

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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Kia Ora everyone



I have just returned from visiting family and friends in Europe and am still suffering from 36 hours of travel and a 12 hour time difference! I'm sure I'll be fully recovered by our meeting on the 22nd, in time to enjoy a fun night and a great way to finish off the year, so please do try and come.

Often, in our genealogy research, we come across fellow researchers, especially if they have a tree on the same website, but I made a connection in the strangest of ways whilst on my trip.

At the end of October, my CUNNINGHAM cousins (my father's side) all gathered in Holyhead, North Wales, to celebrate our cousin's 60th birthday. Because the party included a lot of friends – and a lot of very loud music, it was decided that the cousins would all meet at the local sailing club on Sunday afternoon for a chance to catch up in quieter surroundings. While chatting away happily, I noticed a copy of the October RNLI magazine. The RNLI is the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity set up to fund lifeboats located around the UK coast to assist in the rescue of sailors in distress. Most of the crews are volunteers and many men have lost their lives during daring sea rescues. I learned about the RNLI when researching my mother's DISTIN family tree.

On the Devon coast, at a place called Salcombe, there had been a terrible loss of life when a lifeboat had been capsized by a giant wave, as the crew had attempted to cross the sandbar heading back into the harbour. 13 of

the 15 crew drowned. Three of those on board were DISTIN brothers. Two of them drowned but one, Eddie DISTIN survived.

Imagine my amazement when I saw that the magazine featured a special article on the Salcombe Lifeboat Disaster to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the event which happened on 27 October 1916. Upon reading the article I learned that a book had been published, written by Roger Barrett, the curator of Salcombe Lifeboat Museum. I ordered the book directly from Roger who was interested in my connection to the DISTINs in the book. I had not, as yet, managed to link my tree with these men, but after providing Roger with my ancestral line, he not only confirmed that our trees are connected, but emailed me copies of all his research into the DISTIN families. I will be able to expand the tree with this additional information and am incredibly grateful to Roger for his generous sharing of such valuable documentation.

Closer to home, I would like to say a heart-felt "Thank you" to our Committee Members and other volunteers who have supported our branch throughout the year. Your energy and enthusiasm is such a major part of the success of our branch and is very much appreciated by everyone.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish you all, a very happy Christmas, and a successful and rewarding New Year.

Hilary

**This month's meeting is
November 22nd 7-9 pm**

**End of year function.
Don't miss it!**



November Branch Meeting

When: November 22nd at 7-9pm
Where: Kapiti Community centre
What: **End of Year function with a quiz under the direction of Deborah Shuker, Quiz Mistress Extraordinaire.**



Plus drinks and nibbles

Plus Christmas raffle

Plus fun and good company for all!



Meeting Convenor: Hilary

Branch news

Kapiti Branch Survey

A survey is being sent out with this newsletter, and it's really important to the Committee to get as many people's views as possible. So, please, we urge you complete it and help us keep our Branch active and useful to all the members. It's not difficult and will take only a few minutes of your time.

All answers will be treated as confidential.

The results will be presented at a Branch meeting and will help us decide our future direction and activities. We're excited to see what you think. Many thanks!

There is a Reminder on Page 7!



Congratulations!

Valerie Freeman, a long-time member of the Kapiti Branch has won the 2016 **Elder Person of the Year Award**.

Valerie was secretary of the Branch for many years and its first Life Member.

At the recent award ceremony the trophy was handed over by Trevor Daniell who won it last year. Betty van Galen, the first person to win the award when launched in 2014, was also present.

Don't forget to give any certificates to Kathy before February 2017

One of the services provided by NZSG for its members is the Certificate Collection. Over many years, members have sent in copies or originals of certificates and documents. These are indexed and members can request copies of these. The service saves members dollars and research time.

Kapiti Branch will be making a bulk contribution to the collection early next year. Please photocopy your certificates (or bring originals if you no longer need them), to any meeting, give to any committee member or directly to Kathy. Or you can post them to 81 The Drive, Paraparaumu Beach. Print out scanned copies, as this saves time and money for those doing the indexing.

Besides birth, death and marriage certificates, Kathy will be collecting baptisms, parish records, marriage banns, intention to marry certificates, coroner's reports, and burial records from all over the world, not only New Zealand. This your opportunity to help others benefit from your research.

Kathy Callaghan

Other news

October Branch Meeting

Don Niccol opened the meeting with his introduction to the "Smythe & Bullen family histories" book which he has recently donated to the library.

The rest of the evening was filled with Brad & Kathryn Patterson's interesting and well-illustrated presentation on the lives and families of discharged Irish soldiers. They have researched the life histories of over 1250 individuals, drawing from published and manuscript records, newspapers, and materials provided by family historians. Brad concentrated on the Regiments involved and Kathryn filled in the human perspective.

