

Programme details
for the Branch,
together with our
Interest & User
Groups are on our
website under
Programme
[http://kapitigen.org/
programme/](http://kapitigen.org/programme/)

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Convenor's Comment

The power of Ancestry.com is a continual source of amazement to me. Recently out of the blue came an email requesting information about my gg grandmother Jane Spence's sister Margaret SPENCE. The email from New York suggested that Margaret had married George STANNERS, a tanner of Linlithgow, Scotland.

As luck would have it, last year when I visited Scotland, I decided to photograph every headstone in the two cemeteries in Linlithgow which had the SPENCE name inscribed on them.

I looked up my collection of photos and sure enough there was Margaret SPENCE spouse of George STANNERS and other members of the family all recorded on the headstone.

I was immediately able to contact Lorraine BELL with this information and forwarded the photograph of the headstone to her.

Needless to say she was very grateful. There followed from her a descendants' chart from Margaret down to Lorraine and I was immediately able to work out that

she and I were seventh cousins. Sure it's a little distant but family all the same.

I discovered that George's and Margaret's daughter Elizabeth was living at 196 High Street Linlithgow in 1841 and in 1861 her spouse William LAW was a Master Tanner and Currier living at 336 High Street, Linlithgow.

I suspect that William LAW would have worked up the leather for my four greats grandfather Alexander SPENCE, Master Shoemaker who had his workshop just along the street at 151 - 153 High Street where in 1861 he employed 27 men and 7 boys.

Out of interest I opened up the "Online Parish Clerks" site after Blanche Charles's talk last month. It was interesting to see that the further East you went in Southern England from Cornwall there were less parishes recorded. There is certainly much room for more records to be transcribed.

Bill McKeich
Convenor

This month's meeting: Tuesday 28th May

"Skeletons in the Niccol family closet"

Presented by Branch Member Don Niccol

Online Parish Clerks

After our AGM on April 23rd one of our members, Blanche Charles, gave an interesting presentation on Online Parish Clerks (OPC). She used the Cornwall Online Parish Clerk website as an example <http://www.cornwall-opc.org> as she herself is an OPC for some Cornish parishes.

Online Parish Clerks “adopt” a parish and undertake to answer enquiries. Many transcribe parish records from churches in a specific area using the original documents, often publishing them on the web.

For Cornwall the original registers had been supplied by the LDS on cds, with the original images now being available on the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org>. These OPC indexes will eventually be accessible.

As well as parish records there are often other resources available (such as wills). [OPC coverage](#) is rather more complete for the

south of England, but you never know what you’ll find.

Blanche recommended the Genuki website <http://www.genuki.org.uk> as a “must” to check when researching parish records, not only for finding if your county of interest has an Online Parish Clerk. There are entries there for all the counties in UK and a wealth of other valuable information may be found.

Blanche stressed the importance of sighting the original documents, rather than simply relying on indexes. Insights you may gain include witnesses for baptisms or marriages, particularly as they may, or may not, be relatives. If the same witness signed all entries on the page, he’s probably the Parish Clerk (as distinct from the Online Parish Clerk). She also reminded us not to assume baptisms are for infants only as often whole families were baptised at the same time – when an itinerant priest came to visit!

AGM 23rd April 2013

The 29th AGM of the Kapiti Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists has been held. The Branch and audited Financial reports are available on our website under Communications. For the third year running all existing Officers and Committee members stood for re-election, including those who were co-opted during the year. All were re-elected. This year there was

also a successful nomination from the floor. We welcome Kathleen Gibson. A fresh set of eyes and another willing pair of hands are always welcome to keep the branch functioning. Don’t be shy about coming forward, as we were all new to the committee once. We work together well as a team supporting each other when needed.



Read more Wizard of Id cartoons at www.johnhartstudios.com.

Found any good skeletons lately? Let us know, we need YOUR articles for this newsletter!

