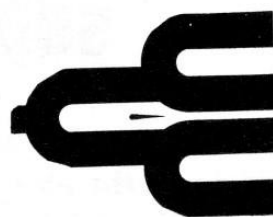


KAPITI BRANCH

New Zealand Society of Genealogists

P O Box 232 Paraparaumu

Newsletter ^{NOVEMBER} December 1995



OCTOBER MEETING: At our last meeting Carol Prockter told us how it is really possible to read 40 films in one day! Recently returned from her **HOOKED ON GENEALOGY** tour to Salt Lake City and England and Ireland, Carol recounted the highlights of seventeen days in that wonderland of genealogical records. The New Zealand party were waiting for the doors to open first thing each morning, and last to leave at closing time. She left us gasping at her descriptions of floors and floors of records and books, just waiting to be explored, not to mention the vastness of the computer facilities. Armed with her laptop computer, camera and pocket dictaphone, Carol made the most of every moment there. England, Ireland and Isle of Wight all yielded more rewards, as well as meeting up with people she had been corresponding with, and time for sightseeing. Carol's advice: "If you've been thinking about going, then GO!" I don't think Salt Lake City has seen the last of Carol Prockter.

THE NEW COMMITTEE: Our new Convenor is Deborah Shuker. Deborah has been with Kapiti Branch since it's inception, and has held the position of secretary, in the early years of the branch, and more recently, minute secretary. We welcome two new members to the committee, Rosalyn Smail and Bill Carter. Rosalyn has recently returned from an overseas trip which included some time for the all important genealogy research, which she will share with us in the new year. Her committee role will be as hostess on meeting nights and publicity person for our group. Bill is known to many of you as he and his wife Kay are joint convenors of the local Computers in Genealogy sub-group. Eight of the previous committee have been re-elected, some in their previous roles, and others 'wearing new hats'.

Although not on the committee this year, Brian Mountjoy still holds our branch microfiche records for borrowing. Remember you can also borrow a microfiche reader if you don't own one.

Carol Prockter and Mark Scherf will be continuing with the Whenua Tapu Cemetery transcription project.

No new projects will be undertaken by Kapiti Branch this year.



SUBS ARE NOW DUE !

\$15 single
\$25 family

NEWSLETTER: The committee members did a good job in providing monthly newsletters, in the absence of a newsletter editor during the past year.

However, this year the ball is back in Gwenda's court, and she will be glad of items for inclusion. Lorna McIntosh has provided us with articles of interest from her overseas research trips, and we will be featuring them this year. The first appears in this edition.

Also items for the noticeboard are welcomed.

A complete copy of the new charges at the Registrar General's office is on the board tonight.

RAFFLE: Please support our raffle tonight, for four copies of the popular English magazine, 'FAMILY TREE'. ONLY 50CENTS A TICKET.

BUY, SELL OR SWAP: List it in our newsletter!

FOR SALE, Vol 2 CYCLOPAEDIA OF AUCKLAND, 1902, only \$80.00.

Contact Mae Blackburn,
phone 298 27 95.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED ! The editorial in the Sept/Oct issue of The New Zealand Genealogist contains a further warning to members concerning the **FAMILY HERITAGE** publications, of a "World Book" of a particular surname. The editorial says: "Please remember that it is not a full authenticated history of your particular family, but a collection of people with the same surname. Please be aware of this if you decide to buy a copy". (reproduced from Riccarton Branch newsletter, November 1995).

COMPUTER GROUP: At the next meeting of the Kapiti Computer in Genealogy sub-group, there will be an opportunity for you to have a photo scanned to disc. If you have an old damaged photo, bring it along, and see how it can be restored. Remember to bring a blank disc too, Monday 11th December, Masonic rooms, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu, 7.30pm.

GENEALOGY GOING SOUTH: IT'S ALL ON ! The train's booked and timetable prepared. See noticeboard tonight for details. Refer also to your May/June edition of The New Zealand Genealogist.

