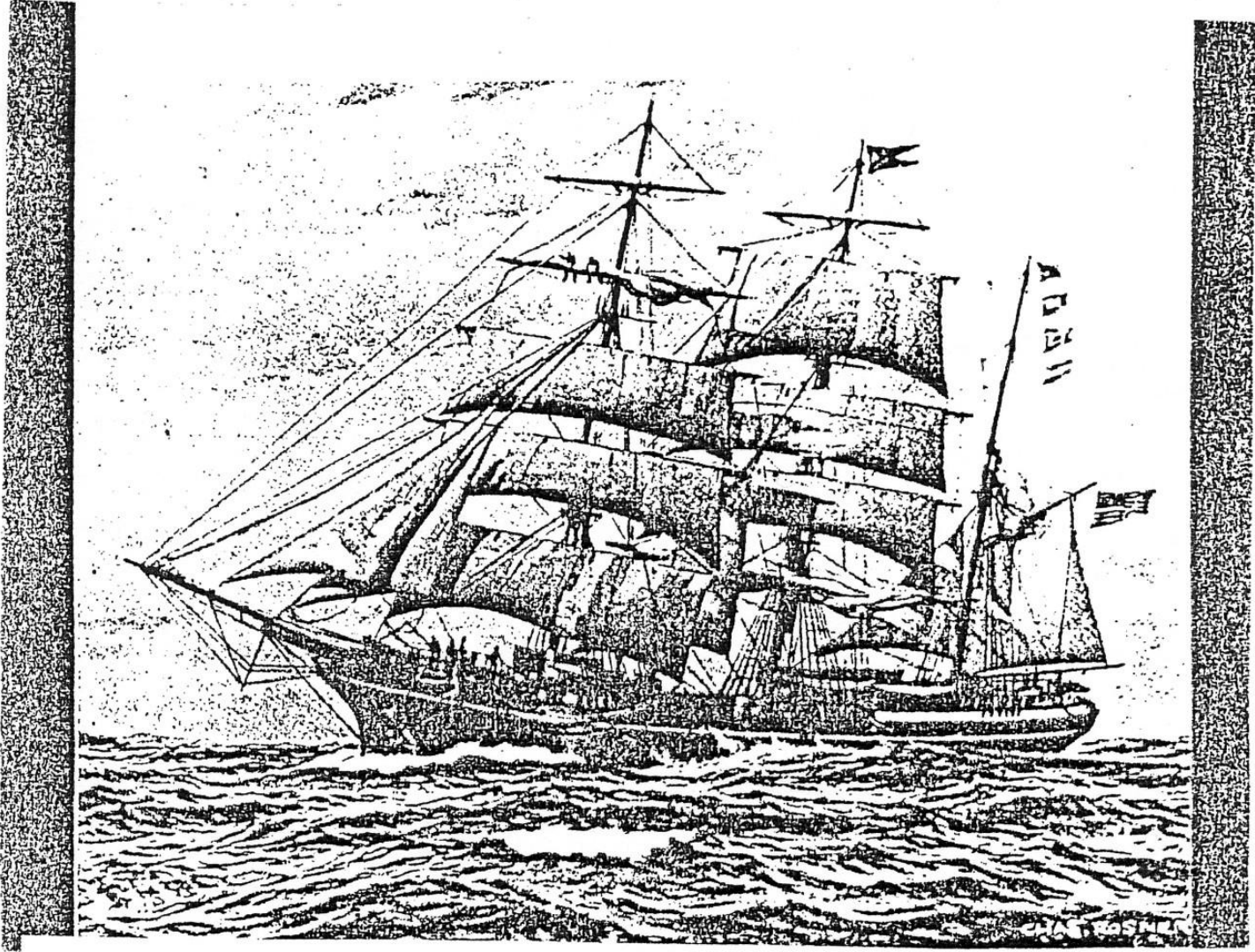
First Wednesday

February - December

Library open from 6.45pm on meeting nights.

Books to be returned at following meeting.

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'EUTERPE' 130 YEARS ON

Following tonight's Annual General Meeting we will be sharing in the experiences of Jan and Alex Bonnett who recently travelled to San Diego and sailed on the restored & refitted sailing ship 'EUTERPE'.

