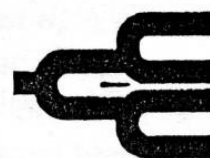


# KAPITI BRANCH



New Zealand Society of Genealogists  
PO BOX 232 PARAPARAUMU

Meetings held at Lodge Rooms, Tararua St. Paraparaumu  
Fourth Wednesday of months January - November 7.30pm  
Library open 7.00pm

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 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	298 8576
PROGRAMME	JENY HAXTON	297 0391
PUBLICITY	ROSALYN SMAILL	298 7395
SALES TABLE	BARBARA HUMPAGE	298 6970

**BRIAN MOUNTJOY IS OUR MICROFICHE OFFICER**

Financial members wishing to borrow microfiche records  
please phone Brian, 297 0710, to make arrangements.

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TONIGHT we welcome Mr John Mudgway of Masterton, who last year organised a highly successful MUDGWAY family reunion. John will take us behind the scenes, and tell us just what is involved in the preparation and organisation of such an event.

27 MARCH, our guest will be Mrs Daphne Meyer of the OTAKI HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

24 APRIL, Mr John McGibbon will speak on his experience 'Researching in Scotland'.

22 MAY Mr John Sullivan of the Alexander Turnbull Library will tell us about 'Dating & the Care of Old Photographs'.

26 JUNE Mr Ian Tyler of the Upper Hutt Family History Library will talk to us about the use of 'Census Records'.

24 JULY will be a workshop night.

OPEN DAYS are tentatively planned for a weekend in MAY.

Last month's meeting got away to a 'shaky' start, however Jan Bonnett gave us all a good introduction to getting started in our research, of particular interest to new members, but thought provoking for all of us with some timely reminders and warnings about confirming our findings before accepting them as fact. Jan injects such enthusiasm and it is always a pleasure to listen to this intrepid researcher, she is an inspiration to us all.

**NEW MEMBERS.** We welcome the following to our Branch: Jean Goodier, Gay Graham, Brenda Harden, Ray Duffell, and Edward (Ted) Hassell.

**WHENUA TAPU.** The Branch Cemetery Transcription Project is ready for some hands-on checking to be done, and volunteers will be needed for the checking of printouts against the headstones. Names will be taken tonight.

**DONATIONS TO KAPITI BRANCH.** A microfiche reader has been donated by Mr Russell Bowyer, it will be held by Bill Carter for anyone needing to borrow it. Mr Bowyer has also given us a set of 1982 Electoral Rolls which will be available for research from Rosalyn Smail. Two books, Wellington's Northern Suburbs, 1840-1918, and Wellington's Northern Suburbs 1919-1945, published by the Onslow Historical Society, have been donated to our Branch Library by Jennifer Small. We are very grateful for these donations.

**TELETEXT IS BACK.** Valerie Freeman advises that Family Tree Magazine, Nov. 1995 announces the return of the TELETEXT service for ancestor information. The service is free. Send in your request of 40 words maximum, including your name and address to: FAMILY TREE (SK/TT), PO BOX 116, SWINDON, WILTS. SN3 6AZ, ENGLAND.

**DUBIOUS BIRTH DATES.** most of us have come across birth dates in English parish and civil registers, then later found evidence to suggest that the birth really occurred earlier than claimed. Naturally, we tend to make assumptions about the chronological gap between marriage and birth to explain these errors, but it seems that, in some cases at least, we may not have been fair. In June 1837, the general Register Office issued a notice stating that registration of a birth later than six weeks from the day of birth would incur a fine of 7/6d, a goodly sum in those days. With transport difficulties and scattered population, it would have been common for that six weeks, and more, to elapse before registration. A small white lie, moving the birth date to within the 42 days, would have been very easy, to avoid such a fine. The same notice stated that no birth could be registered at all, more than six weeks after the event. Hence, with compulsory birth registration not required until 1875, it is very likely many more were never registered. (With acknowledgement to Hutt Valley Branch Newsletter).

**SOME HISTORICAL VENUES TO VISIT.**

**GALLERY OF HISTORY**, located in Gordon Street, Dannevirke, in the Old Court House, houses archives of the Dannevirke town and District, includes old photographs and equipment, and many more artifacts. Open Monday - Friday 9.30am to 4pm. Weekends 1.30pm to 4pm.

**NORSEWOOD PIONEER MUSEUM**, 19km north of Dannevirke in Upper Norsewood. Open days and by appointment.

**WOODVILLE PIONEER MUSEUM**, at 62 Ormond Street, Pioneer cottage display, Police cell block and Railway memorabilia. Open Sunday 2pm to 4pm, or by arrangement. Ph. 06 376 5677 or 06 376 5609.