Thanks to Deborah Shuker for this addition information

The source that the Pattersons referred to in their talk at the October meeting, was published in hard copy and CD by NZSG.

"Discharged in New Zealand Soldiers of the Imperial Foot Regiments who took their discharge in New Zealand 1840-1870"

This has a lot of information in it about each regiment, and particular soldiers details.

I can't see our library catalogue online, but the CD is probably available.

Have you a **SORENSEN** in your family?

SORENSEN Family Reunion 3-5 March 2017, Lincoln, Little River and Akaroa. The formal reunion is on Friday 3rd March at Lincoln, with the weekend free to explore Banks Peninsula.

The Reunion is for the descendants of Peter SORENSEN of Yding, Denmark, who arrived with his family in Lyttelton, November 1873. Family and descendants lived at Robinson's Bay, Little River, Akaroa, Christchurch, New Plymouth and Whangarei. Family names also include ALLAN, KOINOMOPOLOS, MCCANN and RIDER. For further information email Adriana de Groot at a.degroot@xtra.co.nz

NZSG new rules

As most of you will be aware, the NZSG has adopted new rules and has since registered them with the Charities Services. Kapiti Branch operates under the NZSG rules but is a separately registered charity, so we have to adopt the new rules at an Extraordinary General meeting before we can advise Charities Services of the changes. This meeting will be arranged in the New Year.

Surprise, surprise!

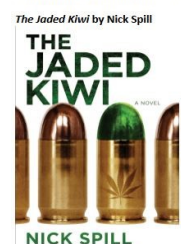
I had no idea that I had a cousin who grew up in New Zealand, until another cousin sent me the following email. Nick Spill is a third cousin.

From the New Zealand Book Council

The Jaded Kiwi by Nick Spill

"Given the author's background, it's fitting that this debut crime novel is a rollicking, madcap tale full of colourful characters. Spill grew up in 1960-1970s New Zealand and curated exhibitions at the National Gallery in Wellington before heading overseas, where he's worked as a bodyguard and is now chief investigator for a government agency in Florida.

It's summer in Auckland, 1976. Marijuana is in short supply. Two couples – a physicist and gynaecologist, and a violinist and actress – meet in a pub, help a Maori leader evade police, and find themselves caught up in the growing war on drugs and organised crime. Dark crime mixed with humour, packed with craziness yet still flows and fits together. This is an enjoyable if slightly over-the-top treat that never takes itself too seriously, and is very Kiwi." *Ed.*



APFHC News



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

Help Sessions

Bev Chappell organises sessions to help with research for the public and members on Wednesday mornings from 10-12am at the APFHC.

The last session for 2016 will be on **December 14th**.

The first session in 2017 will be on **January 18th**.

Volunteers to help with these sessions are always welcome and appreciated by those needing assistance.

Research Assistance

Apart from the weekly Wednesday morning sessions, members needing assistance with their research can use the KapitiGen Forum form on our website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/resources/research/genforum/>). Your request will be passed on to someone who has expertise in that area.

Resources

We have wonderful resources on all six of our computers at the APFHC, quite apart from all the other records and books. You are encouraged to use these resources as often as you need. They are the envy of other Genealogy Societies. See <https://www.thegenealogist.com/coverage/> for the coverage of our subscription to The Genealogist.

See **page 6** for **Lorna's suggestions** on resources to check out. (over Christmas!!)

Additional NZ records.

Overcome the lack of wildcard searches of our Department of Internal Affairs BDM indexes by using our FindMyPast subscription at the APFHC to find your NZ ancestors, in the same indexes.

Computer Password at the APFHC

The APFHC computer password changes regularly: check the red folder in the drawer.

Members need to get the cupboard key from the library Welcome desk. We also ask that you sign the blue sign-in book found in the drawer - such statistics help us when applying for grants.

Please replace the cover on the computer when you leave and lock the keyboard in the cupboard.

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 use memory sticks instead to record the results of your research.

Computers

If you are researching and do not need the help of the volunteers, please consider coming at a time other than the 10 to 12 time slot on Wednesday mornings, when use of the computers is at a premium.



Round Robins

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

Subs \$15 per year starting Jul/Aug) to either Family Tree 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. They all have a wealth of ideas and information

When the 'round robin' subscribers have finished with them, the magazines are put into folders in our library at the APFHC. So do check them out. Most articles do not date.

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 in the [programme information on our website](#), both in a downloadable document and on the calendar.

November 22nd: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting . Details on page 2.

