



Kapiti Branch

Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists

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www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb

Registered charity no. CC33988

June 2009 Newsletter

Meetings coming up

Tuesday 23 June, 7pm for 7.30pm

Kapiti Branch meeting

**Using the Latter Day Saints website
and ordering films - Jill Palmer**

Kapiti Community Centre

Saturday 4 July, 10am to midday

Help with your research

Alison Procter Family History Centre

Monday 13 July, 7.30pm

Computer-friendly genealogy

Searching newspapers online

Kapiti Community Centre

Looking ahead

Tuesday 28 July

Kapiti branch meeting

**Research evening: Europe,
Scandinavia and North America**

Kapiti Community Centre

Wednesday 5 August, 1pm to 3pm

Help with your research

Alison Procter Family History Centre

Monday 10 August, 7.30pm

Computer-friendly genealogy

How to scan, save and make changes
to photos

Kapiti Community Centre

Celebrating 25 years of Kapiti branch

1984 - 2009

It was a full house at the 25th anniversary meeting in May, and the cake certainly was delicious!

Anna Kenna's story of her family history discoveries was intriguing, complete with Irish politics and adoption mysteries. Those



who saw this presentation at the *Find your Family* expo on Labour Weekend were able to see even more photos, including a classic one of an Irish country cottage, which Anna has received since then.



Sue Greene (left) and Anna Kenna at the 25th anniversary meeting. Sue did much of the research for Anna's Why You Are You presentation.

Celebrating 25 years of Kapiti branch 1984 - 2009



*NZSG president
David Bryant said
what some of us
had probably
suspected: that
Kapiti branch was
one of the largest
and most active
branches in New
Zealand.*



*Four original members from 1984, Deborah Shuker,
Carol Prockter, Gwenda Cole and founder convenor
June Pritchett, with another former convenor, John
Glover, cutting the anniversary cake.*



*KCDC mayor
Jenny Rowan
encouraged the
80 members and
guests to do their
bit to preserve
local history and
family history for
the benefit of the
district.*

Welcome to our new convenor

Hanley Hoffmann has been co-opted as convenor by the committee. Hanley lives in Waikanae and brings lots of experience with him, having helped establish the Kilbirnie Branch, and acted as its co-convenor and newsletter editor. At Kapiti Branch, he set up the Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group and, more recently, convened the Australia SIG. You will have seen Hanley at monthly meetings getting the PA system to work! You'll hear about his family history story in a later newsletter.

Committee roles

The committee has adopted a portfolio responsibility schedule, which has pared the duties of the positions of convenor and secretary to the core statutory functions of overview and administration. Many other duties have been spread around the committee and some new positions created. The role of emcee of monthly meetings is likely to be shared around.

Immediate past convenor Clive Palmer becomes deputy convenor, providing backup when required, maintaining contact with local authorities and funding agencies and taking responsibility for the member interest register and the interchange of research experience. Former secretary Derek Griffis continues to distribute information and collect ink cartridges and takes on a new project of collecting certificates for the NZSG Certificates Collection (see page 3). Bill McKeich will manage the Alison Procter Family History Centre and liaise with senior KCDC Library staff. The full committee list is on page 4.

Changes to research help at meetings

Our laptops and CD collection have been available for research for half an hour before branch meetings during the last year, but they haven't had much use, so this service is being discontinued. You can still get research advice before and after meetings at the help/information desk.

Calling volunteers - situations vacant

We need a new **Meeting Registrar**. This is the person who looks after the nametags and the register of attendance at branch meetings. No experience required, and a great way to learn people's names.

Our **Computer Support** Officer, Lindsay Olsen, requires some backup to help with installing the laptop and projector at meetings. All training provided. Please contact a committee member if you can assist.

Wednesday morning advisors

Practise your ancestor-hunting skills on other people's families as a volunteer on Wednesday morning 10am to midday at the Alison Procter Family History Centre. Bev Chappell would love to hear from you if you can help from time to time.

Wanted: certificates

Have you ever ordered a certificate, only to find when it arrived that it was for someone totally unrelated to you? Unwanted certificates (and photocopies of certificates of your true relations) are in demand for the NZSG Certificates Collection.

This collection contains documents from around the world, and includes birth, death and marriage certificates, Old Parish Records, intention to marry certificates, wills and probates, coroner's reports, census records, war records, citizen memorials, shipping records, convict records, family bible inscriptions, burial and cemetery records and death notices.

Anyone can donate certificates or photocopies, but once lodged, access to the information is restricted to financial members of the NZ Society of Genealogists (that's the national society, not Kapiti Branch). Consider it insurance against losing your own copies.