Waikanae Family History Group, monthly Thursday, 9:30am Waikanae Chartered Club, Elizabeth Street, Waikanae
Contact Hanley Hoffmann: [hdhoffmann "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz) Tel: 04 904 3276

Disclaimer: This group has no affiliation to Kapiti Branch of NZSG

Dates for your diary

Kapiti Genealogy

Venues

APFHC: Alison Procter Family History Centre, Level 1 Paraparaumu Library

KCC: Kapiti Community Centre, Pak 'n Save Hall, 15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

Please note these dates in your diary now as they will not be repeated in separate email notifications.

They are also all in the [programme](#) information on our website

Tuesday 28 May (KCC): 7:30 pm **monthly meeting** Don Niccol speaking on "Skeletons in the Niccol Family Closet"

Saturday 8 Jun (APFHC): 1 to 3pm **Members Only Personal Session** Research session at the APFHC for members only, with experienced researchers on hand to help.

Thursday 20 Jun (APFHC): 6 to 7:30pm **APFHC BMDs NZ & Overseas** Familiarisation session for members only

Tuesday 25 Jun (KCC): 7:30pm **Hugh McCracken** "They worked on the railways?" History of NZ Railways.

Every Wednesday: 10 a.m. to noon Experienced researchers on hand to help you use our resources at the APFHC and further your family tree. Now with six computers available, all with Ancestry, three with FindMyPast. Public and members welcome.

Interest Group meetings (see [Programme>Interest Groups on our website](#) for further details)

Monday 10 June : **Computer** group (KCC) 7:30pm. Saving your family tree using gedcoms

Thursday 13 June: **Australian** group (APFHC) 10 am

Saturday 29 June : **Family Tree Maker** (KCC) 9:30 am V16/2006; 10:45 later versions Window/Mac (backup/gedcoms)

Saturday 29 June : **Legacy** (KCC) 2pm

Events around our region

Saturday 25 May (Hutt Bridge Club Rooms, 1 Park Ave, Avalon LNI Irish Research Day & AGM \$5 per person

Contact details posted on our website - [tag Irish](#)

Thursday 13 June: Caring for your family treasures (KCC) 1:30 to 4:30pm

A Kapiti WEA course given by Lindsay Knowles, a paper conservator. Further information from <http://www.kapitiwea.org.nz>

Tuesday 18 June 12.10 – 1pm – Pictures for a family album

Jenni Chrisstoffels, Research Librarian Pictorial, will give an illustrated talk showing how images from the Turnbull collections can be used to give context to your family history research. Bookings essential [click here for Apr to Jun schedule](#)

National Library, Wellington Opening Hours Mon to Sat: [Te Ahumairangi](#): 8.30am – 5pm, Reading Rooms: 10am – 5pm

National Archives Wellington Opening Hours Mon to Fri: Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 5pm (First Wed of each month 9:30 - 5

From the Wellington Branch April Newsletter:

This might cause a few problems!

Mother gives birth to twins in different countries, with son born in England and daughter born in Scotland.

Donna Keenan, 28, started having contractions in Northumberland and gave birth to son Dylan in the living room of his grandparents' house.

But because the twins were premature, she had to be taken to a hospital over the border in Scotland. Hannah arrived an hour and forty minutes after her brother, but in a different country.

Twin babies Dylan and Hannah Fox will grow up together, sharing a special bond as well as the same birthday. Unfortunately, the one thing they won't have in common is nationality.

Daily Mail Newspaper, July 2012

Aug 1914 - the centenary of the First World War

Archives are already well on the way to commemorating this centenary or simply adding to their military record availability. Just some are:

[Lives of the First World War](#), a site being created by the Imperial War Museums in partnership with BrightSolid (who own FindMyPast).

Your help is requested to commemorate those involved.

FindMyPast has added Royal Naval Volunteer reserve covering 1914-1920 (the Wavy Navy)

Those knowing why they were so called might win a free newsletter next month !