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, FindMyPast and The Genealogist. Public and members welcome

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

Thursday 9th February: Australian interest group (APFHC) 10 to 12 noon

Saturday 19th November: Roots magic group at Kapiti Community Centre., 2-4pm.

Saturday 3rd December: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group, 1- 4pm at the Senior Citizens Rooms, Ocean Rd.

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursday of every month from February to December.

Next session **Thursday February 9th 2017** for help with any Australian research. 10-12am at the APFHC.

Legacy Users

Our meetings are the last Saturday of every second month from February to October. Everyone is welcome.

CHANGE OF DATE & VENUE -

There has been a change of date and venue for the next Legacy Users Group meeting.

DATE: Saturday 3rd December

PLACE: the Senior Citizens Rooms, 45 Ocean Road, Paraparaumu Beach.

(Now called Ocean Road Community Centre)

Doors open 12.30 pm to 5 pm. Meeting from 2 pm to 4 pm. Normal meeting, not a workshop.

From 12-30pm bring your own lunch if you would like to eat with others before our last meeting for the year.

Tea and coffee available. Cost: \$2

Contact Gerald Twiss [Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](mailto:Gero@ihug.co.nz) for more details.

Roots Magic group

Don't miss our last meeting for the year on Saturday 19th Nov. 2-4, doors open 1:30pm. \$3 to cover costs/refreshments.

Main topic: Sources.

Bring along your questions and tips.

First meeting for 2017 will be in **March**.

Contact form on our web page (<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/rootsmagic/>) for enquiries/suggestions.

DNA

Informal (free) 2-monthly group for anyone interested in adding DNA testing to their genealogy toolkit.

The DNA landscape moves fast.

Not only are we being met with a nearly exponential growth in our matches as more and more people turn to DNA to see what they can learn, but where you can test and find new matches or share your results is also changing.

You may be interested in the latest set of announcements from MyHeritage - who have thankfully overcome the problems in the initial beta test of their matching system, and Your Genetic Genealogist, CeCe Moore's comments:

<http://blog.myheritage.com/2016/11/dna-matching-now-out-of-beta/>

<http://blog.myheritage.com/2016/11/introducing-myheritage-dna/#http://blog.myheritage.com/2016/11/myheritage-dna-your-questions-answered/>

CeCe Moore's comments: [http://](http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com/2016/11/myheritage-launches-dna-testing-service.html)

www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com/2016/11/myheritage-launches-dna-testing-service.html, which includes " If you haven't uploaded your raw data from another testing company to MyHeritage yet, you may consider doing so quickly before they cease offering that option."

Group restarts mid **February 2017**

Lorna 04 293 7771 All questions welcome.

Resources to check out at the APFHC

Time to spare over Christmas? I suggest you check out these newly added resources that can be accessed at our Alison Procter Family History Centre at the Paraparaumu Library.

Lorna

FindMyPast (on all 6 computers from our Kapiti Genealogy menu).

Several new Royal Navy and Marines records:

- muster rolls 1739-1861 (British Royal Navy, Ships' Musters (<http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-records/british-royal-navy-ships-musters>) "an excellent resource for genealogists looking to find seafaring ancestors in the Royal Navy before service records began in 1853... the muster roll books recorded the names and birth details of every person present on board a ship and were kept on an 8-week basis for accounting and administrative reasons."

- British Royal Naval Reserve 1899-1930 (British Royal Naval Reserve 1899-1930 (<http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-records/british-royal-naval-reserve-1899-1930>) "... over 81,000 service cards of officers and ratings who served with the RNR. The records list the names, ranks and dates of service of RNR personnel as well as details of awards, promotions and notes on their character and behaviour during combat."

- Royal Navy & Royal Marines Service and Pension Records, 1704-1919 collection (second phase: British Royal Navy & Royal Marines Service and Pension Records, 1704-1919 (<http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-Records/british-royal-navy-and-royal-marines-service-and-pension-records-1704-1919>) "...consists of an assortment of documents kept by the Greenwich Hospital and the Royal Hospital Chelsea to record the details of Greenwich Pensioners and spans over 230 years of British naval history from to 1704 to 1934."

Any ancestors in Lower Canada by 1825?

- The Lower Canada Census 1825 (<http://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-records/lower-canada-census-1825>) "over 74,000 records covering modern day Labrador and southern Quebec. Each search result will provide you will an image of the original document and a transcript revealing the language your ancestor spoke, where they lived and with how many people they lived." (and their approximate ages by age bands and sex)

TheGenealogist - have you tried it yet? Better late than never!

Back in April The Genealogist released over 2.5million Essex Parish Register transcriptions 1512-2005, and added to their Worcestershire Parish Register Transcriptions 1544-1891 (over 2million records). And in January, 3.6million Norfolk Parish Records, transcriptions linked to original images.

