

New Zealand Society of Genealogists http://KapitiGenorg P O Box 703, Paraparaumu 5254 Kapiti@genealogy.org.nz Registered charity no. CC33988



ISSN 2253-4059 OCTOBER 2012

Programme
details for the
branch, together
with our Interest
& User Groups
are on our
website

http://kapitigen. org/programme/

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# **Branch Reports: September**

## September branch meeting

Our Convenor Bill McKeich, back after two months meeting relatives and researching in the Northern Hemisphere, including the WW1 battlefields, welcomed everyone. Our guests this month were Marlene Sayers and Beverley Keall from Kilbirnie Branch. Their brief was to talk about their trip to the LDS research facility in Utah. It turned out this had happened nearly two years ago as the result of Marlene winning an accommodation package in Salt Lake City.

Beverley showed us a PP presentation of their time and the facilities there. The library includes five whole floors dedicated to research – a floor each for the USA and Canada, the British Isles, Australasia and one for everywhere else known as International. The complex, over several acres, is extensive and includes the Pavilion and Tabernacle, home to the famous Salt Lake City Tabernacle Choir.

Retaining the LDS theme Marlene spoke at some length about using the new FamilySearch website, creating an account and in particular the maps section. Absolutely brilliant especially for those searching in rural and not so rural English parishes.

### 'Age on the Go' Expo

Earlier this year your Committee decided that Kapiti Genealogy would again be represented at the 'Age on the Go' Expo at Waikanae, held this

year on Saturday September 22. Organised by the Kapiti Coast Older Persons' Council and the Kapiti Coast District Council with the backing of several other major sponsors, the inaugural Expo was held in 2010 with approximately 1,000 attending. This year numbers were sitting around the 1,300 mark.

Four volunteers in hourly slots were on hand for the majority of the day and we were very busy for most of that time. We promoted the Alison Proctor Family History Library at Paraparaumu and the resources we hold there, inviting membership to our friendly, enthusiastic Group and giving written invitations to visit a 'Wednesday Session' for further help. One of our best assets is our combined knowledge and experience, on many levels, over a broad range of genealogy and family historyrelated subjects. We know genealogy's cool and to pass it on, which we did. We had numerous specific queries including two requests for help with Lebanese and Croatian research.

Many thanks must go to the volunteers – Mary Braddock and Margaret Burley, Jackie Holland and Kathleen Gibson, Meryl Opie and Peter Finlay, Frances Braddick and Peter Milne, Lorna Henderson and Joyce Hitchlock and Dianne Sleeman, Beverley Chappell, Clive Palmer and Lindsay Olsen. All kindly gave up an hour and in most cases more of their precious time, to make our display, and presence, a great success. Thank you all.

This month's meeting: Tuesday 23 October 7:00 for 7:30pm, Kapiti Community Centre

Clive Palmer: Mailing Lists and Message Boards

# From the editor's desktop

This month I want to pass on a salutary warning about doing one's homework before renewing or signing up to a subscription to family history research websites.

I'm lucky to have an Ancestry subscription - a combined birth-day and Xmas gift. (It means I've got nothing to unwrap on either day, but on the other hand can use the gift every day for a year!)

With an English father, I originally took out my sub with Ancestry UK, but after their Australian site was created, at some stage I was defaulted to Ancestry AU when it came to renewal time, so I there renewed (in Aus dollars) my access to UK, Australian & NZ

records—their *Premium* package.

That sub fell due recently, around the time I read in a Lost Cousins newsletter that Ancestry prices are considerably cheaper through Ancestry UK than through their other sites, so I checked for myself.

First problem: when I tried to log on to Ancestry UK, my computer kept defaulting to the AU site. I finally overcame that by using the link from the Lost Cousins page and found that a **Worldwide** package cost £135.13 for people outside the EU. That converted to NZ \$265.35.

The same subscription, on Ancestry AU is AU \$449.95, which, after

further conversion, came in at NZ \$568.97 - much more than twice the price

from Ancestry

UK!

The moral of this story is to shop around before you sign up for a subscription, and if in doubt, sign up to Lost Cousins: Peter Calver keeps a close eye on these matters!

Lost Cousins article:

http://lostcousins.com/ newsletters/oct12news. htm#StopPress

Blanche Charles #10774

# Convenor's comment

The month has passed by so quickly this time that I am now rushing to have this in time for publication. Maybe the time has passed by so quickly due to the volume of work I am entering into the computer following my overseas trip. Well, that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it.