Google your name of interest, you never know what you'll find

Smiths and Browns need not apply.

Interest Groups

Computer Friendly Group

Held on the second Monday of each month, February to November at the KCC.

In May, an interesting evening was spent looking at the changes on the [Family Search.org](http://FamilySearch.org) website as some of us are finding the new layout difficult to negotiate. We saw the most recent additions to the catalogue of the [New Zealand Probate collection](#). Not all areas are on line yet but it will pay to keep checking (not yet indexed).

Sue also demonstrated the value of the [Rootsweb](#) and [Rootschat](#) websites and the assistance available through the message board system, both by personal responses to the messages plus tips and tutorials for various topics. These include the restoration of photos, dating of photos by clothing and hairstyles, and locations identified. There was just time for a quick look at [Cyndi's list](#) which is a useful list of resources.

The meetings always provide an opportunity to have any queries answered by Sue and members present are happy to share their tips.

Next month's topic is "Saving your family tree using GEDCOMs" which will be of interest to many of us who are unfamiliar with the use of this tool.

Those wishing to be added to an email reminder list for this group should contact Sue Greene P.S From June the Computer Friendly Group will be meeting in a smaller room towards the rear of the complex.

Australian Interest Group

Second Thursday of every month at the APFHC, February to November, 10 am – 12.00 noon

Family Tree Maker Group

Two monthly from February, last Saturday of the month at the KCC 9:30 (version 2006 and earlier) 10:45 (2008 and later versions) to 12:30

At the April meeting Hanley set the group a challenge to produce a book on their family. He outlined the tools available from the 2006 version and provided samples from his own books. The challenge will be worked on for the remaining sessions of the year. For the next meeting progress will be reviewed on the books.

Lorna, has taken over from Clive as co-convenor, presenting the later versions portion of the session.

After the usual Q&A, the main topic was entering and citing sources.

Those attending have the user-id and password for the online notes on topics covered in the later versions session.

Next session, Jun 29th the later versions session will cover some of the basics such as backing up and restoring your project, and exporting a GEDCOM for sharing your data, or backing it up in a format likely to be recognized by other programs.

Bring along your questions.

Contact details, including a contact form, for interest group facilitators, are on our website under the Programme menu.

<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/>

Legacy Users Group

Next meeting: Sat 29 June, 2pm - 4pm

Kapiti Community Centre

Paraparaumu

Lost Cousins

The Lost Cousins newsletter always has interesting snippets in it, and is well worth subscribing to.

The accuracy of Ancestry's English/Welsh BMD indexes as shown on ancestry in the [12th May issue](#) is well worth a read.

It is also a salutary reminder that all indexes are just that, indexes, and you should always work back to the actual source of the data - in this case even

the source index is better, although still not a true substitute for the actual Birth, Marriage or Death entry.

Just this week a SMITH marriage I'd not bothered exploring beyond the index proved invaluable as the actual certificate stated that the couple were 2nd cousins and the bride's mother's surname was the same as the grooms - a new FAIRBAIRN branch "nailed".

Lorna

Family Search (<http://www.familysearch.org>)



Puzzled about the latest string of changes to FamilySearch?
Or even those made some time ago?

Where did my family go?

I used to be able to see 4 children for parents Joe and Jane SMITH, now there's only two?
Chances are that you are remembering the old IGI where all data was returned from a search on the parents, regardless of the accuracy or source of the data.

The old IGI may still be found if necessary, but do try to get used to the new FamilySearch.

The submitted data has been more clearly separated from the extracted data, giving you more confidence in the accuracy.

What is extracted data?

Extracted data consists of those indexes created from original source records, checked, and published. If you're lucky in your area and records of interest, there may also be images of the source data for you to check, to see how well the indexers coped with the scrawl of the original writers.

Access extracted data using the Search button.



What is submitted data?