**PAHIATUA and DISTRICTS MUSEUM SOCIETY (Inc)**, situated in Sedcole Street, contains many historical items including a pictorial display of the Polish Children's arrival in 1944, unique to Pahiatua Museum. Open 2pm to 4pm or by arrangement. Phone 06 376 8413.

**EKETAHUNA and DISTRICT EARLY SETTLERS MUSEUM**, situated in Bengstan Street in the first school built in Eketahuna. Open Sundays 2pm to 4pm or by arrangement, phone 06 375 8550 or 06 375 8170.

**CEMETERY RECORDS SUPPLEMENT**. This is now available for borrowing from our Microfiche Officer, Brian Mountjoy, phone 297 0710 for a mutually convenient time for collection and return. The supplement includes additional or amended records for **NORTHLAND**; Hokianga County, Bay of Islands County; Whangarei County; Rodney County.

**AUCKLAND**; Islands off Auckland's shores, Auckland North & West, Auckland East & Central, Auckland South.

**WAIKATO**; Waipa County, Waitomo County.

**THAMES/ BAY OF PLENTY**; Thames/Coromandel District, Tauranga County, Whakatane District.

**HAWKES BAY DISTRICT**; Waipukurau/ Waipawa District.

**MANAWATU**; Manawatu Area, Horowhenua County.

**OTAGO**; Tuapeka County, Silverpeaks County, Dunedin City.

**SOUTHLAND**; Southland.

**COMPOSITE**; Wanganui area BDM, ex Wanganui Herald, 1910-1920.

If you haven't had access to areas you require for your research, then the supplement will be worth a look!

Also add this to your microfiche holdings list:

**MASTERS, MATES & ENGINEERS, 1866-1921. 4 fiche.**

Those who are financial members of New Zealand Society of Genealogists (NZSG) will have received their first magazine for 1996, plus a copy of the 1996 Member's Handbook, a Guide to the NZSG, It's Services and Resources. Also by now you should have a copy of the Notice of Annual General Meeting, Saturday 13 April 1996, and Annual Reports for the year ending 31 Dec 1995. Included is your postal ballot form for the election of officers for 1996, and post paid return envelope. Please be sure to read these



thoroughly, and make certain they are filled out according to instructions, to reach the returning officer no later than 4pm Friday 29 March 1996. If you are not planning on being present at the AGM, you may register your votes by proxy. There is much to be considered at this meeting, so study your copy of the Proposed Constitution, thoroughly, and be able to register your vote.

**STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!** As Census Day 1996 approaches, think of keeping a copy of your form with your genealogy records, someday, somewhere, someone in the future may bless your thoughtfulness, think how much we learn from the scant details on the old census records of last century!

#### **ORDERS FOR IRISH BDM ENTRY PHOTOCOPIES.**

The cost will be NZ\$5.50 per entry, plus SAE. When ordering please state whether birth, death or marriage, the year, the quarter, the name(s), district, volume and page numbers. Remember that all entries must be pre-1922. Please include your name and full address, and post to: Chris Waller, 422 Avonside Drive, Christchurch 8006. The closing date will be Saturday 27 April.

(from Canterbury Branch Newsletter, February 1996).

**PROFILE OF COMMITTEE MEMBER.** Introducing Rosalyn Smaill, our hostess and publicity officer. Rosalyn and her husband Lindsay joined Kapiti Genealogy in 1995, soon after arriving in Paraparaumu to live, having seen an article on our activities in a local newspaper. Prior to this they had lived in Oamaru where they joined a local Branch, and became members of the NZSG. However, through her love of history generally, Rosalyn wanted to be able to relate her ancestry to those past times, and so began, as far back as 1960 the search for her origins. In 1962 she struck a situation we all know, a dead end. The birth certificate of her Gt.grandfather still eludes her thirty five years on, even though she knows of his parents, and beyond. When living in Brisbane, Rosalyn did research in the archives there, alongside the Brisbane River. In 1974 severe flooding endangered the Archives, and records became perilously close to destruction. They have now been moved away from the river. In those days, Rosalyn recalls the inspections of the BDM registers were free, not so today. Among Rosalyn's other interests, she is assistant International co-ordinator of the Christian Dance Fellowship, which has branches in eighteen countries. Until very recently she has been National Co-ordinator of the Fellowship. Last year she travelled overseas for the Fellowship, and managed to squeeze a little genealogy into her tight schedule. Rosalyn has gained much from joining this Branch and the NZSG, far better than going it alone, she says.