

Kapiti Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists



P O Box 703, Paraparaumu
Kapiti@genealogy.org.nz

Newsletter - July 2010

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb

Registered charity no. CC33988

Meetings coming up

Tuesday 27 July Kapiti branch meeting
7pm for 7.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre
Research night: North America and South Africa

Saturday 31 July Family tree maker interest
group 9.30am to 12.30pm – Kapiti Community
Centre contact: Hanley Hoffmann

Wednesday 4 August Help with your research
@@APFHC 1-3pm, Alison Procter Family History Centre
(upstairs, Paraparaumu Library)

Saturday 7 August Scottish interest group 9.30am
to 12.30 pm, Kapiti Community Centre contact: Trish
Mallia 293-3966 tmallia@@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 7 August Research afternoon, Scottish Interest Group of Greater
Wellington 1 - 4 pm, Petone Public Library meeting room, Britannia Street, Petone
Door charge \$3, all welcome
Please note change of venue and change to a Saturday.
Contact Pen Brown, (04) 389-7211

Monday 9 August Computer-friendly
genealogy 7.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre
Hints and tips on using Ancestry.com

Saturday 14 August Research day: Greater London Interest Group (Wellington
sub group)
10am to 5pm, St Luke's Anglican Church Hall, 34 Pitt Street, Wadestown, Wellington
Contact Ann Ball, 04 479-6718 or ball@@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 15 August Celtic Research day
10 am to 4 pm, Kapiti Community Centre
Entry \$10 (cash only)

**Dates for 2010 branch meetings, interest and user groups are on the
branch website.**

July is for research – North America and South Africa in particular

Have you got any distant family connections in North America or South Africa? Come to the July meeting to get some tips about searching in these places, and see some of the resources available.

Celtic Research day – Sunday 15 August

For help in researching Scottish and Irish records, come to the Celtic Research day on Sunday 15 August, from 10am to 4pm at the Kapiti Community Centre. Entry is \$10. Research material includes books, microfiche, CDs and online facilities. Help is available from Jenny Martin, Irish Interest Group Lower North Island, and Pen Brown, Scottish Interest Group Greater Wellington.

No registration is required, and the public are welcome. Tea and coffee are provided, but bring your own lunch or try one of the nearby cafes. For more information email kapiti@genealogy.org.nz.

FamNet and the New Zealand Genealogical Database (NZGDB)

All branch members will have received news about the New Zealand Genealogical Database (NZGDB) and FamNet. You can now access and collaborate on family trees held on NZGDB from your home computer. FamNet will allow links between members through website hosting, newsletters, mail lists, information exchange, blogs and discussion groups.

The branch committee has negotiated access to NZGDB and FamNet for all branch members for the next two years. Member donations of \$500, plus a grant from Pub Charity of \$8,300, are enabling our branch to help to develop these resources.

The creator of these resources, Robert Barnes, will be coming to a branch meeting later this year, where he will talk about the NZGDB and FamNet and answer questions. A FamNet newsletter will keep you up to date with new developments.

New committee member Angela Reynolds has been appointed administrator for NZGDB and FamNet. For help accessing these resources, email her at angela.reynolds@xtra.co.nz.

To see what it's all about, go to www.nzgdb.co.nz

Wanted: a new Kapiti branch secretary

Dave Muirhead has formally advised that he is resigning as Branch Secretary. As all existing committee members have other branch responsibilities, **we are looking for expressions of interest** from our branch membership to fill the vacancy. Previous experience is not essential, but it would be an advantage.

This is a voluntary position, and the appointee must be, and continue to be, a financial member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. Duties include: receiving inwards correspondence, and writing official outwards correspondence; notifying committee members of meetings, and preparing and distributing agendas; notifying branch members of general meetings, and distributing agendas and reports; recording minutes of committee meetings and general meetings, and keeping the minute books; and being a bank account signatory.

Please contact Hanley HOFFMANN (phone 904-3276) if you can help.

