

Convenor's Comment

Remember to check our website <http://KapitiGen.org> for additional information on events, Branch, Interest & User Groups, and any late changes.

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Hello!

I imagine that we family history sleuths are very much aware of the value of our family stories. They provide us with a unique snapshot of how we came to be who we are. At times they explain some of our likes, (and dislikes), our traditions and perhaps even our behaviours.

At our branch meetings I have often felt privileged to be able to hear some of the wonderful stories that our members have cleverly cobbled together from this fact, and that picture, and snippets of family memory.

But what if all you have is a photo?

While living in England recently, I was privileged to meet and get to know Carol Cooper and her husband Ron. Carol was just a baby of a few months old in 1941 when her father was sent to war.

He never returned. He was one of over 50,000 British men who were captured by the Japanese at the fall of Singapore in February 1942. He died during the construction of the infamous Burma Railway. My father, captured at the tender age of 21, survived.

Carol and Ron are very much in my thoughts, as, sadly, Ron passed away in July, but also because these two people believed it was important to tell the story of those men, who were held in the most inhumane of

conditions for 3 and half years until their liberation on 15 August 1945.

They started an organisation called COFEPOW, Children of Far East Prisoners of War which now has over 2,000 members. They, and their supporters, built a living memorial to these men; an education centre located at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, England.

The 15th August 2015 will be the 70th anniversary of VJ Day. To mark the occasion, COFEPOW have issued a commemorative medallion which I shall proudly add to my father's war medals. Lest we forget.

If you would like to learn more about COFEPOW the web address is cofepow.org.uk

Hilary Cunningham



**This month's meeting is on
Tuesday July 28th 7-9 pm**

**Speaker: Glenn Reddix
War postcards**

**How to:
Online Newspapers.
Lorna**

July Branch Meeting

When: July 28th at 7-9pm
Where: Kapiti Community centre
What: World War I postcards
Our speaker is Glenn Reddiex.
How to: Online newspapers - Lorna

Glenn Reddiex, who was educated & brought up in Paraparaumu & who describes himself as an amateur First World War historian, genealogist and collector of WWI postcards & photographs, particularly those relevant to New Zealand and those who served in WWI.

Glenn's blog, which features 100 postcards (the images and his research into their background) from his extensive private collection is <http://100nzww1postcards.blogspot.co.nz/> and was selected as Website of the Month in the May 2013 edition of Picture Postcard Monthly published in the UK.

Branch News

Archives NZ visit

A group of 19 members joined in another interesting tour of Archives NZ in Wellington on July 2nd.

If you are looking for land information in the Lower North Island, you will find it in the Stack Area. You can ask for assistance to work out the complicated system used! Records are available from 1850 – 1920's. In the 1920's certificates of title were issued, so records after that date can be found at Land Information Department.

There are no records for Hawkes Bay as they were destroyed in the earthquake. The remaining areas are sourced in the Auckland, Christchurch or Dunedin Archives.

Other resources mentioned were Coroners Reports (usually a 100 year restriction on these, but you can apply to the courts for permission to view), War Diaries, Intention to Marry Registers, some Police files (pre 1914), Army department files including WWI, WW2, Korea and Malaya.

We were reminded of the Remote Service that Archives NZ offers.

If you are unable to get to Archives personally, you can order records on line. You need to know what you are looking for as they do not do research for you. The prices went up on July 1st and are listed on the Archives website.

Kathy Callaghan



Who was holding the baby?

It began with a photo, taken in 1945 of a serviceman holding a baby. That baby was my sister, who is now 70 years old. My mother was coming out from England to New Zealand as a 'war bride' to start a new life with her NZ soldier husband (my father).

The photo was published in *The Freelance*, a newspaper of that time and the serviceman was named as Eric Connor from Wairoa. My sister and I decided that we would like to locate the family of the serviceman and give them a copy of this photo, if they didn't have one. Our attempts at getting information drew a blank, so Colonel Ray Seymour offered to help.

In November 2014 I wrote an article for our branch newsletter about the steps that Col. Ray Seymour took to identify this serviceman in a photo taken 70 years earlier. Within 24 hours of taking on the task he had not only identified the serviceman, but also had located his daughter. It turns out that the serviceman's name was incorrect. I made contact with his daughter and found she had a similar photo, but hers had my mother in it. So we exchanged photos.

Last month, a woman contacted our branch secretary, saying she had been searching the internet looking for information about her grandfather. Google brought up our branch newsletter. The man in our photos was her grandfather. Her family situation meant she had lost touch with her family and had no photos of her grandfather who had died when she was about 11 years old. How exciting it was for her to have two photos of her grandfather!

