



## Kapiti Branch

**Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc**

P O Box 703, Paraparaumu [kapiti\(at\)genealogy.org.nz](mailto:kapiti(at)genealogy.org.nz)

[www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/)

### April 2008 Newsletter

#### Upcoming meetings:

##### Monday 21 April

##### Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group

Contact Hanley Hoffmann at 904 3276 or

[hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz)

##### Tuesday 22 April 2008

##### Kapiti Branch meeting

##### Key identification factors in approaching family research

Speaker: Margaret Brown

Research facilities available from 7pm

Main session begins at 7.45pm

##### Monday 12 May 2008, 7.30pm

##### Computer-Friendly Genealogy

##### Using Legacy

Speaker: Gerald Twiss

#### Looking ahead:

##### Tuesday 27 May

##### Kapiti Branch meeting

##### Using the NZ Gazette Archive

Speaker: Matthew Prosser

##### Wednesday 4 June, 10am to 12pm

##### Help with your research

Alison Procter Family History Centre,  
Paraparaumu Library

##### Monday 9 June, 7.30pm

##### Computer-Friendly Genealogy

##### Followup using the NZ Gazette Archive

#### Meeting venues

All meetings are held in the Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu unless stated otherwise.

**Need a ride** to Branch or Computer-Friendly Genealogy meetings? Ring Jackie Holland on 293-2296 if you would like to be picked up or if you can offer a seat in your vehicle.

#### Dates for 2008

The complete list of meeting dates and topics

for 2008 is available on the Branch webpage,

[www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/)

#### For your calendar:

##### 2008 Expo(at)Kilbirnie

EXPO 2008 KILBIRNIE BRANCH

**Saturday 19th April**, 8.30am - 4.30pm.

St Patrick's Parish Hall, 15-19 Rongotai Road, Kilbirnie, in the heart of the Kilbirnie shops, on bus routes, with cafes and shops across the road. Stalls, displays, bookstalls and workshops, featuring Beehive Books and Jan Gow, FRC Books and Peter Nash, Irish, Scottish, Australian, London interest groups, computer and other help desks, participation by Findmypast. \$2 door charge.

[www.nzsgkilbirnie.org.nz](http://www.nzsgkilbirnie.org.nz) has details of speakers.

**Conservation Roadshow**, part of Records and Archives Week, Saturday 3 May, 9am – 1pm at Archives NZ. Bring your treasures for advice on how best to preserve them. More information at [www.aranz.org.nz](http://www.aranz.org.nz)

#### NZSG Conference

Queen's Birthday Weekend, **30 May to 2 June** 2008 in Christchurch. Registration forms can be downloaded from the NZSG Website [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz) or email [2008conference\(at\)genealogy.org.nz](mailto:2008conference(at)genealogy.org.nz) or write to PO Box 20 506 Bishopdale, Christchurch 8543.

#### Celtic Day

**20 July 2008**, Kapiti Community Centre. 10am-4pm. Scottish and Irish research only. \$10 door charge. More details in May newsletter.

#### Convenor's comment

On April 7 at a brief function at the Paraparaumu Library, our research collection was dedicated as the Alison Procter Family History Centre, with representatives of Alison's family, KCDC Libraries, Kapiti and Otaki NZSG Branch Committees. Presentations by Kapiti District Libraries Manager Leslie Clague,

Procter family representative Andrew Procter and me were followed by morning tea. Alison was a longstanding Kapiti resident before her death last year and very involved in a wide range of community organisations on the Coast, including the Kapiti Branch. A resume of her life appeared in the August 2007 Branch newsletter and the Library has issued a pamphlet which is available at the Centre and Information Desk.

The occasion also saw the official launch of the NZ Gazette Archive which we have purchased with a grant from Pub Charity. We have signed a partnership agreement with Kapiti Coast District Libraries, who have agreed to fund the annual updates. The Branch retains ownership of the Archive and the Library has access through the three district libraries at Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Otaki. This arrangement falls within the licensing agreement with the company LexisNexis who supplied the Archive. The Archive is available on the Branch PCs at Paraparaumu and on the public computers in all three libraries. We will also use it on our laptops at research days and Branch meetings.

