

KAPITI BRANCH NEWSLETTER



NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, BOX 6, PARAPARAUMU

JUNE 1996

Meetings held at Masonic Lodge Rooms, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu, fourth Wednesday of months January to November, 7.30 pm.

Branch Library open 7.00pm. CONVENOR Deborah Shuker 297 2238

SECRETARY Valerie Freeman 298 7396 TREASURER Val Quinlan 293 3599

MEMBERSHIP Jennifer Small 293 2577 MICROFICHE Brian Mountjoy 297 0710



LOOKING AHEAD - TONIGHT - Mr Ian Tyler of Upper Hutt Family History Centre - HOW TO USE THE CENSUS RECORDS 24 JULY - Dawn Chambers of Wellington with her amazing computer database 'PANDORA'S BOX'. This replaces our planned workshop night, which will be rescheduled.

MAY MEETING On a night when webbed feet would have been a help it was gratifying to have so many enthusiasts turn out. And thank you to all who brought along old photographic material to contribute to Mr John Sullivan's talk. John, from Alexander Turnbull Library photographic section enlightened us with his suggestions for dating old photographs, by the types of processes used, the backgrounds, fashions, props and buildings etc in the photos. He also demonstrated with slide projections various types of old views and portraits.

We also learned how to handle these precious family treasures correctly, and tips for storage. Many examples we saw were well over 100 years old, and with the right care could see another century. As we have possession of these photographs now, it is our duty as responsible genealogists to protect and preserve them for our descendants. John also told us of some of the work of the Alexander Turnbull Library in recording and cataloging their collection, a mammoth task. There were a lot of questions asked and competently answered by this expert.

To anyone who has not used the photographic section, on the second floor of the National Library, it will be well worthwhile to take the time to visit. The Library also provides a digital imaging service.

Hints for caring for old photographs, and recommended reading.... see separate page.

A lively discussion session with questions from members preceded the speaker. Never be afraid to ask questions, Kay Carter had an unusual one "WHAT IS JACK IN THE PULPIT?" Two offers of help there, and from Mary McLeod 'WHO WAS ST BESTIUS?' John Sullivan suggested a good reference, the Oxford Book of Saints, available at National Library.

DEREK GRIFFIS JOINED KAPITI GENEALOGY IN 1995, BUT WAS ALREADY KNOW TO MANY OF US THROUGH ONE OF HIS PROJECTS. DEREK HAS SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

THEY CAME TO NEW ZEALAND is an index created by myself back in 1992, out of references to persons who had arrived in this country from certain selected areas of Britain, areas that are relevant to me in my own personal family history. These areas are: BERKSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, WORCESTORSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, SOMERSET & BRISTOL, DORSET & ALL WALES including MONMOUTH. Back in 1992 there were some 4500 entries in total, & a hardcopy printout in book form was produced at that time, with a copy being held by our Kapiti Branch Library. For me, this index is a continuing project, & it's content has grown so much in size that currently it totals close to 20,000 entries. Information available consists of: full name, county or town of birth, either or both dates of birth & death (often just the year), code reference to the source of the information, & any other miscellaneous information on spouse, children, occupation, shipping arrival etc, etc. Enquiries from Kapiti Branch members are welcome, either by mail or phone (excluding Tuesdays & Wednesdays), quoting the full name & county of interest. Input from Branch members is always welcome as, sometime in the next year or two I am contemplating putting out a second hardcopy edition with a repeat distribution

to, amongst other places, the associated family History Societies in Britain, holding out the prospect of contacts being made with other persons over there sharing the same research interests. Minimum input details per entry are: SURNAME, CHRISTIAN NAMES if known, COUNTY OR TOWN OF BIRTH, DATES OF BIRTH & DEATH if known, NAME & ADDRESS & NZSG NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE) OF THE CONTRIBUTOR, PLUS OPTIONAL, ANY OTHER PERSONAL DATA - IN PARTICULAR INCLUDING THE MAIDEN SURNAME OF MARRIED LADIES. Input is preferred by mail, to give me a permanent record, & to minimise the risk of transcription errors on my part.

DEREK GRIFFIS, 94 NGAIO ROAD, WAIKANAE, 6454. PHONE 04 293 1092

NOW WE KNOW! If you are one of these in the USA you would be called a SOUTH PAW. If you hailed from Cornwall you would be described as CLICKY PAWED, in Scotland you would be FLUG HANDED, & a Liverpudlian would be known as KITTY WESSY! In Somerset SCRUMMY HANDED, & BACK PAWED if you hailed from the Isle of Wight. In the Isle of Man you could be called KITTAGHY HANDED, whilst in Hereford COWIE FISTED! In Fife you would be CORRIE PAWED, and those from Durham called KEEKY FISTED. Here I've heard the expression CACK HANDED, but you would all have something in common, yes, you've guessed it you are LEFT HANDED.

*FROM BARBARA HUMPAGE'S 'LANCASHIRE HOTPOT'
PLAYSONGS, RHYMES, CHANTS - CAN YOU HELP?*

I am a Girl Guide dressed in blue, These are the actions I must do,
Salute to the King and bow to the Queen, And turn my back on the Kaiser.