So you never know when you publish something online, be it a family tree or a story of some kind, what impact that may have on someone's life.

Kathy Callaghan



My Dad was made of granite – or so I thought

Anna Hayes – aged 85 years (Contributed by **Kay Carter**, Anna Hayes' sister-in-law)

It's Father's Day on Sunday. Dads of old were made of granite. Today's fathers are pussycats. When I see my grandchildren rushing out to greet their dad when they see his car arriving, the four-year-old grabs one leg, the three-year-old grabs the other and a third one ends up on his shoulders.

A lot of old-styled fathers were remote from their families. My own father definitely appeared to be made of granite. I never saw him smile. He never cracked a joke or gave a hug. He was very critical.

There were seven in our family. Growing up in Skreen, County Sligo. My father had his problems, being flogged unconscious by a sadistic teachers in a west Cork national school didn't help. He was carried home on a shutter taken from a window (that teachers would be jailed today). He was also a Collins man in the civil war and there hangs another terrible tale.

My mother was an angel, she often sang *Danny Boy*, which we all loved. She loved the simple things of life, especially nature, and a good novel. Time rolled on, as it does, and she died in 1960 from severe arthritis.

A few years later we were all celebrating something or other, one of the guests got up to sing, and the song was *Danny Boy*. We all loved it. She had to stop halfway through when we all saw tears streaming down my father's face.

He wasn't made of granite after all.

Edited from the Irish Times

APFHC News



Help instructions for the above program are now on our website under **Membership > Members only**.

Help Sessions

Bev is always glad to hear from anyone able to volunteer their services to help. Thanks to those of you who have offered to help. More volunteers are always welcome and appreciated by members needing assistance.

Relocation at the library

The APFHC has now been relocated on the ground floor of the Paraparaumu library.

The desk layout does not allow as much space for notes etc. so have your research well organised to make the most of your time.

The key to access our cabinet can be obtained from the library issues desk as the information desk is no longer attended.

Please remember that any matters relating to the Genealogy Society should be taken up with a committee member, **not** library staff.

Orientation Session.

This successful session on Thursday 16th was attended by 20 people to learn about using census records was held upstairs in the new education centre.

The Kapiti Genealogy Menu

Remember that you no longer have to load physical cds.

Simply click on the image of the cd beside the resource you want to view, then click on the title

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 issues desk. We also request that you sign the blue sign-in book in the drawer - such statistics help us when applying for grants.

Printer, Paper and Toner

Please remember that you are asked to contribute 10c. per copy for the printing service provided. This amount does not even cover the cost of the toner used. Where possible you are encouraged to use memory sticks instead to record the results of your research.

Remember that if you cannot print, you can usually save your search results to a USB stick, supplies being available for purchase at a bargain price at the Wednesday morning sessions

Computers

We ask for your consideration on Wednesday mornings. If you are researching and do not need the help of the volunteers, please consider coming at another time than the 10 to 12 timeslot when use of the computers is at a premium.

Family History Month

A public research day is being held at the APFHC

Saturday August 15th - 11 am to 3 pm

with experienced researchers on hand to help you find your ancestors.
Bring what you know and what you want to find out.
(see [flyer](#) on our webpages)

Resources to explore

Remember when we used to have to buy books, or CDs of gazetteers etc.?

Are you looking for somewhere your ancestors lived in the UK?

Try the Topographical dictionary section of British History Online (<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/search/series/topographical-dict>)

Those wonderful Dictionaries published by S Lewis, London, from 1846/1849, which came out on CD and still gather dust on my shelves, are readily available.

A Topographical Dictionary of Wales (<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-dict/wales>) originally published by S Lewis, London, 1849

(If your WILLIAMS and JONES families came from Eidda I'd love to hear from you, **Lorna**.)

The same site also has Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Scotland, and of England, originally published 1846, but not his equivalent for Ireland.

For Scotland, I do still treasure my hardback copy of Groomes, although it is rather easier to access online in several versions. The one I prefer is via Scottish Places (<http://www.scottish-places.info/>) with its linked maps where you can switch between present day in the usual maps, terrain or the detailed ordnance survey versions, along with historical maps (see also the National Library of Scotland's excellent map collection (<http://maps.nls.uk/>))

It is also available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial Share alike 2.5 license from the InternetArchive in various formats to either read online or download (<https://archive.org/details/ordnancgazettee00groo>) and on ElectricScotland (<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/gazetteer/index.htm>)

Irish Genealogy has a commentary and links to useful resources for Irish placenames <http://www.irishgenealogy.com/ireland/gazetteers.htm>

Other useful sites from a multitude of options: Vision of Britain (<http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/>)

GenUKI (<http://www.genuki.org.uk/>) also has extracts from assorted gazetteers, along with links to county and parish information.