AUGUST MEETING.....Mrs Lorraine McArthur was our guest speaker on this occasion. Lorraine had addressed us in the early days of our branch & this she claims is to be her final talk on the subject. She reminded us of a very early edict which claimed that 'if an adopted person should seek out his birth parents you should put out his eyes'! That was 6000 years ago. De facto adoption went on for hundreds of years, not legal adoption. In 1881 in New Zealand a legal system of adoption took effect. Adoption is a transfer of legal rights of a child, rights until the child reached the age of 21. Children could be adopted up to the age of 12, but only the husband could adopt, a woman could not adopt on her own. Original surname included in new adoption birth certificate until 1888. 1908 new act passed when child's surname could be changed. By 1924 people were adopting babies rather than older children & the whole name could be changed, as today. By studying birth certificates it is quite simple to work out if a child has been adopted. Where information not given the words 'not registered' were entered, right up until 1960. 1955 Act brought in a regulation which said adoptive parents can state it on birth certificate, but were usually talked out of it by judge. Since 1951 Registrar General seals away original birth certificates. In 1938 the Registrar General was ordered to round up all court records relating to adoptions. It is possible to write to the Registrar of the court asking for a copy of the relevant adoption papers. Records held in magistrates court, then family courts, which are not open to public, and proof of descent of adoptee must be produced. The Act of 1984 allows people access to their original birth certificates, but subject to vetoes being put in place. We were very grateful to Lorraine for giving us her time & the benefits of her experience in matters of adoption procedures & the laws relating to adoption.

SOME NEW MATERIAL AT PORIRUA LIBRARY.....Mary McLeod who works as a voluntary helper at Porirua Library Genealogical Section has supplied the following list of new items:-

- Military Board Appeals, Otago Witness Dec 1916 - Feb 1917. Ref. QZ929.3 KEL.
- Births Deaths Marriages & In Memoriams from Otago Witness 1915. Ref QZ929.3 BIR
- Register of Completed Projects 1991 - New Zealand Society of Genealogists Ref QZ929.3 REG.
- Somes Island-copied from Obelisk that replaces old gravestones on Somes Island Ref QZ929.5 OBE
- New Zealanders who never flew home. 1940 - 1947 Lists of names Z940.5467
- New Zealand Servicewomen WWI Vol 3 'After the War' Ref Q929.3
- Casualties, write-ups from Otago Witness 1915 - 1916 Ref QZ929.3 CAS (not war casualties) Mary's comments: many names are mentioned in these books & worth a look. Thanks Mary for this item.

(3)

THE UNDERSIGNED WOMEN.....This display at National Archives, Mulgrave St Thorndon opened in July 1993 and runs until January 1994. Don't miss this display. Printed indexes of the 1893 petition are there, and it is possible to get a printout of your particular ancestor. The display is very interesting. Be sure to see this.

NETWORK NEWSLETTER.....from the August 1993 liason officer, some items to bring to your attention. 1994 Conference and A G M to be held at Waikato University in May. 'Something of Interest' is the title and we are assured there will indeed be Something of Interest for everyone.

LIBRARY NEWS ERROR.....Please note an error in the 'New Zealand Genealogist' magazine Library News section re the AGCI (Australian Genealogical Computer Index). These microfiche are held in the OVERSEAS section, NOT the NZ section as stated in the library news.

PRE- 1900 NEW ZEALAND FAMILIES.....we are advised to curtail any enquiries until further notice. Access to the information is restricted while these documents are being indexed. Advice will be given when enquiries can begin again.

FOUNDERS SOCIETY.....Ancestors Arriving before 1865? If so, you are invited to join the New Zealand Founders Society. The Wellington Branch is now seeking members, and offers access to it's records which the society is actively extending all the time. For an application form phone Chairman Neil Hollebone 04 472 9373, or write to the Secretary P O Box 10 290, Wellington. (from Hutt News & Views, Sept 1993).

NOVEMBER MEETING.....3 November, our guest speaker will be Mr Francis King, Director of the British Council and Cultural Attache of the British High Commission. His topic 'From the Weald to Wellington', his study of six pauper families who were assisted to emigrate to New Zealand by the parish of Staplehurst in Kent, arriving on the ship 'Bolton' to Wellington in April 1840. The names of the Staplehurst families are AVERY, FARMER, HUNT, NASH, PECKHAM, & RELPH. There could be some descendants among us, so be sure to be present on 3 November. This address will be something very different and not to be missed.

BORROWED AT LIBRARY WORKSHOP MEETING IN JUNE - MAP OF BRISTOL. WOULD THE BORROWER PLEASE RETURN IT TO BARBARA HUMPAGE, THANKS.