The Gazette is the official New Zealand Government publication and issued every Thursday. It goes back to 1841 and is a record of legal, land, organisational change and appointments, statistics, intellectual property, bankruptcies, commerce and lots more. It is searchable – you can put your ancestor's name in and scan the results. Access details are in the PC use booklet at the Alison Procter Family History Centre together with a pamphlet giving more information and advice.

- Clive Palmer

### **Introducing . . . . Lorna Henderson**

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Finding a box of old family photographs was what started me off on this obsession in the early 1970s. Back then it was a hobby under control. It became less under control after my parents and I cleared out an aunt's house in the mid-1980s, with its treasure trove of HENDERSON family bits and bobs. Then about 1990 I decided it was long past time I investigated my mother's ANDREWS family history. The end of normal life as I knew it. That was when I found that early New Zealand history was actually interesting. (My great-great-grandparents arrived on the *Timandra* in New Plymouth in 1841.) From then on I was completely and utterly hooked, and obsessed,

to the point that by early 2002 I decided work was getting in the way, so I retired (from the computer industry).

I love the detective work involved, the happenstances, and my worldwide correspondence with like-minded obsessives. It gives me a reason to travel and to go to places off the beaten tourist track. I've had a couple of research trips to the UK, ensconcing myself in records offices, then exploring the places uncovered by my research.

Being in a wheelchair does provide a few interesting sidelights to this, as churchyards aren't always the most accessible of places, and are often the haunt of more than a few family ghosts. I nearly fell out of my chair at Arthuret, in Cumberland when my front wheel went down a rabbit hole, and nearly got stuck in the Hounam Churchyard on the Scottish Borders when I discovered that the gentle slope I'd rolled down was rather steeper going back up. It's all very well always carrying a mobile, but who on earth would you ring to be rescued?

The last trip was 2006, not so much research this time, apart from Devon, but plenty of meeting up with people and relations I'd been

corresponding with for 10-15 years but had never met. The highlight of that one was meeting up with distant cousins during my search for wheelchair accessible accommodation in Devon. Through them I was invited for afternoon tea in the farmhouse where my five greats grandparents had lived, and before them at least one, probably more, generations of the wife's family, and after them at least two more generations before the system of three life leases ran out and the Lord of the Manor took the lease back in the 1870s with the death of the final "life".

My latest obsession within an obsession is what DNA testing can do for genealogy. I run five surname DNA projects (through FamilyTree DNA with project pages on the World Families Network). All families have rumours of connections to this or that other family, or brick walls, or suspect links. If suitable candidates can be found, and persuaded to participate, all sorts of fun can be had.

My FAIRBAIRN project  
<http://worldfamilies.net/surnames/f/fairbairn/>  
has yet to prove what I set out to prove, but unexpected DNA matches with my base

reference FAIRBAIRN line DNA have popped out of the woodwork. One match enabled me to get back past my brick wall of Archibald FAIRBAIRN and Alison CROSSER. Just recently, a third match popped up, which match has thrown previous research for that line back into the melting pot for verification.

My RUNCIMAN project

<http://worldfamilies.net/surnames/r/runciman/> has proved to my satisfaction that a line in Michigan are indeed related to the line from Wanton Walls on the Scottish Borders. Pity it doesn't tell us exactly how they are related,

just that they are extremely highly likely to be. The other projects (SINTON, ROWE, DAWE) aren't yet as successful, but I have hopes.

My own DNA test merely shows I'm unique, I have no close matches in the (DNA tested) world. Personally, I'd rather find some unexpected matches to further my maternal line research, but in the meantime I'll take perverse pleasure in being proved unique.

Anyone interested in my research can browse my web pages at <http://lornahen.com/> It's a continual work in progress.

#### **Computer Corner with Sue Greene**

One of the most annoying emails I often get is from people who think they are doing me a good turn by warning me of a new virus. If you get these emails from friends telling you there is a new virus on the loose that can do harm to your computer, the first thing YOU should do before passing these nonsense emails on is go to a search engine and type in the name of the so-called new virus which will tell you it's a load of rubbish and nothing but a hoax. All these emails do is clog up the ISPs and drive you up the wall. Then email the friend and tell them they should do the same thing before forwarding these emails on.

The other annoying emails are the chain letters which are usually forwarded with jokes. At the bottom it tells you to pass this onto at least five, seven or 10 other people then wait to see what pops up on your screen. It really works. Yeah right. I have been waiting for months for something to pop up on my screen. It's never going to happen. Don't pass these chain letters on.