The Gazetteer is very useful for standardising your place names in your genie program with an appropriate parish and county.

GeoGraph (<http://www.geograph.org.uk/>) which is aiming for photos for every grid square on the UK map.

Lorna

Members might be interested in early photographers of New Zealand.

It says Canterbury in the link, but covers the whole of NZ. <http://canterburyphotography.blogspot.co.nz/>

Kathy

The facebook link below has a n interesting selection of old Waikanae photos including some family groups. Clicking on a photo will bring up a descriptions. <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.755305821224358.1073741990.624647914290150&type=3>

FindmyPast

Over 94,000 records have been added to our collection of British Army, Northumberland Fusiliers 1881-1920 records <http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-Records/anglo-boer-war-records-1899-1902?ga=1.207594643.1420795317.1410962273>. The transcripts use information from over 70 sources including medal rolls, service records, medal index cards, battalion histories and St George's Gazette, and the regimental paper. They list details of men who served with the regiment during the Fourth Ashanti War (1895-1896), Sudan, Boer War, North West Frontier and the First World War. The Northumberland Fusiliers were formed in 1674 as the 5th Regiment of Foot. By the First World War the regiment was the second largest infantry regiment in the British Army.

The Shropshire, Shrewsbury St Julian's parish, 1831 census <http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-Records/shropshire-shrewsbury-st-julians-parish-1831-census?ga=1.207594643.1420795317.1410962273> contains over 630 records from the ecclesiastical parish of St Julian in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Dates for Your Diary

Kapiti Genealogy

Venues

APFHC: Alison Procter Family History Centre, Ground Floor, North West Corner Paraparaumu Library

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

All Kapiti events are also all in the [programme](#) information on our website, both in a downloadable document and on the calendar.

July 28th: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting Glenn Reddix - War Postcards

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. Six computers available, all with Ancestry, and worldwide FindMyPast. Public and members welcome.

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

Thur. August 13th: Australian interest group (APFHC) 10 to 12 noon

Saturday August 8th: DNA interest group 2-4pm at Lorna's. For all those interested in DNA for genealogy.

Sat. August 29th: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group (KCC)

You may also be interested in:

Our Family History Month Research Day on Sat 15th August (see page 4 and website for details)

Sat. 22nd August: Catch the Passchendale train to Otaki and see the "Soldiers in the Trenches" display from the 2014 YURU exhibition. \$30 per adult ticket. Train leaves Paekakariki at 11.30am and returns at 3.05pm

Sat. 22nd August: Family History Open Day organized by branches in the Wellington region. To be held at the Hutt Bowling Club, 6 Myrtle Street. From 10am– 4pm. All welcome. Entry \$5. For more details check out <http://tinyurl.com/fhm2015> for more interesting activities including guided tours of Peter Jackson's Great War Exhibition in the Dominion Museum Building, National War Memorial Park. Booking essential at info@greatwarexhibition.nz. <http://greatwarexhibition.nz/>

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursdays - next session **Thursday August 13th** for help with any Australian research.

DNA

Two monthly, 2nd Sat or Sun of month, (alternates between Sat and Sun) - next session **Saturday August 8th** 2-4pm (phone Lorna 293 7771 for directions)

Informal (free) group for anyone interested in adding dna testing to the genealogy toolkit.

You never know what, or who, you'll find or learn, and have the added bonus of potentially validating

uncertain or missing paper trails.

If you have tested autosomal DNA, remember to upload your DNA files to GEDMatch.com to find more matches and make use of their wonderful tools.

Legacy Users

Next session **Saturday August 29th, 2-4pm**. Topic will be on our website when announced.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings. Cost \$3, pay at the door. Tea and coffee available.

Query from our facebook page.

Hi I have a link to the Lynch family who lived in the area. I know very little about them apart from a ggg aunt married (Hurley) a Michael James Lynch and had a decent sized family (have names of most kids) and lived on a farm. Where is the best place to find info on them. Have mainly looked on paperspast and NZ BDM.

If you can help, visit our facebook page to reply (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kapiti-Genealogy/213647508785715?sk=timeline>).

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday July 28th 2015

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start.

Supper roster: K - O

If your surnames starts with the above letters, your help with the supper would be appreciated.

Committee meetings: 7pm, 1st Wednesday of months February—December

Welcome

We welcome four new members this month: Malcom and Susan HARFITT, Elizabeth LYNCH, Christine STEELE and Terry KENNAWAY. We hope you'll get great benefit from your membership and enjoy our facilities. We look forward to hearing your story or helping you on a voyage of discovery.

How to?