The most significant event this past month has been the Age on the Go expo held in the Memorial Hall and Senior Citizens' Centre at Waikanae. This event fulfilled the expectations of the organizers and the small part Kapiti Genealogy played with its stand was well patronized by the public. Thanks must go to Denice McCarten and her band of volunteers for their efforts during the course of the day. Prospective genealogists were certainly made aware of the services we can provide and many went away with information on joining the Branch.

Mention must also be made of the visit to Archives. This was organised by Frances Braddick who unfortunately was not able to take

part due to illness. Dianne Steedman took control and together with Clive Palmer the group was treated to a "behind the scenes" talk and tour by Graham Langford.

Finally, so far as events are concerned, we were treated at our last Branch Meeting to a talk by Marlene Sayers and Beverly Keall on the advantages of the new Family Search site and their recent trip to Salt lake City, Utah. These "Genealogical Twins" can certainly tell some great stories.

Your committee was very proactive at its last meeting and a number of important decisions were made. Primarily amongst these was one which was aimed at extending the services we have to members at the APFHC. It has been approved that "Help Sessions" will be held on Saturday afternoons once a month commencing in February next year. More details will be given out later on. And while mentioning the APFHC we must apologise for the printer being out of action. I don't fully understand the workings of all this but it would seem that the connections with the server failed the system. We have experts looking into it.

Another important decision the committee made was to approve taking the YURU presentation to Inglewood for two shows on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Everyone including Dame Kate Harcourt is enthusiastic about this and it is another coup for Kapiti Genealogy.

Finally two events which are coming up which will be of interest to Branch Members are firstly the October monthly Branch Meeting, when Clive Palmer will be speaking on Message Boards and Mailing Lists and secondly the November Branch Meeting which will be a café style meeting at which presentations for their services to the Branch will be made to certain members. Wine and nibbles will be available and the evening will be catered for.

I wish you happy hunting for another month.

Bill McKeich, Convenor

#### Footnote from the Editor:

This month we have been spoiled for material submitted by branch members and thanks go to Kathy Callaghan, Kay Carter, Clive Palmer and Maureen Robb. Material like this personalises our newsletter, so please keep the contributions rolling in!

# Kapiti Genealogy Goes International

## Kathy Callaghan

Hi from Norway. I am here getting to know my long lost family in Norway. As some of

you know I discovered in the most amazing way that my grandfather Harold Oscar Andersen had two children before he left Norway in 1903. He never mentioned this family. The Norwegian family thought he had been lost at sea as he left Norway and never returned or contacted them again.

This secret was only discovered by chance in 2010 when I wrote to a newspaper in the small village Harold had come from and told them I was

visiting the village and asked if they were interested in a story as someone may know Harold's family. It turned out the reporter was my cousin!

The full story is in *The NZ Genealogist* March/

April 2010 and Sep/Oct 2010. Copies are held at the APFHC at the Paraparaumu Library.

When in Norway a few weeks ago I was asked by the Nannestad Historical Society in Norway to share Harold's story. There was much interest and 3 newspaper articles resulted. It was my first time using a translator.

Visiting the places of our ancestors is a wonderful opportunity for genealogy to come alive, so if you ever get the chance, do it! I got the opportunity to try on the Bunad (traditional costume) of Nan-

(traditional costume) of Nannestad. It certainly cemented my link with Norway and my

relatives said I looked like a local!

I think my grandfather Harold would be very proud of his Norwegian family.



Kathy wearing traditional Norwegian Costume (Bunad)

## From our website

Have you lost the forms provided in your starter pack? Want different ones?

Can't read the column headings in the census?

Click on "forms" in the Tag list on the right hand side http://www.kapitigen.org/tag/forms/

to jump to the Research page under the Resources menu.
Under the Useful (general) links section is a link to the excellent
Rootsweb forms page which has a variety of useful forms, together with
the blank forms for each census year (UK, US, Canada).

## Free 1911 Census

Leading family history websites genesreunited.co.uk and findmypast.co.uk have teamed up to offer their members free access to all 1911 census *transcriptions* for one month until 18 November 2012.

The 1911 census is a great place to start researching your family history as the records are the most detailed of any census. It includes places of birth, details of siblings, occupations, how many children have been born to the marriage, how many still alive at the time of the census and how many had died.

Next Branch meeting
(27 November)
Emerson Vandy
National Library update
and
End of year Supper

# Dates for your diary

## Legacy New Zealand - Kapiti **Users' Group**

Reminder of the next meeting: Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu. Doors will be open from 1 pm to 4.30 pm. \$2 door charge. Refreshments available.