CONFERENCE BOOKING FORMS WILL BE IN NEXT EDITION OF THE NEW ZEALAND GENEALOGIST

KAPITI BRANCH

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

MEETING VENUE

LODGE TAWERA-O-KAPITI

TARARUA STREET, PARAPARAUMU

MEETINGS START 7.30PM, LIBRARY OPEN FROM 7.00PM

MEETING NIGHTS FOR 1996

24 JANUARY

28 FEBRUARY

27 MARCH

24 APRIL

22 MAY

26 JUNE

24 JULY

28 AUGUST

25 SEPTEMBER

23 OCTOBER

27 NOVEMBER

**PLEASE NOTE THE MEETING NIGHT IS ALWAYS THE FOURTH
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (WHICH IS NOT NECESSARILY THE LAST
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH)**

KAPITI BRANCH NZSG COMMITTEE FOR 1995/1996

CONVENOR	DEBORAH SHUKER	297 2238
SECRETARY	VALERIE FREEMAN	298 7396
TREASURER	VAL QUINLAN	293 3599
MINUTE SEC	HELEN QUINLAN	293 3599
MEMBERSHIP	JENNIFER SMALL	293 2577
EDITOR	GWENDA COLE	298 5466
LIBRARIAN	BRENDAN WILSON	297 0712
ASST.LIBRARIAN	BILL CARTER <i>Key</i>	298 8576
PROGRAMME	JENY HAXTON	297 0391
HOSTESS	ROSALYN SMAILL	298 7395
SALES TABLE	BARBARA HUMPAGE	298 6970

XX
 BRIAN MOUNTJOY IS OUR MICROFICHE OFFICER.

MEMBERS WISHING TO BORROW MICROFICHE RECORDS, PLEASE PHONE BRIAN 297 0710.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU PHONE FIRST TO MAKE A MUTUALLY SUITABLE TIME FOR THE COLLECTING AND RETURNING OF MICROFICHE RECORDS.

XX
 LIBRARY BOOKS MAY BE BORROWED BY FINANCIAL MEMBERS, ON MEETING NIGHTS, TO BE RETURNED AT THE FOLLOWING MEETING.

XX
 SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1995/1996 YEAR:
 \$15.00 SINGLE, \$25.00 DOUBLE, \$2.00 CASUAL VISITORS. (INCLUDES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER)

Lorna McIntosh has made two trips to UK in recent years, to research her forbears. She has written a series of articles for us, so we may share these journeys with her. This is the first of such articles.

Occasional trip notes: Why?

When I rang my parents full of excitement with my decision to go to the UK and see where everyone came from my mother's rather deflating comment was "Whatever for & what about your job?" Dad's was slightly more encouraging but both were extremely puzzled by the whole thing. Even amongst genealogists there can be a certain amount of puzzlement as so many of the records are available here - eventually. In reality I admit I could probably have seen most of the actual records I've read on my two recent trips to the UK here at home, but that wouldn't have been half as much fun and would have taken years to get through the process of film ordering & finding the time in between work & daily living to read & digest them. There really isn't anything to compare with just turning round & asking for the next film or set of records & being handed them within minutes. When they are original records from the Scottish Record Office & you actually get to handle (very carefully supervised) documents signed by famous people you've only read about in history books it gets even more special. The best bits I found were diving into records, unravelling a new fact, place or set of people & then being able to use up the long daylight hours to go & find the place where it all happened. A day at the General Register Office frantically looking up names & dates on the computers & rushing to/from the drawers & drawers of fiche copies of all the births, deaths & marriages is just so exhausting but rewarding. It's also hilarious if you take time out to watch the others doing the same. Everyone has a harried look on their faces as they rush hither & you making the most of their daily search fee (16pounds).

The Scottish Record Office was extremely daunting on a first visit. I'm only 4ft 6in from the top of my head to the bottom of my wheels & the index volumes go for what seems like miles up in the air. And then there's the barrier of the double doors into the reading room that I needed both open to get through but they kept locking the second one without realising I was inside. The people are very friendly & helpful & you do get to know them by the time you've spent a few days there.

When I rang the bell outside to be let in this year (never fear, this only applies to wheelchair visitors, everyone else can just go up the stairs) on my first visit back, a familiar face looked out & said "I thought you'd be back again". I wasted my first day there last year just trying to understand the system & work out how to find anything but did come away with one of the items I had on my list, a census taken in 1814 of the Kincardine Moss that told me how many cats my McEWAN forbears had, among more pertinent things such as how long they'd been in the area & where they came from, who the previous tenant was etc. The 1820 Lecropt census I found a reference to in a 1923 Stirling paper however seems to be lost forever in the miles & miles of shelving, unindexed & therefore unfindable, & it is my only hope of ever tracing my Archibald HENDERSON back.

I made Edinburgh a slightly more expensive trip than it needed to be by parking somewhere I shouldn't have oughta. Coming out of a concert at the Festival I couldn't find my car. 104 pounds later & in a completely different area of town than one I knew, I set off slightly later than anticipated for my bed that night. Ouch. I do not like the Lothian police & their towaway vehicles. Despite this, I did fall completely in love with Edinburgh. It's a much more manageable city than London and I hope to get back there in 1997.