Stymied in your search in England and Wales 1837+ by the birth indexes not having the mother's surname prior to 1911? Or the age of death prior to 1865?

Check out the new indexes provided by the **General Register Office** (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>). Yes the indexes are still available on a number of sites but this new one is a re-index, with new search facilities from the source itself. As a trial for three weeks you can order cheap copies of certificates as a PDF.

Check out the LostCousins newsletter for some helpful hints - <http://lostcousins.com/newsletters2/nov16news.htm#HowtoGRO>

and these helpful posts by our NZSG past president Fiona Brooker on her MemoriesInTime blog

- GRO Update - Searching the England & Wales Birth and Death Indexes

<https://memoriesintime.co.nz/blogs/news/update-england-wales-birth-and-death-indexes>

- GRO Indexes - Solving mysteries

<https://memoriesintime.co.nz/blogs/news/gro-indexes-solving-mysteries>

- GRO - Have you tried the new ordering system?

<https://memoriesintime.co.nz/blogs/news/gro-have-you-tried-the-new-pdf-birth-death-certificates>

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday November 22nd 2016

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting starts.

Supper roster: O - T

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

Committee meetings: 7.30pm, 1st Wednesday of months February - December.

Welcome to new member:

Colin CAMERON.

Please make yourself known to other members at our monthly meetings. We would love to share experiences with you. It's your opportunity to find out where you can get help with your story. We hope you'll enjoy our facilities and get great benefit from your membership.



REMINDER!

With this month's newsletter you will receive a very important survey which is being sent to all members either electronically, using Survey Monkey, or by post.

The Committee would like to find out what genealogical experience we have in the Branch, what you think of our current programme, facilities and services and how we can help to further your research.

It's important that we get the views of as many members as possible so we'd really appreciate it if you would take the few minutes needed to fill it the survey as fully as you can.

Thank you! See you all in the New Year



School records transcription project

This project is playing an essential part in digitizing our local schools' records.

If you are willing to take part in this project contact the coordinator, John Glover. He will be pleased to hear from you.

([pamandjohn "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:pamandjohn@paradise.net.nz))

Help with Research

Sue Greene, who has been our Research Officer for several years is no longer able to take on serious genealogy research. Many thanks, Sue, for the valuable help you have given to many people with a variety of requests.

If anyone is willing to assist with research queries in one or more specific areas/countries, please contact a member of the Committee. Your help will be appreciated.

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

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 on how to make the best to use of this medium. If a Facebook user, do remember to click "like".

Suggestions for next years programme, please!

What do you want to see included in next year's programme? This is your chance to bring to the committee's attention any topics that are of particular interest. Have you heard any interesting speakers? Do you have an idea for a 'how to' or workshop?

Please give us your ideas. It's important that the programme includes something for everyone. It is your Branch!





Branch meetings:

4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

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

Branch Committee

Convener: Hilary Cunningham

Phone: 04 971 7986

Convenor "at" KapitiGen.org

Secretary: Denice McCarten

Phone: 905 8266

secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer and Membership:

Lorna Henderson

Phone: 293 7771

treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org

Programme & Activities:

Ian Brooking

programme "at" KapitiGen.org

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Member: Bernard Mc Manus

Newsletter Editor: Sheila Jolley

editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Webmasters:

Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Sound System: Ian Brooking

Schools liaison: Bill McKeich

Email links

Throughout the newsletter email links are clickable. Remove the "at" and insert the @ symbol before sending.

Membership

We welcome new and returning members. Our annual subscription is \$25.

Please refer to the website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/2016/01/membership-renewals-201617/>) for joining and payment instructions.

Ex-officio committee

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Magazine Round Robins:

Meryl Opie

RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Meeting registrar: Donna Bridgeman

Equipment Support:

Lindsay Olsen backup up Lorna

Catering: Judy Olsen

Ink cartridges: Jill Craig

Schools project: John Glover

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker

OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org

Legacy Users: Gerald Twiss

Gero "at" ihug.co.nz

DNA: Lorna Henderson

Roots Magic: Lorna Henderson

RootsMagic "at" KapitiGen.org

Portfolio descriptions and current holders are listed on our web site - in the **Who Does What** section of the "About" menu.

Used ink cartridges

Please continue to bring your empty cartridges to the monthly Branch meetings.

They will be handed on to Jill Craig, our used- cartridge collector.

Newsletter contributions.

Deadline: Saturday after 1st Wednesday of month.

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

Photos welcomed for illustration - resolution of 300dpi or higher.

Next meeting
January 24th 2017

Bill's Australian Odyssey with
Bill McKeich