Do you remember this rhyme? Did you sing it in the playground during your schooldays? Do you remember singing or chanting other rhymes? If so, then you may be able to assist the North West Sound Archive, who are collecting & preserving the oral traditions of the North West, before they are lost forever. If you can help, please write out the verse, the area & approximate date you know it from & send it to: NORTH WEST SOUND ARCHIVE, OLD STEWARD'S OFFICE, CLITHEROE CASTLE, CLITHEROE, LANCs. BB7 1AZ. THANKS!

(The archive already has over 500 on their computer database).

FRIENDS OF BOLTON ST MEMORIAL PARK are unearthing more than just names in their quest to complete a burial list for the cemetery. Volunteers have spent the past five years scrutinising headstones, sextons' records & digging up historical information on the cemetery. The list is almost complete. The burial list is kept in the chapel at the cemetery & when complete as it can be, will be put on to computer. For further information contact: NICK PERRIN PHONE 04 472 3767. (Evening Post 23 May 1996) See noticeboard tonight.

TITBITS SPICE UP HISTORY! Living together without getting married is nothing new. Couples were doing this in KENT more than 300 years ago, according to a fascinating new history. Most courting couples waited years to marry so they could have their own home away from parents & in-laws. But, many never married, preferring to live in common-law relationships. THE ECONOMY OF KENT 1640-1914, edited by Prof. Alan Armstrong. Published by The Bowdell Press & Kent County Council, this book weaves a tapestry which recalls the economic factors of the past that shape the lives of people today. The sea, a dominant feature of the Kentish scene is well covered, with related topics, ships, ports, fishing, smuggling & the seaside holiday. Although the population grew from 169,000 in 1640 to 1.5 million in 1914, Kent's economic story is not spectacular. But Kent has been & remains such a diverse county, that it can never be dull.

LOOKING WAY AHEAD..... 1997 LANDFALL IN SOUTHERN SEAS, 8th AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS ON GENEALOGY & HERALDRY, 6-9 FEB, LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, CHRISTCHURCH. THE AGM OF THE NZSG FOR 1997 WILL BE HELD IN TAURANGA, COUPLED WITH A RESEARCH WEEKEND. 1998 AGM & CONFERENCE DUNEDIN, 1999 AGM & CONFERENCE NORTHLAND, KAITAIA; 2000 AGM 7 CONFERENCE CHRISTCHURCH.

WELLINGTON COMPUTERS IN GENEALOGY MEETING 2PM GUIDE HALL, BRODERICK ROAD JOHNSONVILLE, TOPIC MODEMS.

THE CARE OF OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Hints for caring for old photographs: Never touch the surface of the picture. If possible wear white cotton gloves to handle them, or just hold the edges after washing your hands. Don't store in plastic, use archival quality envelopes and boxes. Avoid writing on the back with ball-point pen or hard pencil. Use only soft pencil, and write carefully near the back border. Store photographs away from dust and damp. There are special envelope pages available for inserting photos, these must be made from either polyethylene or polypropylene, never vinyl. Mylar and Melanex are trade names. Mount them on acid-free paper sheets and use photo-corners. Interleave with acid free tissue. 20 degrees C is an ideal temperature for storage, and maximum humidity of 50%.

There are several books available which John recommended for dating old photographs, including:

- New Zealand Photographers, A Selection, by Hardwicke Knight (contains a list of over 1,100 NZ photographers to 1900).
- A Guide To Early Photographic Processes, Brian Coe & Mark Haworth-Booth, Hurtwood Press).
- Archives & Manuscripts: Administration of Photographic Collections, Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler, Gerald Munoff & Margery S Long.
- Care & Identification of 19th century Photographic Prints, James Reilly.
- Wellington Through a Victorian Lens, William Main, Millwood Press.
- New Zealand Photography From The 1840's To The Present, William Main.
- Photography In New Zealand, Hardwicke Knight, a social and technical history. John McIndoe Dunedin.

See also the leaflet Care of Photographs, produced by Conservation Services, National Library of NZ.

ADD THESE TO YOUR NEW ZEALAND MICROFICHE HOLDINGS LIST

LYTTLETON Times 1851-1865 extracts of Births & Deaths 2 fiche
NEW ZEALAND Shipping Company Register 1875-1893 4 fiche
Public Trust deceased estates 1901-1958 9 fiche
Bankruptcies in CANTERBURY NZ 1863-1880 (an index) 3 fiche
NZ River Drownings 1840-1887 plus Drownings in the Avon River 1 fiche
Public Service Appointments 1912-1927 2 fiche
INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX 1988 Edition NZ 3 fiche
NZ Witnesses who gave evidence to Commissions & Committees 1858-1935,
(an index) 4 fiche (includes petitions to Parliament)
NZ Machinery Accidents 1 fiche
NZ Mining Accidents 1879-1958 (an index) 1 fiche
Women on first NZ Electoral Roll 1893 (alphabetical) 7 fiche
NZ Patents 1860-1890 (index to applications from NZ residents) 1 fiche
NZ Masters, Mates & Engineers 1866-1921 4 fiche
Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHR's)
(an index) Vol 1 1861-1865 2 fiche
UK-NZ Assisted Passengers list 1855-1871 (mostly to CHRISTCHURCH)
CHRISTCHURCH Press Obituaries 1876-1994 31 fiche