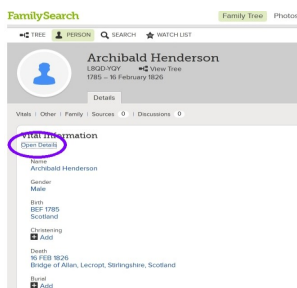
As indicated by the name, data submitted by users or "patrons", often members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints, but not always.

When you search, results from both extracted and submitted data are presented to you, but you have to page down to the User Submitted data, now shown in a family tree format. There's also a nifty fanchart.



If signed in you can add records of interest into your source box, and later attach them to a person in your tree. If you use Legacy or RootsMagic these programs provide a facility to match individuals from your computer to those on FamilySearch.

You can also see who submitted the data in a tree by clicking on the Open Details under the Vital Information heading. Clicking on their user name



may bring up an email address, hopefully current. Like all online trees take care in what you share. Make certain that you are comfortable with the information added online.

The IGI

If you really want to still use the IGI you'll have to learn how to navigate the new search facility anyway, and if you've done that, why not just use it and see what extra goodies you can find these days?

Start at Search, then page down to Browse all published collections. Enter IGI into the Filter by Collection Name. Read and search.

Explore/learn

To learn about what's new at Family Search there's a free Webinar available at http://www.familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=72 and there is a blog with interesting and informative articles available, eg this one on filtering your searches (<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/search-filters-familysearchorg/>). Don't forget to explore their Wiki where you can learn about the records available for your area of interest, or read assorted "How to" articles.

Look and learn
Lorna

Mark the third Tuesday of the month as your day to visit Wellington.
Free monthly lunchtime lecture sessions at the National Library
Jun 18th Jenni Christoffels, using images from the Turnbull collections to give context to your family history research.
April to June programme available [on our website](#)
Bookings essential

Jun meeting Tuesday
25th Jun
Hugh McCracken
"History of NZ Railways"

APFHC Acquisitions

Books Donated to the Library April 2013

Thanks to Ruth Cumming and to Blanche Charles for their donations of books which will be available in our library collection once the Paraparaumu Library Staff have completed the catalogue procedures.

All of our books are held in the locked glass cabinets, and are listed under the KCDC library catalogues.

Instructions for borrowing our books, non reference only, are on our website under [Resources](#)

New Zealand Publishers

- Henry Betts *White Wings Vol. 1: Fifty Years of Sails in the New Zealand Trade*, Brett, Auckland, 1924
White Wings Vol. 2: Founding of the Provinces and Old Time Shipping, Auckland, 1928
- L.M.H. Cave *Writing and Publishing Your Family History*, N.Z.S.G., Auckland, 1986
- Sandra Clarke *2,6,10 Provinces make 1 Nation*, Wilton Library Services, Wellington, 1989
- Miles Fairburn *The Ideal Society and it's Enemies: The Foundation of Modern N.Z.Society 1850-1900*, Auckland University Press, 1990
- Carol Hamer *Making Connections: Recollections of Play Centre Days in Paekakariki*, Wellington, 2008
- Eric Olssen *Building the New World: Work, Politics and Society in Caversham 1880'S -1920'S*, Auckland University Press, 1995
- Carolyn Rhodes *Soldiers, Scribes, and Scholars*, Pioneers' and Descendants' Club, Auckland, 1986
- Tony Simpson *The Immigrants: The Great Migration from Britain to New Zealand 1830-1890*
 Godwit Publishers, Auckland, 1997
- Gavel and Quill: A Guide to Court Records at National Archives of New Zealand*, National Archives, Welington, May, 1998
- A Guide to the New Zealand Society of Genealogists: 1990 Sesquicentennial Family Biography Competition Collection in the Alexander Turnbull Library*, N.Z.S.G.,1991

