



## Kapiti Branch

### Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists

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

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

Registered charity no. CC33988

### April 2009 Newsletter

#### Meetings coming up

**Tuesday 28 April, 7pm for 7.30pm**

#### **Kapiti Branch meeting**

AGM and update on research resources  
Kapiti Community Centre

#### **Help with your research**

**Saturday 2 May 10am to 12 noon**

Alison Procter Family History Centre

**Monday 11 May 7.30pm**

#### **Computer-friendly genealogy**

Using findmypast.com  
Kapiti Community Centre

#### Looking ahead

**Tuesday 26 May, 7pm for 7.30pm**

#### **Kapiti Branch meeting**

25th anniversary  
Kapiti Community Centre

#### **Help with your research**

**Wednesday 3 June 1pm to 3pm**

Alison Procter Family History Centre

**Monday 8 June 7.30pm**

#### **Computer-friendly genealogy**

Kapiti Community Centre

#### Convenor's comment

Two major meetings coming up should provide lots of interest, so please make a diary note. The **Tuesday 28 April** meeting starts with our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, which is an important opportunity for your committee to report to members. The reports on our activities and audited financial turnover for the past 18 months (we are changing to a different financial year, hence the extended period) have been circulated. Please bring a printout with you.

This is your opportunity to air your views and, most importantly, elect a committee for the 2009/2010 financial year. You will have received a personal note from me, appealing for nominations, in particular for the vacant positions of Convenor and Secretary. If these two positions are not filled, the branch will have major legal difficulties and the committee will be diverted from running the branch while trying to resolve the situation.

After the AGM, we will have a presentation on changes at our **Alison Procter Family History Centre** at Paraparaumu Library. The centre has been upgraded in recent months. Here is your chance to catch up with the book and microfiche collection, and the expanded and upgraded computer system, which now provides improved access to our CD collection and hundreds of genealogy internet sites. We will be online to show you some of these.

Our 26 May meeting is the **25th Anniversary session** of the branch. Twenty-two members signed in at the inaugural meeting on 26 May 1984. Twenty-five years later we have almost 10 times that membership. Celebrations start at 7pm with drinks and snacks, followed by a brief opening and recollections from Kapiti Mayor Jenny Rowan, representatives of NZSG and the branch. Then it is **YURU** time (our homegrown answer to *Who do You Think You Are*) with TV producer, journalist and author Anna Kenna of Raumati presenting her Irish family story. Details later, but make that diary note now.

- Clive Palmer

## **Introducing . . . Beverley Chappell**

My family history is associated with pioneer settlement in Wellington and Nelson. The first of my paternal family arrived in Wellington on 1 March 1842. The *Birman* passenger list recorded James and Maria CHAPPELL, my great-great-grandparents, were accompanied by two sons, aged seven years and one year. This information led me on a wild goose chase for this "missing male one-year-old" having always believed my great-grandfather, James Henry CHAPPELL was an only son with three sisters. Many false assumptions later I found the truth in Dr Motherwell's account of the *Birman* voyage.

This ship's surgeon reports on 19 November 1841 that "*Mrs Chapple's youngest son (who has for sometime being unwell with obstinate Diarrhoea) is in a very weak state and dangerously ill.*" Daily accounts of his condition conclude with the entry on 24 November 1841 stating "*Mrs Chapple's child expired on this morning at about 4 o'clock. I have had a postmortem examination and have mentioned the appearances in my Case Book. We had the Body committed to the deep and the funeral service read over it*". No note of this death has been found in any other official document.

Dr Motherwell records the death of ten infants and two women as well as many other anecdotes of ship life and passenger's health and welfare. Many such accounts are well worth reading and are located in Archives New Zealand and in the Alexander Turnbull Library. A plan of the ship allocation of cabins is often included.

Another ship's surgeon provides information about my maternal ancestors, Edward and Mary Ann BAIGENT, who arrived in Nelson on the *Clifford* on 13 May 1842. Dr Hughes writes of my pregnant great-grandmother several times indicating in mid-April that "*Mrs Baigent's confinement is expected to take place hourly.*" However, Mary Ann had to wait almost another month before giving birth to Joseph BAIGENT, my grandfather, three days after landing in Nelson. His birth took place in a building on the site where Nelson Cathedral stands today. A plan showing the allocation of cabins on the *Clifford* suggests giving birth on land would be preferable to the cabin on board the sailing ship shared with five of their children.

Eventually the Edward BAIGENT family numbered 11 surviving children and contributed much to the village of Wakefield and the Waimea region being involved in farming, flour milling, sawmilling and in local politics and church life especially St John's Church, Wakefield, which is still in use 163 years later. My parents were married in this church and many of my ancestors are buried in the adjacent cemetery. Nelson is the birthplace of my grand parents, parents and my siblings. As a 'home town' it has a lot to remind me of my pioneering heritage.

Finally, with the easy access to computerised data, I am beginning to feel some affinity to the English birthplaces of all my great-grandparents' forebears.

---

## **Branch notes**

### **Notice of 25th Annual General Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the 25th Annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Branch of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc. will be held at the Kapiti Community Centre, Pak'n' Save Room, 15 Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu, on Tuesday, 28 April 2009 commencing at 7.30pm.

### **AGM**

#### **Agenda**

1. Apologies
2. Confirm 2007 AGM Minutes and 2008 SGM Minutes
3. Business arising from the Minutes
4. Branch Report for the period 1 October 2007 to 31 March 2009
5. Financial Report for the period 1 October 2007 to 31 March 2009
6. Appointment of Auditor for 2009/2010
7. Election of Officers and Committee\*
8. General Business

\*Nominations are called for the positions of Convenor, Secretary, Treasurer and (minimum five) Committee Members. Nominees, Nominators, and Seconders, must all be members of NZSG, whilst Nominators and Seconders must all be members of Kapiti Branch. Nomination forms are available from the Acting Secretary. While nominations will be received at the AGM, members are encouraged to submit these beforehand so that credentials can be checked.