So far, more than 642,000 entries are cross-indexed from over 74,000 documents. NZSG members can request a free search of the index by writing to Mrs Pat McGREGOR, 949 Inlet Road, RD3 Kerikeri, 0293. Please enclose a large (22x11cm) stamped self-addressed envelope. For more information on the collection, pick up NZSG Gen-Guide #44 (available at branch meetings) or see the members' area of the society website, www.genealogy.org.nz.

Send your certificates or photocopies to NZSG Certificates Collection, Mrs June Stratford, 31 Mains Avenue, Whangarei, 0112, or hand them to Derek Griffis at a branch meeting. Derek can also arrange to collect them from you.

Branch notes

Computer-friendly genealogy

Want to find out more about using the internet for genealogy research, or use your computer to store your family history information? That's what our computer-friendly genealogy group is all about. We are usually online on meeting nights (second Monday of the month) with practical demonstrations. We also offer some help with computer problems, although major problems should be referred to a technician. Meetings are open to all branch members.

Using the branch computers at the Alison Procter Family History Centre

For access to: **ancestry.com**, the **NZ Gazettes** or **findmypast.com** use the icons on the desktop. [Please note, findmypast.com is only on one computer, the one labelled PC2.]

For other genealogy websites: go to favorites, and find the genealogy folder. Inside are folders of websites sorted by country. There is also a folder for military websites.

For branch computer resources (not online), use the folders on the desktop, which are sorted by country. The New Zealand folder gives access to the New Zealand Marriages CD, the Burial Locator, etc. The Military folder contains the icon for the WWI New Zealand records (no CD is required to access the WWI New Zealand records), and other military records.

Coming soon - Family history starters course in Kapiti

Know anyone who's just beginning their research? Looking for some new ideas for rearranging those brick walls? We're planning a starters course in Kapiti on Saturday and Sunday, 19-20 September, so make a note on your calendar now. Lynne Blake, from NZSG's Family Research

Centre in Auckland, will be leading this course, to be held at the Masonic Hall, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu. Cost \$40.

New members

Welcome to the following new members who have joined since the last newsletter: Hana OWEN, Sue LEEN and Kathleen GIBSON and welcome back to one of our original members, June PRITCHETT.

Tea makers for June meeting

Take a turn with the tea urn. If your surname begins with the letters **N to R**, please be at the June branch meeting by 7pm to help prepare the hot drinks. In July it will be someone else's turn.

Library news

Hutt Valley newsletter (May and June): What do I do with all this stuff? Handling and preserving old photos and documents by archivist Ken Scadden

On the web

Baptisms and burials in Cambridgeshire - www.cfhs.org.uk

You can search free for baptisms and burials in Cambridgeshire from 1800 to 1837 at the Cambridgeshire family history society website. Baptism records give parents' names, while burial records give age at death, and names of parents if the deceased are children.

Cambridge alumni - venn.csi.cam.ac.uk/ACAD/intro.html

Did your ancestors go to Cambridge university? If there's a clergyman or solicitor among them, you might find them listed here. This site gives useful biographical information, but is still under development so it may not yet have everyone who attended between the year 1200 and more recent times.

Highlands Family History Society - www.highlandfhs.org.uk

This site counts how many headstones are found for each name listed in the highland counties cemeteries. To find out what's written on the headstones, you can consult the memorial inscriptions books in the Scotland area of the family history section of the National Library. Or, if you're a member of NZSG (the national society, not Kapiti Branch), you can ask volunteer researchers at the Family Research Centre in Auckland to check them for you. Write to: NZSG Research Services, P O Box 14036, Panmure, Auckland or email [researchservice\(at\)genealogy.org.nz](mailto:researchservice(at)genealogy.org.nz).

1911 Irish census online - www.census.nationalarchives.ie

Some counties are already online and ready to search. More are expected by the end of August.

Committee as at June 2009

Convenor	Hanley Hoffmann	hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz	904-3276
Secretary	Dave Muirhead	kapiti(at)genealogy.org.nz	905-3170
Treasurer/Membership	Lorna Henderson	lornamoa(at)gmail.com	293-7771
Deputy Convenor	Clive Palmer	c-mpalmer(at)xtra.co.nz	293-7631
Research/CFG	Sue Greene	sueg-97(at)xtra.co.nz	06 364-8196
Programmes/Activities	Jackie Holland	jtholland(at)xtra.co.nz	293-2296
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Librarian	Bev Chappell	chappell(at)paradise.net.nz	904 1860
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Alison Procter FH Centre	Bill McKeich	yanakie(at)clear.net.nz	905-6952