



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/

July 2007 Newsletter

Next Meetings:-

Kapiti Branch: Tuesday 24th July 7pm (Help Desk opens) for 7.30pm start. Informal. Help on Scottish & English research

Winter Saturday morning meeting Saturday August 4th 10am to 12 noon First Floor Paraparaumu Public Library (you may stay later if you wish) – help with your research

Computer SIG: Monday 13th August 7.30 pm. Speaker:-To be advised. Backing up your files.

Kapiti Legacy Users SIG: Saturday 25th August, 1pm for 2pm start. Tips and Tricks. Legacy Home page; plus any questions and problems using Legacy. Masonic Hall. in Tararua St, Paraparaumu. (off Hinemoa St). Contact Gerald Twiss: [gero\(at\)ihug.co.nz](mailto:gero(at)ihug.co.nz) or phone 021 151 6714.

Convenor's Comment:-

Government has recently passed new legislation governing the charitable and tax free status of all voluntary and community organisations, sports and religious groups. In short, organisations who wish to claim a tax exemption must apply for charitable status from the Charities Commission by 1 July 2008. Some 16,000 organisations are affected. This includes the NZ Society of Genealogists, who have had special dispensation for some time. We understand the Society will be applying under the new legislation very shortly. As an Incorporated Society, NZSG has to also abide by the provisions of the Incorporated Societies Act, which will require new scrutiny when it registers for charitable status. This could affect Branches.

Consultations by the Society have ascertained that Branches will need to be registered separately if they too want charitable and tax free status. In so doing the audit trail must be on the basis of full paid up membership of the Society. The key issue therefore is the definition of *membership* at Branch level.

When the initial documentation from the Society was received by Conveners, all hell let loose! It implied that Branches would not be allowed to register and indeed risked being expunged from the Society, if they continued to operate with NON members of NZSG on their lists. We were so concerned that a special meeting of regional Conveners and Branch representatives was

called in Otaki on June 30. NZSG Executive Officer and the Vice President were present. Not unsurprisingly there was a huge turnout of 53 persons – most Branches, Special Interest Groups and Informal Groups in our region were represented.

The consensus of that meeting was that no way were branches going to desert their non-NZSG members (a feeling being echoed up and down the country). Many Branches had as many non-members as members. These included former NZSG members who no longer required the services of the Society or could not afford the national membership, those who wanted a local group where they could use on the spot research resources, enjoyed the social contact with others having similar interests and contributing as volunteers to Branch activities. Branches were therefore offering a substantial community activity at local level and a grass roots source of family history interest. All Branches encouraged non members to join the national body, but this was a personal choice of individuals. The general view was that ideally Branches should continue to have a close association with the parent body. If however the member/non-member mix proved unacceptable to the Society (still a sticking point for some), or the new legal regime made the current arrangements impossible, then alternative systems of Branch structure and links to NZSG would need to be explored. Different levels of membership of NZSG are being canvassed. A win-win outcome for all parties must be worked towards.

The key issue is that in legal terms the audit trail that will be required of Branches can only include *members* who are financial members of NZSG. We did get a reassurance however, subject to further legal advice, that while non-NZSG participants in Branch activities might not in future be called 'members', how their involvement is managed and identified is the business of the Branch and not the Society. Many organisations have different strata of participation in their activities – affiliates, associates, donors, partners, friends, visitors and many others – with fee scales to match. Rest assured we wish to protect the interests of all our 'members' irrespective of their particular allegiance.

There remain some queries as to whether Branches and even the Society itself, meet the requirements of the Charities Commission and Incorporated Societies Act.

So the water is still very muddy. NZSG Council is discussing the issues in late August. We await the outcome of those deliberations. In the meantime we will be assessing feedback from around the country and reporting back to you as soon as we can.

Clive Palmer

Early Subscription Renewals (2007/08)

Current Branch Membership is at record levels at well in excess of 200, so we are anxious to spread out the now substantial workload of processing all the annual renewals. Although the current Membership Year does not expire until 30th September, we would very much welcome receiving early renewals from those of our members who are willing to send in their remittances in advance of that expiry date.

The Committee will be recommending to the Branch Annual General Meeting in October that there be “No Change” to the current Subscription Fees (Single \$16, Double \$27), so those are the renewal amounts required. Please make cheques payable to “Kapiti Genealogy” and post in an envelope clearly marked “Membership Renewal”, to: Kapiti Branch Treasurer, P.O.Box 703, Paraparaumu. Your indulgence and co-operation would be very much appreciated

National Library “Latter Day Saints” (Mormon) Film Ordering

Since early last month it has been possible to order in LDS films at the National Library in Wellington, via a service located on their Ground Floor (enquire at their Information Desk if you have difficulty in finding them). For the time being at least, films may continue to be obtained through the LDS Family History Centres at Hataitai, Upper Hutt and Porirua, but some may find this new access point through the National Library to be more convenient – both in location, and in the longer access times/days.