FOR ASSES TO PONDER OVER.....THE ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS LITTLE PUZZLE

THE LADIES ARE AT IT AGAIN.....is the title of one of the latest additions to our Branch library. Gore debates the Women's Franchise, by Rosemarie Smith. A good look at prevailing conditions in Gore at the time of the 1893 petition. Illustrated & includes the full list of signatories to the 1892 & 1893 Women's Franchise Petitions for Gore.

OTHER LIBRARY ADDITIONS.....

- 1993 Suffrage Centennial, Local History Project, Research Guide; Rosemarie Smith & Phillida Bunkle.
- Dunedin Genealogy Directory; Genealogy Indexes in New Zealand; Genealogy Addresses for New Zealand, three booklets compiled by A Philp, Dunedin Essex Countryside, six magazines (c.1970). Lovely anecdotes & pictures.
- New Hampshire Village Book; published by Hampshire Federation of Women's Institutes 1990
- A Book of Wales, a National Anthology; published by Allens of London & Glasgow.
- Scotland's Western Seaboard, Oban, Iona etc, by Douglas Bolton, Indexed The New World Gazetteer, 1961
- The Wellington Technical College Old Students Assn. Diamond Jubilee Programme, 1886 - 1946
- The UBD Street Directory of Brisbane, 28th Edition, Incl. Gold Coast & Sunshine Coast, Ipswich etc.
- Telephone Directories of Wanganui & Districts 1988; Timaru & Oamaru & Districts, 1988, Gisborne 1990 (these will be held in the strongroom in our collection of Electoral Rolls, & Directories
- The Winthrop Woman. Historical Novel by Anya Seton, story of families who left Suffolk to settle the colony of Massachusetts of New England (also Dutch settlers of New Netherland) & in particular the Winthrop family 1617 - 1655. Some names mentioned are: WINTHROP; GOSTLIN; KIEFT; BROWN; DOWNING; STUYVESANT; FORTH; FEAKE; VAN DYKE; DUDLEY; HALLET; DE LA MONTAGNE; JONES; VANE; VANTIEN-HOVEN; READE; PATRICK; HOWES; UNDERHILL; HARRINGTON; BAXTER.

MICROFICHE.....the following have arrived: NZ Electoral Rolls 1870/71; 1880/1881; 1893 (this year includes women's names); Wises Directory 1925 Available for borrowing to financial members.

STATISTICS.....34 members & 2 visitors attended the September meeting. Welcome to the following new members of Kapiti Branch: Judy Jacques; Debbie Benton; Sharon Fredriksson; Neil Griffin; Bill O'Donnell; Valerie Sowden.

GARAGE SALE.....Valerie & Barbara are accepting donations of goods for our garage sale to be held on 20 Nov. They report they have already taken delivery of some goods, & are ready to receive lots more!!

LONDON RECORDS.....Calling everyone who has research connections in the greater London area. We are holding open days at Waikanae Hotel the weekend of 30 & 31 October MARK THESE DATES NOW. The resources of the Greater London Interest Group will be available. Microfiche readers will be there, maps, books, census indexes etc. Tea & coffee provided, bring own lunch or dine at Boswell's Restaurant in the Waikanae Hotel. \$5.00 registration. Phone Barbara 298 6970. There will not be time for further reminders. These records are to be couriered to us from Auckland, we want you all to take advantage of this opportunity.

GREEK ANCESTRY.....People of Greek Ancestry may be interested too learn of the Greeek Association of Family History & Tradition, P O Box 211027 Salt Lake City, Utah, United States. A non-profit organisation established to locate, preserve & microfilm Greek records for Family History Research. Write for full details enclosing 3 X IRP coupons. (Janet Reakes per Australian Womans Weekly)

ALSO FROM JANET.....If entry in batch cloumn commences with P C or D it means these records have been microfilmed & you can hire a copy of the Parish Registers (on film). If entry in batch column commences with 7 or 8 it means someone is tracing your tree.

ARE YOU 'FIT' TO BE A GENEALOGIST?

