KAPITI BRANCH NEWSLETTER

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, BOX 6, PARAPARAUMU

OCTOBER 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

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LOOKING AHEAD...... TONIGHT- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING To be followed by a talk from our member Bill Carter on his Family History Research in the Chatham Islands.... 27 November END OF YEAR FUNCTION - 'GENEALOGY TRIVIA' a fun quiz night of member participation, compered by Gwenda. Prizes to be won, raffle to be drawn, refreshments to be enjoyed, christmas cake to be munched etc.

SEPTEMBER MEETING... 'It's a piece of cake this paleography lark!' The deciphering of old handwriting, as found in old deeds & wills sounds a serious subject. Don Hansen of Wellington, is an expert in the field. His well prepared talk illustrated by overhead projection & supplemented by generous handouts was very well received by all present. Include in his information sheet is a list of Paleography publications plus some examples of abbreviations one is likely to come across in old documents. Those who weren't able to be there missed a really good night. Don really knows his stuff, & by the end of the evening had us all reading his given examples quite fluently. Thankyou Don.

GENEALOGY TRIVIA MOVE OVER MASTERMIND! Put on your thinking caps, swat up your genealogy handbooks & Encyclopedia Brittanicas & be ready for our light-hearted quiz game. You will all be put into 'teams'. Each team will appoint a 'writer-down' of your suggested answers. Mostly genealogy, some nonsence & a bit of general knowledge thrown in for good measure. Nothing to be shy about, nobody has to stand up & answer questions in front of everyone else, IT'S A TEAM GAME. LOTS OF FUN!
PRIZES TO BE WON! Be there on 27th November! You might even learn something!

A RAFFLE will be run over the two meeting nights, October & November. Only 50 cents a ticket. Be in to win the beautiful book of early maps of Great Britain, plus something delicious to munch on whilst you browse the book!

SUBS ARE NOW DUE! SUBS ARE NOW DUE! SUBS ARE NOW DUE!

This being the final meeting for the 1995/96 financial year, subscriptions for the 1996/97 year are now due & may be paid to the Treasurer tonight. Remember library & microfiche borrowing is only available to financial members.

WHENUA TAPU CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTIONS...... This mammoth project, led by Carol Prockter & Mark Scherf is nearing completion. A group spent several hours checking the transcriptions against the headstones last Tuesday. Grateful thanks are extended to Jan Patterson, Bill Moore, Ray Duffell, Ken Brown, Iris & George Watson, John Weston, Valerie Freeman & Barbara Humpage for their efforts.

ON EPITAPHS: 'Reading the epitaphs, our only salvation lies in resurrecting the dead and burying the living'. (Paul Eldridge).

"Epitaph: a belated advertisement for a line of goods that has been permanently discontinued." (Irvin S Cobb). These two items from an early NZ Genealogist magazine.

TRUSTBANK GRANT

The committee are very pleased to announce that they have received on behalf of Kapiti-Branch a very generous grant from the TRUSTBANK COMMUNITY TRUST, the sum of \$500.00. This is for the specific purpose of purchasing the Birth & Marriage indexes from the Registrar General's office. (These microfiche records are now on order & we will notify members, via the newsletter when they have arrived.) The computer sub-group have also benefitted from the grant, as they are now able to pay off the balance of the 'spider', a valuable piece of equipment for the computer meetings.

Our thanks are extended to Trustbank for their support.

MORE MICROFICHE NEWS..... Also on order is the 'Ships' Pictures Index', compiled by Nick Vine-Hall of NSW. More about that when the order arrives.

CALLING ALL MACRAES

Detailed MacRae Index. Good news for all owners of 'MACRAES TO NEW ZEALAND'. Now finally available is an 80-page booklet of six 'SUPPLEMENTARY INDEXES.' This lists all MacRae given names for males & for females including maiden surnames. In addition there is a marriage index, an index for significant non-MACRAE families, one of ships, places, major events, farms & stations associated with MACRAEs, & errata & addenda. It is an essential adjunct to 'MACRAES TO NEW ZEALAND,' which has already proved invaluable for one Doctoral thesis on Highland pipe music in New Zealand.

To those still unaware of this 474 page NZ reference book, it comprises genealogies from the original Scottish roots of not only MACRAE (all spellings) immigrant families to New Zealand but also more than 5,000 other mainly Scottish surnames connected through marriage with the MACRAEs, together with maps, a shipping list, historic illustrations & a bibliography.

Both publications are available from Molly Akers, Opiki, RD4, Palmerston North 5321, New Zealand. 'MACRAES TO NEW ZEALAND' within NZ: \$NZ35.00 soft cover, \$NZ54.00 hard cover.

to Australia \$NZ 43.00 soft cover, \$NZ 65.00 hard cover.

'SUPPLEMENTARY INDEXES' NZ \$10.00 (p&p incl) to all destinations. (Molly Akers is a member of Palmerston North Branch)

VICTORIA (AUSTRALIA) CERTIFICATES: \$A 16.00 plus postage. Use VISA easiest way to pay, OR from genboard: Transcription Agent, Bruce Fullarton, Datapoint, 1st floor 295 Queen St., Melbourne. Full transcription \$A9.00. Births up to 1913, Marriages & Deaths up to 1930.

KAPITI GENEALOGY COMPUTER GROUP MEETS 2ND MONDAY OF MONTH.

DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR? Whilst searching for my SHEPHERD ancestors in Family Search I came across these members of one family (not mine I hasten to add): NAPOLEON BONAPARTE SHEPHERD, ISAAC NEWTON SHEPHERD, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SHEPHERD & GEORGE WASHINGTON SHEPHERD!!!!

Out with the old, in with the new! This is my last Newsletter for Kapiti Branch. Rosalyn Smaill will take over as Editor. I appreciate the articles & items members have submitted over the five years I have compiled the newsletter, & thank you for these & the compliments I have had. I will miss the involvement the task has provided me with, but, time for change, so please support Rosalyn with items of information & anecdotes.

I once wrote that: "GENEALOGY IS FASCINATING, INTRIGUING, SADDENING, MADDENING, DEMANDING, BUT MOST OF ALL FULFILLING". I still hold with that statement, one I am sure you all agree with! Gwenda Cole, Editor.

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