Sandra White  
Acting Secretary, Kapiti Branch

---

### **Computers at the Alison Procter Family History Centre**

Two new computers are now up and running in the library, making four computers and linked printers available. Resources on the computers are organised by country. On the right hand side of all monitor screens are folders headed New Zealand, Australia, UK, etc.

In most cases you no longer need to insert CDs, as the information has been loaded directly onto the computers. You will be prompted to insert a disk if necessary. The New Zealand marriage CD does need to be inserted.

Also on the desktop are the icons to access ancestrylibrary.com, the New Zealand Gazettes, and (on PC2 only) findmypast.com. Check the help booklet to find out how to access this site and use the other collections.

The favourites area of the computers contain links to many useful genealogy websites, sorted by country. The New Zealand folder contains the new website for New Zealand births, deaths and marriages. There is also a folder for military websites.

We've also installed a new multi drawer unit for our CD and microfiche collection. Kapiti Coast District Libraries have offered to fund a workstation to house the four computer units and printers and these should be installed by early May. The present arrangement is cramped with hardware, wiring and leads making access and use rather cumbersome.

---

### **New members**

Welcome to Joan DUNKLEY, Fran KENNEDY, Kate IZARD, Margaret STEVENS, Betty REYNOLDS, Ros WALLS, Diana LEWIS and Alan MILNE, who have joined us since the last newsletter.

### **Tea makers for April meeting**

Take a turn with the tea urn. If your surname begins with the letters C to F, please be at the April branch meeting by 7pm to help prepare the hot drinks. In May it will be someone else's turn.

### **Library helpers wanted**

Any more volunteers for Wednesday mornings? Assist the public from 10am to midday with family history research at Paraparaumu Library. No great experience is needed as you'll be on duty with someone else, and you're sure to learn something useful. Expect to be rostered on once a quarter. Ring Bev Chappell on 904 1860 or email [chappell\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:chappell(at)paradise.net.nz).

### **Branch meeting report – March**

Hanley Hoffmann talked about how to organise your information in order to write a family history. He has devised a family history filing and display system that can be set up with supplies available from most stationery shops. A copy of Hanley's filing system is in the Alison Procter Family History Centre.

### **Research meetings**

Don't forget our weekly Wednesday morning sessions (10am to 12 noon) with a facilitator to help you with your research and assist you with the facilities at the Alison Procter Family History Centre. These will be supplemented with several special day meetings focusing on help with your research. Dates are:

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>2 May</b>	<b>10am to 12 noon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3 June</b>	<b>1pm to 3pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4 July</b>	<b>10am to 12 noon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5 Aug</b>	<b>1pm to 3pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5 Sept</b>	<b>10am to 12 noon</b>

## On the web

### Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

[www.raogk.org](http://www.raogk.org)

### Old books

CD scanned versions of old and rare books, mainly New Zealand.

[www.colonialcdbooks.com](http://www.colonialcdbooks.com)

### London Metropolitan Archives

The first of these are now on Ancestry.com (library edition): Board of Guardians Deaths and Burials collection 1834-1906, and some Births and Baptisms 1834-1934.

---

### Committee to April 2009

Convenor	Clive Palmer	<a href="mailto:c-mpalmer(at)xtra.co.nz">c-mpalmer(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	293-7631
Secretary/Sales	Sandy White	<a href="mailto:tersan(at)xtra.co.nz">tersan(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	293-6975
Assistant Secretary	Derek Griffis	<a href="mailto:griffisnz(at)ihug.co.nz">griffisnz(at)ihug.co.nz</a>	293-1092
Treasurer and Membership	Lorna Henderson	<a href="mailto:lornah(at)paradise.net.nz">lornah(at)paradise.net.nz</a>	293-7771
Research Officer, Computer-Friendly Genealogy and Projects	Sue Greene	<a href="mailto:sueg-97(at)xtra.co.nz">sueg-97(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	06 364-8196
Programme and Activities	Jackie Holland	<a href="mailto:jtholland(at)xtra.co.nz">jtholland(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	293-2296
Hostess and Programme Support	Judy Olsen	<a href="mailto:cuppatea(at)paradise.net.n">cuppatea(at)paradise.net.n</a>	
Round Robins	Meryl Opie	<a href="mailto:opiemb(at)xtra.co.nz">opiemb(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	
Alison Proctor Family History Centre	Bev Chappell	<a href="mailto:chappell(at)paradise.net.nz">chappell(at)paradise.net.nz</a>	904 1860
Publicity/Marketing and Newsletter	Liz Matthews	<a href="mailto:liz.matthews(at)xtra.co.nz">liz.matthews(at)xtra.co.nz</a>	293-8553
Meeting Registrar	Dave Muirhead		
<b>Appointed Officers</b>			
Help Desk	Valerie Freeman		298-7396
Webmaster	Barry Thomson	<a href="mailto:thobar(at)clear.net.nz">thobar(at)clear.net.nz</a>	
Library Support	Joy Lamb	<a href="mailto:jrlamb(at)paradise.net.nz">jrlamb(at)paradise.net.nz</a>	904-2423
Computer Support	Lindsay Olsen		
Programme Support	Kay and Bill Carter		

### The Alison Procter Family History Centre

is located upstairs at Paraparaumu Library. Research facilities are available to members any time during the library's opening hours.

Monday to Wednesday: 9 am to 5 pm

Thursday: 9 am to 8 pm

Friday: 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 10 am to 2 pm