Genealogists keep in trim by:

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| CLIMBING | - FAMILY TREES | REACHNG | - FOR INFORMATION |
| EXTENDING | - INVITATIONS | DIGGING | - IN LIBRARIES |
| CARRYING | - ON REGARDLESS | PURSUIING | - IMPOSSIBLE LEADS |
| SHOOTING | - QUESTIONS | HUNTING | - HEADSTONES |
| DIVING | - IN RELIES PHOTO ALBUMS | JUMPING | - TO CONCLUSIONS |
| SWIMMING | - THROUGH A SEA OF PAPER. | RUNNING | - WORKSHOPS |
| FLEXING | - THE GENEALOGICAL MUSCLE | PUNCHING | - DATA |
| HOPPING | - FROM ARCHIVE TO ARCHIVE | SKIPPING | - HOUSEHOLD CHORES |

CHANGES AT NATIONAL LIBRARY.....many will be aware of the relocation of certain genealogical records from the Turnbull Library downstairs to the left corner of the National Library, just through the detectors. This is to become a 'self help' genealogical research area. It contains the IGI fiche, the Turnbull Biographical Index & scrapbooks, St Catherine's House Index. At present the shipping, directories & Turnbull letters are still upstairs.

Notable in the downstairs section are the arrival of the following: the indexed 1881 census of :Cornwall, Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, Flintshire, Radnorshire & Denbighshire, with hopefully more counties to come (watch out for these). Also England & Wales Royal Navy which consists of entries for people enumerated on Navy ships at sea at the time of the census.

Indexes to the 1841 (note 1841) census of Berkshire, Bedfordshire, Middlesex & Cambridgeshire.

AUSTRALIAN material includes the following microfiche indexes:

NORTHERN TERRITORIES: Reg of B D M 1870 - 1902

QUEENSLAND R G O: B:1829 - 1904; Marr. 1839 - 1914; D. 1829 - 1914

VICTORIA: B. 1889 - 1895; B. 1896 - 1913; M. 1889 - 1913, 1914 - 1930

D. 1889 - 1913 - 1930, 1931 - 1940, 1941 - 1960.

Victorian Pioneers Index: c.1837 - 1888, B D & M

Cyclopaedia of Victoria; Port Phillip Directories 1839 - 1867

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: R G O. B. 1841 - 1905, M. 1841 - 1930, D. 1841 - 1953

Western Australia Biographical Index.

NEW SOUTH WALES: Baptisms pre 1856, B. 1856 - 1899; Burials pre 1856,

D. 1856 - 1899; M. pre 1856, M. 1856 - 1899; Supreme Court of N S W

Probate Index.

TASMANIA: Reg. Gen. Dept. Pre 1900 B D & M records.

Tasmanian Cemetery Records. T A M I O T (Tombstone and memorial inscriptions of Tasmania), records 95,000 names on 26 fiche. Aprox. 75% of the cemeteries & burial places in Tasmania except Carr Villa in Launceston. It has two lists over these 1. Indexed by towns; 2. Indexed by municipalities or cities.

Cornelian Bay, 22,000 names on 7 fiche covering 25% of the Cornelian Bay cemetery in Hobart. These records are not just a list of tombstones, but are a useful tool for anybody doing research. Cross references are made to people with different surnames which appear to be related, ie: parents of wife or buried in same plot. This index contains most of the genealogical information found, such as date of death, age, family relationship, military service, place of birth etc.

So, if you have Tasmanian connections, go for it!

From Wellington Branch Newsletter, Sept.1993

FAMILY TREE TELETEXT

Do you want to advertise your family interest in England?

Write to: **Family Tree Teletext**

P O Box 297 LONDON, SW6 1XT, ENGLAND.

Entries must be sent on a postcard, and limited to 45 words, inclusive of your address for a response. If you are fortunate to have your entry on the screen, it will run for a week. There is no charge for the service.

(RICCARTON BRANCH Newsletter July)

SPECIAL ELECTORAL ROLLS

- If you can't find Auntie Enid on the electoral roll, she may be a spy! The existence of a secret unpublished electoral roll of people who want to keep their address secret was revealed last month. It is used when they or their family would be in danger if their address was published eg women at risk from violent ex-partners, lawyers, undercover police and spies. Applications were assessed individually, and applicants need a police declaration or a court non-molestation or non-violence order to prove their lives are in danger.

About 350 of the 700 who applied since it was started about 1956 have been put on the secret roll according to Electoral Enrolment Centre manager Murray Wicks. Only the registrar of electors in each area has access to the roll. It is not published or distributed to polling booths, and people on it make special votes.

(Evening Post May 25 Dominion May 26 1993 via John Wilson)