The Committee would like to know what topics you would like covered in our meeting "How to" session. It is an opportunity to find out how to work round any little quirk in a programme you're using or how to make the most of the extensive facilities we have available. Nothing is too simple or odd. Please give us your ideas. It's your Society!

School records transcription project

If you are willing to take part in this project please contact the coordinator, John Glover ([pamandjohn "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:pamandjohn@paradise.net.nz))

30 year history

To include your stories in the 30 Year History of Kapiti Genealogy that Clive is compiling on our behalf, please contact **Clive on 04 293 7631** or drop us a message through the Secretary ([Secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Secretary@KapitiGen.org)). If you are prepared to write a story he would be delighted!

Late breaking news and events that we find out about between newsletters are added to [our website](#) and remember that by logging into the website you may post events of relevance and interesting links yourself - and update your own contact details.

National Library Talks

The next month's talk is on **Wednesday 19th August 12.10-1pm** when Jocelyn Chambers' talk will be entitled "Funny Old Sources"

This will be followed by a Conservation Clinic to help you look after those precious old documents, National Preservation Office Field Conservator, Vikki-Anne Heikell, will give hints on how to preserve your family photos. etc. The clinic runs from 1.00-1.30 and as numbers are limited you are advised to book - preservation@dia.govt.nz.

During Family History Month, there will also be imaging services available and another talk on digitising of family collections.

September is Wellington Heritage Month and the National Library Talk will be on Maps, by Mark Bagnall on Tuesday Sept. 15th.

Round Robins

If you wish to subscribe to either of our Round Robin magazines, contact Meryl Opie ([RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RoundRobin@KapitiGen.org)) to get your name added to the list. Further details on our website under [Resources > Round Robins](#).

Subs \$15 per year starting Jul/Aug) to either of FamilyTree magazine or Who Do You Think You Are.

This is a really good way of keeping up with the latest news and having access to interesting articles without having to subscribe to the magazines. Do check out which magazines are available. They all have a wealth of ideas and information.

Other magazines you may be interested in **Irish Roots** is a small magazine published quarterly, that contains some useful contact information. For those with ancestors in Ireland, particularly Northern Ireland, the 2015 conference 'Tracing your Irish Ancestors' is taking place 6-12th September, just in time to adjust your overseas trip schedule!

The National Library of Ireland's latest project is the digitization of the Library's entire collection of Catholic parish registers, which will be free to search from the summer 2015. They cover dates from 1740s to 1880s and are considered one of the most important sources of Irish family history information.

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

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

Venue: Kapiti Community Centre,
15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

Branch fundraisers:

Bag, sweat shirt, t-shirt

Available from our store

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



Used ink cartridges

Please continue to bring your empty cartridges to the monthly Branch meetings. Alternatively they may be dropped off to Pat in Raumati, 39 Lorna Irene Drive. If they won't fit in the letterbox just leave them at the front door. Pat Keppell Ph (04) 299 1100

Kapiti Genealogy on Facebook

Check out our facebook page .You don't need to be a registered user of facebook to read it, simply click on the link if reading this on your computer, or search for Kapiti Genealogy facebook.

Please let Kathy Callaghan have any suggestions as to how best to use this medium. If a Facebook user, do remember to click "like".

Research Assistance

Members needing assistance with their research, are welcome at the weekly Wednesday morning sessions at the APFHC at the Paraparaumu Library. Alternately, 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.

Branch Committee

Convener: Hilary Cunningham 04 971 7986
(may need to dial the 04) convener "at" KapitiGen.org

Deputy Convener: Bill McKeich Tel: 905 6952

Secretary: Denice McCarten Tel: 905 8266
secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer/ Membership: Lorna Henderson
Tel: 293 7771 treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org

Programmes & Activities: Ian Brooking & Bill McKeich
programme "at" KapitiGen.org

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Meeting registrar: Dianne Sleeman

Newsletter Editor: Sheila Jolley editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Branch Officers

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Webmasters: Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Magazine Round Robin Manager: Meryl Opie
RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Sound System: Bill McKeich, backup Ian Brooking

Equipment Support: Lindsay Olsen backup up Lorna

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org

Legacy Users: Gerald Twiss Gero "at" ihug.co.nz

DNA: Lorna (04) 293 7771

Portfolio descriptions and current holders are listed on our web site - in the **Who Does What** section of 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. Email links throughout the newsletter are clickable, remove one of the @ symbols before sending.

Membership

Interested in learning how to uncover your family history?

Check out our membership details at

<http://www.kapitigen.org/membership/>

Next Monthly Meeting
Tuesday August 25th at 7pm

Tales from the Trenches
Videos of soldiers in WW1