Queries about illegitimacies

Derek Griffis' presentation on his New Zealand illegitimacies database grabbed the attention of the members at the June meeting, with many names put forward for checking. For those who didn't get a chance to check a family name, Derek is happy to receive written queries any time, at no charge. Email him at griffisnz@ihug.co.nz or send a note to 94 Ngaio road, Waikanae 5036.

The illegitimacies database has about 32000 names, representing about 15,000 birth events. The earliest records are for births from 1890, and privacy legislation means the most recent ones are for births in 1949. No adoption information is available. Queries should include mother's SURNAME, mother's forename(s), date/year of birth of child and place, if known. The database is not complete, but you might find useful information.

Wellington's Mount Street Cemetery

Mount Street Cemetery, the first Roman Catholic cemetery in Wellington, was established on 6 January 1841. Pioneers from many cultural and ethnic backgrounds are buried there, including Irish, English, French, Italian, Maori, Scots, Welsh, Austrian, German, and Polish, representing a cross-section of Wellington society. Although only about 300 headstones survive, it is estimated that there could have been as many as 750 burials.

A Friends of Mount Street Cemetery group has this year been established under the Archdiocese of Wellington to restore the cemetery and establish full burial records. Membership is open to all. For further information contact the president, Karen Adair Karen.adair@@xtra.co.nz or visit the website www.mountstreetcemetery.org.nz

Branch notes

Passing the key and responsibility

If you sign out the key to the resources at the Alison Procter Family History Centre, please make sure you return the key yourself. If another member comes along after you and wants to carry on a bit longer, ask them to stretch their legs and give their eyes a rest by going downstairs to sign the key out under their own name. This will save the librarians from having to leave their posts to chase up the key.

Research queries welcome

Got stuck with your research? The branch Research Officer, Sue Greene, can make suggestions on directions to try. She'll need information in writing about the person or family you are looking for, approximately when and where they lived, and what you've tried so far. Contact Sue by email at sueg-97@@xtra.co.nz or write to her c/- Kapiti Genealogy, P O Box 703, Paraparaumu, 5254.

New members

Welcome to Rosemary PETHERICK, Russ BEBAN, Pam AITKEN and Jan WATSON, who have joined the branch since the last newsletter.

Tea makers

If your surname begins with the letters **H to M** please be at the July branch meeting by 7pm to help prepare the hot drinks. In August it will be someone else's turn.

Interest and User groups

Meetings taking place before the August branch meeting are listed on the front page. For all interest and user group dates, and the full list of branch meetings, see the website. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/

On the web

Branch subscriptions to genealogy websites

Findmypast.co.uk and Ancestry.com are both subscription sites. Ancestry is free to view at any of Kapiti's libraries, and Findmypast is free to Kapiti branch members on computer number 2 at the Alison Procter Family History Centre.

New at Findmypast.co.uk

Improved birth records

Findmypast has re-indexed and re-scanned births records for 1837 to 2006. Now the mother's maiden name can be included in the search (from December quarter 1911 on), and there's an option to search using the mother's surname as well.

Chelsea Pensioners Service records 1873-1900

The first 500,000 service records of men who were pensioned out of the British Army between 1873 and 1900 are now online. In time, more than six million images will be available of service records of soldiers in the British Army receiving a pension from the Royal Hospital Chelsea, and discharged between 1760 and 1913. They include servicemen born outside the UK.

New at ancestry.com

Canadian city and area directories, 1819 -1906

London, England, non-conformist registers, 1694-1921

Nova Scotia, Canada vital records, births, marriages and deaths

Cleaning headstones

To find out how to clean headstones without damaging them, go to this site:
http://www.everlifememorials.com/v/headstones/cleaning-cemetery-tombstones.htm_

Workhouse records, criminal registers, coroner's reports and court orders

These records are all online at London Lives. Free to use but registration required. <http://www.londonlives.org>

Committee for 2010-2011

Convenor	Hanley Hoffmann	hdhoffmann@@paradise.net.nz	904-3276
Secretary	vacant	kapiti@@genealogy.org.nz	
Treasurer	Lorna Henderson	lornamoa@@gmail.com	293-7771
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