The National Library service is staffed by rostered volunteers, and they can assist you if you are having any difficulties in determining precisely which film it is that you require. The cost per film is \$6.50, and delivery normally occurs with a week. It is necessary to place your order(s) and make cash payment, in person, from which it follows that you cannot make phone-in orders nor make payment by credit card. The films once received, have to be viewed on-site, and cannot be taken home. National Library has two film viewers available (one of which has a printing facility), and which need to be booked in advance.

For the benefit of New Members and those relatively new to genealogy, the relevance of LDS film-ordering is briefly explained. The LDS has one of the largest collections of Family History research material in the

world, and access to this collection is made freely available to one and all. To explore their holdings it is first necessary to log on to their website <http://www.familysearch.org/> then click on Library/Family History Library Catalog/Place Search etc etc to isolate the particular film details that may be pertinent to your research – this can be tricky to do without previous experience, and is where the assistance referred to in the previous paragraph may be of great value.

This is an excellent new service at National Library, and Branch Members are strongly encouraged to make good use of it

COMPSIG: - Computer SIG

July 9th we had a guest speaker. Dave Goodwin from Kodak Express in the Coastlands Mall came to talk to us about digital cameras, photography and storage of our family history, now and in the future. For the few who turned up it was worth the effort, we all learnt something new.

The **August** meeting is all about backing up your files. **September**. Lorna Henderson has offered to show members where you can find web sites where you can store your family history.

Recently I was helping one of our local members to find family on the 1861 census on Ancestry. She had been searching for some years with no luck. The name she was looking for was Seager. As I have access to Ancestry at home I thought I would try looking for her family. I typed in the Christian name and used a wild card, in this case the asterisk. (*) We had an approximate date of birth so typed in the year of birth with a search five years either side and no other information. A total of over 3,000 names came up.

I started to scroll through the names trying to see the word Seager looking for combinations of the letters. Found it transcribed as Ledgar. The S as an L, the a had been transcribed as a d and the e transcribed as an a. I have also found after many years my Richard Green on the 1861 census. Ancestry had transcribed Green as Geras.

So if you don't find family with a surname try doing a Christian name search only with an approximate birth year.

Oh the Seager was John. So even with a very common Christian name you can still narrow things down. You just need time.

Sue Greene

Passwords

Every computer user needs a password at some time or other. To keep the bad boys and girls from getting your password by devious means you should make it as difficult as possible. When choosing a password include more than numbers and just lower case letters.

Character set	Population	Characters
single case letters	26	abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
upper and lower case letters	52	abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
letters and numbers	62	abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ 0123456789
letters, numbers and others	91	abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ 0123456789!@#\$%^&*()_+=: ;[]{}.,^?<>~"

It is more difficult to crack longer length passwords with numbers, characters, lower and uppercase letters, see table below.

	single case letters	upper and lower case letters	letters and numbers	alphanumeric
characters in set	26	52	62	91
4	< 1 sec	1 sec	1½ sec	7 sec
5	1 sec	38 sec	92 sec	10 min
6	31 sec	33 min	1½ hr	16 hr
7	13 min	29 hr	4 days	60 days
8	6 hr	62 days	253 days	15 yr
9	6 days	9 yr	43 yr	1,356 yr
10	164 days	458 yr	2,660 yr	123,400 yr

One way to make up a strong password is to think up a phrase about something unique and use the first letter of each word and be sure to use upper and lower case letters and include numbers and characters. Here are some examples:-

mNI(at)62Qr (from my neighbor lives at 62 Queens road)

UG'swl(at)73 (from Uncle George's Wife lived at 73)

G!Cwgi6 (from Gosh Clive was good in 2006)

wSwsoCi07 (from wish Sue was still on Council in 2007)

Abridged from presentation to New Plymouth Genealogy Computing Group

Library Report:-

The Davisons and I met Brian Mountjoy this week to look at our library computer material as the first stage in training Wednesday volunteers. This will be done in small groups and may take a bit of time. Meanwhile we are looking for somebody to take over from Brian. This is a matter of some urgency, so if you have the skills to keep the information up-to-date and are able to help others find out how to access their material, please contact me.

We have to thank Brian for the sterling work he has put into looking after our computers, keeping them up-to-date as new material has come to hand. He has also donated several books:- copies of New Zealand Family Research Directories for 1990, 1997 and 2000, extra to those we hold as reference only, so members are able to borrow them, "Captain's Log" by Gavin McLean on New Zealand's Maritime History, "My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman" by C.T. and M.J. Watts for the U.K. Society of Genealogists, the 1985 Michelin Guide to Great Britain and Ireland and

also a pamphlet on New Zealand Expeditionary Force Reserve No. 21 for (West Coast) Recruiting District

Brian pointed out that the Public Library now has a wealth of information downstairs, such as "Ancestry.com" and several other free online services such as the National Library, and Archives N.Z.