United Kingdom Publications

- Jeremy Gibson *Unpublished Personal Name Indexes in Record Offices and Libraries (2nd edition)*
 F.F.H.S., England, 1987
- Jeremy Gibson & Colin Rogers *Electoral Registers since 1832 and Burgess Rolls (2nd edition)*
 F.F.H.S., England, 1990
- Pauline Litton *Basic Facts about Family History Research in Yorkshire*, F.F.H.S., England, 1995
- Eve McLaughlin *Parish Registers (2nd edition)*, F.F.H.S., England, 1988
- Patrick Palgrave -Moore *Understanding the History and Records of Non Conformity (2nd edition)*
 Elvery Dowers, Norfolk, England, 1988
- R.M. Prideaux *Prideaux: A West Country Clan*, Phillimore, Chichester,Sussex, England,1989
- G.H. Smith (Ed) *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers (1st edition)*, England, 1984
- W.E.Tate *The Parish Chest (3rd edition)* Phillimore, England, 1983
- Michael Walcot *Tracing Dorset Ancestors: A Guide to Genealogical Sources for Dorset*, F.F.H.S., 1985
- Derek M. Whale *Lost Villages of Liverpool: Part One, (2nd edition)*, England, 1985

At the APFHC - BMDs, NZ and Overseas

Thurs 20th June 6pm - 7:30pm

This is the second of our early evening familiarisation sessions on our resources at the APFHC.

Come along and find out how to access the NZ and overseas BMDs.

See [our programme](#) for the later session in August

targeting websites, particularly Ancestry and FindMyPast.

The overview session from April will be repeated in October following the next Back to Basics (B2B) course.

All of our resources are available during library hours using by your membership card.

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday 28 May 2013

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start. Don Niccol "Skeletons in the Niccol family closet"

Supper roster: **U - Z** Your continued help with this would be appreciated.

Welcome

We welcome new members Jan Andrews, Margaret Cooney and Jean Simmonds

Website

Remember to check [our website](#) every so often, especially for late breaking news and events that we find out about between newsletters.

These will normally appear in the Recent Changes section top right sidebar, but you can always click on any "tag" in the list to find all pages marked as of relevance to the topic selected.

FindMyPast

A friendly reminder to those using FindMyPast at the APFHC. Please do NOT log out of the site. Simply close the browser window, or leave it open when you log off the pc so that the next user can still access the site.

MOPS (Member Only Personal Sessions)

These monthly Saturday afternoon sessions were begun after feedback that our Wednesday morning combined members and public research sessions were often too busy for members to obtain sufficient help with their research, or members

could not come during the week.

However due to low numbers attending the monthly MOPS sessions at the APFH Centre at Paraparaumu Library, it appears there is not sufficient need for this to continue.

The last session will therefore be on Saturday June 8th from 1pm – 3pm.

Members are reminded that should they need assistance with their research they can attend the weekly Wednesday morning sessions also held at the APFHC at the Paraparaumu Library, contact their buddy, or use the Kapiti Gen Forum form on our website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/resources/research/genforum/>) to contact our Kapiti Branch Research Officer, Sue Greene.

APFHC CDs

Our CDs have now all been backed up and returned to service. Your patience during this period was appreciated.

Purchases

We have recently replaced our very tatty, falling apart, portable screen with a slightly larger, intact version. This is intended for use up at the APFHC for orientation sessions, and for groups meeting in smaller rooms at the KCC (now that the rentals have increased). It is stored at the KCC, together with the instruction booklet, which apparently needs to be read!

Replacement of the two oldest, slowest pcs at the APFHC is planned for the near future.

