# KAPITI BRANCH N.Z.S.G. New Zealand Society of Genealogists P.O. Box 6, Paraparaumu



Meetings held at Masonic Lodge Rooms, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu 4th Wednesdays of months January to November at 7.30 pm April 2001

## PROGRAMMES

Apr 25th John MacGibbon "Struan's War" May 23rd Cafe Evening: Theme "Grandparents' Traditions" Jun 27th To be advised

### NOTICES

NEW MEMBERS William & Eileen Allan, Valerie Andrews, Barry & Jewel Blake, Allison Chappell, Sarah Childs, John Eller, Allan Morrison, Kath Rigartsford, Margaret Stevens & Myra Wootton. WELCOME TO YOU ALL. Do let us know what families your are looking for. Maybe someone in the Group will be able to help

HERITAGE MONTH is held in June. Details on page 3

NZSG CONFERENCE is being held in New Plymouth this year, dates 1st to 4th June 2001. Are you going? Have you registered yet?

POST CONFERENCE TOURS by the Overseas Guest Speakers, Helen Doxford Harris & Gary Presland will be speaking in Palmerston North on Tuesday, 5th June and also at a joint Wellington/Hutt Valley combined meeting on Thursday, 14th June Unfortunately the keynote speaker, Rosemary Bigwood, will not be stopping between Hamilton (15th June) and Motueka (17th June), but if any of our members are in either place they might like to make a note in their diaries. Details on all of these speakers are included on a later page

# **Supper Helpers**

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To assist the Committee, will members please help with supper duties, particularly the serving and washing up. **Apr. S-T** MayU-Z

### NOTES ON NZSG CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

**Rosemary Bigwood** is a University Lecturer from Edinburgh, Scotland. She is also a lecturer of Scotland & Scottish Family History at Stirling University, Edinburgh University and at conferences throughout Scotland, Great Britain and America (including Salt Lake City, North Carolina & Baltimore). She has published books, contributed articles and made broadcasts.

The other two speakers come from Australia:

**Helen Doxford Harris,** from Victoria, has a degree in history and was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 1993 for services to community history. She is an Honorary Life Member of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, a member of the Professional Historians Association, and a founder and honorary life member of the Avoca and District Historical Society. Helen is a popular speaker who has lectured widely and is the author/co-author of three books and numerous articles, and has compiled a number of microflched indexes.

**Gary Presland** had a career in the Royal Australian Navy, followed by the Australian Merchant Marine, then he studied history and archaeology at universities in Melbourne and London. He worked for some years in the heritage field for the Victorian Government before becoming the Manager of the Victoria Police Historical Unit. Currently he is the Head Curator of the Technology Programme at Museum Victoria

### INVITATION FROM THE PALMERSTON NORTH BRANCH

Helen Doxford Harris & Gary Presland will be speaking at the Kilwinning Lodge, Church Street, Palmerston North (next the Abbey Theatre) on Tuesday 5th June at 7 p.m.

Helen will speak on "Basic Victorian research, Goldfield's research, Destitute and Insane records, Probates, Shipping and Inland records Gary, a former manager of The Historical Prison in Melbourne, will talk about Police Ancestry and Criminal records. Charge for non-members is \$7.50 Doors open at 6.30p.m. Anyone interested in going up for this?

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**DAYTIME MEETINGS?** Is anyone who does not drive at night interested in having daytime meetings?

**HELP AVAILABLE** This is just a reminder that Val Freeman runs the Help Desk at meetings for anyone with queries, also Barbara Humpage holds Starter Packs and various other forms on her Sales Table. As well, Barbara has an index containing members interests, so add the names you are researching, and you may find others in the book that are looking for the same ones.

**LATTER DAY** SAINTS **FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE** in Porirua still seems to be having a few problems with staffing their rooms. While their hours have been advertised aslOam to 12 noon on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, there have been occasions recently when the volunteers have not turned up. On the bright side, the rooms may be open until 2 p.m. when volunteers are available, so if you are thinking of going down there it is just as well to phone first to check

**OUR LIBRARY** Don't forget that we have other genealogy groups' newsletters in our library, as well as numerous books on the subject. Just remember, until you delve into them, you won't know what is there. Some people have been researching their family trees for 30 or 40 years, and still haven't found out all they want to know! So keep on going!

**HERITAGE MONTH** (contined from Page 1) will be marked on 2nd and 3rd June (Queen's Birthday Weekend) with stalls and displays at Southwards. Part of it will include antiques and, if anyone would like a large item's value checked beforehand, this can be arranged. The theme this year is *"Communications"*. Barbara and Val, who are our representatives on the Heritage Trust, will be glad of help on the Kapiti Genealogy Branch stall. Any volunteers?

Another Heritage function will be the opening night of the film "*PEARL HARBOUR*" at Movieland 4 at 7pm for wine and chees/nibbles with 8pm start for the film. Charge \$15.

HAVE YOU ANY TALES TO TELL? If you would like to share some of your research stories with the rest of us, your Editor would very much like to hear from you. Please remember that we now have a number of new members who are just beginning the confusing trail of trying to trace their ancestors and could use a helping hand

Genealogy: Willl ever find time to do other work?

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CONVENOR	Rosalyn Smaill	299-7395
SECRETARY	Valerie Freeman	298-7396
TREASURER	Shirley West	293-4438
MINUTES	John Glover	902-2486
LIBRARIANS	Debbie Benton	902-4940
	Meryl Opie	298-8737
PROGRAMMES		
& GRANTS	Angela Milsted	299-0338
HELP DESK	Val Freeman	298-7396
SALES	Barbara Humpage	902-4979
MICROFICHE	Barbara Tunley	298-6531
NEWSLETTER	Alison Procter	904-3229
PROJECTS	Marydell Haddock	298-7254
HOSTESS/SUPPER	Doreen Heron	902-1918
PUBLICITY	Gerald Twiss	902-0926

#### NEWSPAPERS AS RESEARCH TOOLS

Newspapers hold a wealth of information for the Genealogist. In them are Notices of Births, Deaths & Marriages. Shipping movements often had passenger lists in the past, if you are trying to trace when your Forebears came out here. There are also historical events and information, Government policies, as well as business reports, sporting news and many more items of interest.

Indexes of what newspapers are held on microfilm in the Alexander Turnbull Library are available upstairs, giving the years covered, and the microfilms and readers are held in the basement. Then if your required information is found, you can get a printout at a nominal charge, after filling in the required form. I have found the staff, both upstairs and downstairs, very helpful.

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*Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools! Shh! Be very quiet. ......I'm hunting forebears.*