Alison Procter

Notices:-

Bereavements

Val Quinlan: It is with sadness that we have to report that Val Quinlan (nee Teward), local Branch Member and NZSG Member, died at home on Friday 22nd June 2007. [See "Dominion" Death Notice 25.6.2007]. Val was a Kapiti Branch Committee Member from 1993 to 1996, and in the latter part of the time was Branch Treasurer

Pauline Neale: We also regret having to report that Pauline Neale died on Tuesday 26th June 2007. Pauline had been a member of Wellington Branch for many years, and those long-serving members of our own Branch with long memories may recall that in the late 1990s she was to speak at a couple of our Monthly Meetings (she spoke on her researches into early members of her family, and her talks were entitled "My dear Fanny" – the opening salutation in old family letters) [See "Dominion" Death Notice 28.6.2007]

Personal Computer and CD-ROM Minder

We still need a volunteer to keep a periodic eye on our PCs and CDs in the Paraparaumu Library. Come on those of you who use the COMSIG - isn't this something you could take responsibility for - they say practice makes perfect!!!

Clive Palmer

Newsletters from other Branches

We hold many newsletters from other Branches in our Library collection. They are a valuable source of information and well worth a browse. Look out for the special folder on one of the shelves.

Thank you - Local Branch Volunteers

The Conference organising committee would like to extend a sincere thank you for your valued contribution towards the 2007 NZSG Conference. Over 400 people attended the conference over the weekend of 1st to 4th June 2007.

After the conference committee members have received many complimentary emails, phone calls and messages from attendees in regards to the conference.

Thank you for contributing towards the success of the conference, which would not have been possible without volunteers.

Yours sincerely
The Conference organising committee for
The 2007 AGM & Conference of the NZ Society of
Genealogists Inc

Scottish Interest Group of Greater Wellington

Afternoon for research with the Scottish Interest Group of Greater Wellington, Sunday afternoon 12th August 2007, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Using the group's own usual resources plus a selection of census index resources from Auckland with an emphasis on 1851, 1881, and 1891 censuses. If you have some useful Scottish material to share with others, do bring this along, and do label it with your name.

Please note location: upstairs in the Thomson Block at St. Orans College, 550 High Street, Lower Hutt, and there is plenty of off-street parking.

Door charge \$5. All welcome.

Contact: Pen Brown 389 7211 [penbrown\(at\)globe.net.nz](mailto:penbrown(at)globe.net.nz)

Australian Special Interest Group (SIG)

An SIG is operating for those Branch members who are interested in sharing research on their Australian ancestors and families. The key to the group is informality with those interested meeting as and when they desire. Those interested should contact Rex Roberts at [rxroberts\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:rxroberts(at)paradise.net.nz) or (04)905 6570.

Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group

A Family Tree Maker SIG is up and running for those interested in sharing and learning about this popular software and genealogy information storehouse. Those members interested please contact Hanley Hoffmann at [hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz) or (04) 904 3276
Next Meetings (venue to be advised)
August 20th 1.30pm:--September 17th 1.30pm
October 17th 1.30pm:--November 19th 1.30pm;

The Master Genealogist Special Interest Group

Local users, or intending users, of The Master Genealogist (<http://www.whollygenes.com/>) can join informal get-togethers to share hints and or tips, learn how to use the product to its full potential, Lorna Henderson is facilitating this. Contact [Lornah\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:Lornah(at)paradise.net.nz)

Beginners Help Line: Valerie Freeman runs our "Help Desk" at our Monthly Meetings, but those

seeking basic advice and guidance on Family History research are reminded that they may also ring her at home (298-7396) at any time, within reason!

Supper Helpers: Volunteers are called to assist with supper at our Monthly Meetings in the Kapiti Community Centre. Assistance with serving and tidying up afterwards is welcomed. Please make yourself known to Meryl, the Supper Organiser.

Family Tree Charts: There will be a full range of Charts available for sale at this month's Meeting. Please see our Sales Officer, Sandy White, who will be happy to sell you these, and various other items. Each chart is 50 cents more than the asking price on the NZSG web-site to enable us to recoup the p&p costs: 7-generation (\$3-00), 8-generation (\$3.50), 9-generation wheel (\$3.50), and 12-generation (\$4.00).

Used Ink Cartridges: As a continuing fund-raising activity we will be pleased to receive used printer ink cartridges – particularly Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, and Epson. These may be handed to me (Derek Griffis) at our regular Monthly Meeting or, if more convenient to you, may be left in the suitably marked cardboard box in our steel cabinets upstairs at Paraparaumu Public Library. For the environmentally conscious there is the added satisfaction of knowing that these cartridges will get re-used, and that therefore there are that many less of them finishing up in the local rubbish tip.

Meeting Dates and Times

Kapiti Branch: - 7.30pm, 4th Tuesday, Jan-Nov at Kapiti Community Centre 15 Ngahina Street (near Paraparaumu Library)

Computer SIG: - 7.30pm, 2nd Monday, Feb-Dec in the Paraparaumu Public Library (downstairs)

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