Highlighting a NZ Society of Genealogist's benefit

National Archives (UK) - TNA

Remember if you are a member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, that items found on the Online records of TNA's [Discovery catalogue](#) may be ordered for free as a benefit of your subscription (see [NZSG website](#) for how). A recent Otaki Branch newsletter highlighted this record series:

ADM 45 Navy Board, and Admiralty, Accountant

General's Department: Officers' and Civilians' Effects Papers, which holds applications by executors or administrators, often next of kin, for the unpaid wages or pensions of deceased officers of the Navy and Royal Marines or their widows, and of civilian employees of the Navy and the Naval Dockyards. Some applications are supported by birth or marriage certificates or wills. (NB Used to be Documents Online)

**Branch meetings:** 4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

Time: 7pm, supper / research
7:30pm, meeting start

Venue: Kapiti Community Centre,
15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

Branch fundraiser - Used ink cartridges

The Branch collects used ink and toner cartridges for recycling: Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, Epson & Brother. Bring your old cartridges to Derek at a branch meeting, put them in a box in the locked glass cabinets at the APFHC in Paraparaumu Library, or leave them in Derek's letter-box: 94 Ngaio Road, Waikanae.

Branch fundraiser - Bag, sweat shirt, t-shirt

Available from our store

<https://KapGen.printmighty.co.nz>

**Computer Password at the APFHC**

APFHC computer password changes regularly: check the red folder in the drawer. Members need to get the cupboard key from library help desk. We also request that you sign the blue sign-in book in the drawer - such statistics help us when applying for grants such as those that allowed us to add the two new computers.

Email links throughout the newsletter are clickable, remove one of the @ symbols before sending.

Committee meetings: 7pm, 1st Wednesday

Branch Committee

Convener: Bill McKeich Tel: 905 6952 [convener "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:convener@KapitiGen.org)

Secretary: Lyn Lee Tel: 293 1610 [secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:secretary@KapitiGen.org)

Treasurer / Membership:
Lorna Henderson Tel: 293 7771 [treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:treasurer@KapitiGen.org)

Programmes & Activities: Kathy Callaghan & Frances Braddick

YURU Coordinator: Clive Palmer

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Denice McCarten, Dianne Sleeman, Kathleen Gibson

Branch Officers

Newsletter Editors: Bill and Lorna [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:editor@KapitiGen.org)

Communications Assistant: Derek Griffiths

Webmaster: Barry Thomson

Magazine Round Robin Manager:

Meryl Opie [RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RoundRobin@KapitiGen.org)

Meeting Registrar: Mary Braddock

Sound System: Kerry Lee

Equipment Support: Lindsay Olsen, Kerry Lee (Asst)

Computer Support: Sue Greene

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker [OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:OzSIG@KapitiGen.org)

Computer Group: Sue Greene [ComputerGroup "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:ComputerGroup@KapitiGen.org)

Legacy: Gerald Twiss [Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](mailto:Gero@ihug.co.nz)

Family Tree Maker: Hanley & Lorna [FTM "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:FTM@KapitiGen.org)

DNA: Lorna (04) 293 7771

Portfolio descriptions and current holders are listed on our web site - hover your mouse over the "About" menu.

Newsletter content deadline: Saturday after 1st Wednesday

Send copy to: [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:editor@KapitiGen.org)

Photos welcomed for illustration - resolution of 300dpi or higher

NB: To ensure publication, submissions **must** be received by deadline

Subscriptions

This will be the last newsletter for those who have not yet paid their \$20 for the 2013/14 sub, which fell due on the 31st of March.

Your old blue library card will also no longer be valid for using our resources at the APFHC.

Payment may be made by internet banking, mail, or by handing your payment, and details, to a committee member at any meeting.

Internet banking: Westpac 03 0732 0263025 00
Please include your membership number for identification purposes, preferably also your surname, and emailing the [Treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Treasurer@KapitiGen.org) to advise that payment has been

made.

Cheques made out to Kapiti Genealogy may be posted to The Treasurer, Kapiti Genealogy, P.O. Box 703 Paraparaumu, 5254

If also a member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, please provide your NZSG number. Please allow up to a fortnight for processing & delivery of your new card.

We look forward to your continuing membership and participation in our activities.

These instructions are also on our website as at [Membership Renewals](#)

If you believe you have paid but not yet received your pink card please contact the Treasurer.