#### **Branch notes**

#### **New members**

Welcome to the following new members who

have joined us since the previous newsletter: Joan Sherley, Adele Smith, Kerry and Lyn Lee, and Gail Wilson.

#### **Branch meeting report - March**

Bill Carter shared his experience of researching land records through the LINZ reference room on The Terrace in Wellington. He told us about the considerable research he had done into his family's land holdings in the Chatham Islands.

To make use of the historical land records, a researcher needs to know three things: a

surname, a date and accurate street address. Bill advised using electoral rolls and Wise's Post Office Directories to determine a house number. Probate records sometimes mentioned exact addresses too. Other possible sources of addresses were Wellington city archives and land tax records in Archives NZ. The main service LINZ offers is online access to records by subscription. This is used mainly by land agents and legal firms. While online access has been promoted in recent years, over the counter service has declined, and Bill predicted this trend would continue. The digitised records are for all of New Zealand but only go back to 1975. Older records are

spread among LINZ reference rooms around New Zealand. The Wellington office has the fieldbooks for original surveyors for the area from Wellington to Gisborne and from Wellington to Wanganui, and, luckily for Bill, for the Chatham Islands.

Because of the fragility of old records, they often could not be photocopied, but taking photos with a digital camera was a good alternative.

#### **Archives NZ visit**

Fifteen branch members visited Archives NZ for a tour on 8 April. The records they found there included coroner inquiries, probates, shipping lists, intentions to marry, war service, Maori wars, Maori land register, class rolls, naturalisation papers, criminal case files, Police Gazettes and early New Zealand Company maps of settlement.

#### **Help, please!**

Volunteer helpers needed for day meetings at the library on 4 June and 1 October, 1-3pm; also for Saturday morning day meetings, 5 July, 2 August and 6 September, 10am to 1pm. Ring Jackie on 293-2296 or email [jtholland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jtholland@xtra.co.nz).

### Library news

You can find newsletters from other genealogy branches in printed form in our library cupboard. Some recent tidbits:

Waitara: Handy hints from

[www.archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index/NZ-TARANAKI](http://www.archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index/NZ-TARANAKI)

Balclutha, January: excellent article on the Catlins

Balclutha, March: Group are updating Lawrence and Waitahuna cemeteries.

### Kapiti Branch help desk

Valerie Freeman runs our "Help Desk" at our main monthly meetings, but those seeking basic advice and guidance on Family History research may also ring her at home (298-7396) at any time, within reason!

#### Special Interest Groups:

**Family Tree Maker** Hanley Hoffmann  
phone 904-3276  
[hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz)

**Australia** until further notice, the contact is Hanley Hoffmann (as above)

**The Master Genealogist** Lorna Henderson  
phone 293-7771  
[lornah@paradise.net.nz](mailto:lornah@paradise.net.nz)

#### On the web

### New Zealand war memorials register

The Ministry of Culture and Heritage has an ongoing project to document New Zealand memorials. It currently includes about 480 civic WWI memorials.

[www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/the-memorials-register](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/the-memorials-register).

Findmypast.com has completed its project to scan and index all the **outbound passenger lists** departing British ports from 1890 to 1960. Searching is free, or you can pay-per-view to see details.

Findmypast.com is looking for people who've **found a family warbride** or an emigrant to Australia through using their database and are willing to be identified and share their story. The genealogy website wants to use these stories in the press for marketing purposes. Send your story to [casestudies@findmypast.com](mailto:casestudies@findmypast.com) with "Appeal" in the subject line.

### Irish births, deaths and marriages are

coming online at [www.irish-roots.net](http://www.irish-roots.net). The website's map shows which counties' records are available now, which are "coming soon" and which are still some way off. Eventually it will hold details of all church records, which in some cases go back to 1600. Certificates cost five euros, but searching is free, and may reveal the previously elusive year of a birth, marriage or death.

#### Committee 2007-2008

**Convenor** Clive Palmer

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#### Computer-Friendly Genealogy and

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#### Appointed off-committee:

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**Computer Support** Lindsay Olsen

**Library Support** Bev Chappell and Joy Lamb

**Meeting Registrar** Dave Muirhead

**Programme Support** Kay and Bill Carter