Subjects: Tagging records and Comparing two different family files (the easy way)

If you plan to attend the Workshop with Jan Gow on 24 & 25 November, you will need to book ASAP as it is filling up fast. Remember we have had to limit the number of seats. Refer to emails from Lindsay Olsen on 19 and 24 September: Invitation to a Workshop with Jan Gow QSM FSG. Please contact Meryl if you would like a copy of Research Library, Queens Park, Lindsay's email.

### **NZSG Scottish Interest Group** of Greater Wellington

will be holding a research after-Saturday 27 October, 2-4 pm at noon on **Sunday 11 November 2012** from 1-4 pm in the genealogy section of the Porirua Public Library, corner of Norrie and Parumoana Streets, Porirua. Wee charge \$2, all welcome. Contact Pen Brown

Tel: 04 389 7211

penbrown "at" globe.net.nz

## **NZSG Mid - Lower North Island** the computers. **Branches**

A reminder about our usual third Saturday of the month for research

**EVENT:** Family History Research **DATE:** Saturday 20 October

TIME: 10am-1pm

**VENUE:** Alexander Heritage &

Wanganui

NOTE: A Wanganui District Library staff and an NZSG Wanganui Branch member will be available to help you with your general research. Computers with Ancestry Library Edition and Find My Past UK + Austral asian Editions available. Bring your wireless enabled laptop for free access to the Internet and to Ancestry Library Edition in the Library. There will be a charge for any printouts from

Enquires: Gillian Tasker at the Alexander Heritage & Research Library:

E: gillian"at" wanganuilibrary.

com

Tel: 06 349 1000.

## From the Committee

#### **New members**

We welcome new members: Sonia COOM, John MILLER, Edward NEPIA, Susan WORTHINGTON

### **FamNet**

Until the end of July, FamNet gave Kapiti Genealogy members a group subscription that provided all members with a free (to them) subscription. As this has now expired, we have negotiated a replacement in the form of a discounted subscription (50%) for Kapiti NZSG branch members.

For the discount code, you will need to log into our [branch] website, (read this login post for instructions) and go to the FamNet page, valid for two more months, so be in quick.

In addition, our computers at the APFHC now have access to FamNet. This will allow you to see all of the site and data (but not allow you to create a family tree or do anything requiring you be identified, given this is public access).

## **NZSG** News

Members should constantly search the website for news at www.genealogy.org.nz for specials. The library is currently having a big sale of surplus stock. Have a look under.. The Noticeboard

# **Trip Down Memory Lane**

Part 2 Clive Palmer

In the September issue I covered our journey to UK and tracing the paths of our ancestors, ending in Yorkshire.

Some tips for your ancestral searches while overseas. If you are technology savvy then IPhone, IPads and other devices can be a great help for taking notes or photos and receiving and sending messages on the hoof. And if you have a mobile and can't afford the ridiculous roaming charges of Kiwi providers, buy a local sim card when you arrive at your destination. You will find them at many airports and the local High Street phone shops. We bought a UK sim card for ten pounds and calls were one pence a minute - we only used half over 5 weeks!

Our trip back south from Yorkshire was via Sutton Coldfield, near Birmingham, past the semi-detached I grew up in as a kid before my parents left a grim England in 1948 for NZ. A short trip down the road took us to my old primary school and the street corner where I had the choice in a daylight air raid to head either back home or to school. The latter was a usual winner as the teachers had a supply of, in those days of rationing, that unknown commodity - lollies, to entice us down below into those cold, damp and scary shelters. Hadn't changed much - the main brick buildings from the 1880's remain, with a fewer newer ones incongruously attached.

Then onwards in a long journey home, dropping off cousin John in Luton, and then on to that dreaded ring road around London. To those of you familiar with the M25, a reminder of motorway hell, as the last six miles - to our temporary home in Reigate - took us 3 hours!

We had a number of visits into central London. One was for a Council meeting of the Guild of One Name Studies, with NZSG President Mi-

chelle Patient. We managed a nostalgic walk past the Palace, through Green Park and Hyde Park before testing our underground travel memories to get back to Paddington.

Another highlight was a trip to the South of France with friends who have a cottage near Sénaillac-Lauzès, a tiny village of c 100 people, in the Le Lot region. Bastille Day celebrations, a few days after we arrived, were held in the village hall: a grand 6-course meal with superb lamb cutlets - cooked only the way the French can - and of course carafes of vin rouge.

England remains a country of contrast. Latest census figures show total UK population approaching 65 million and the bulk - 80% at last count - crammed into huge metropolitan areas. Yet within a relatively short time you can be out in the countryside enjoying the scenery and the delights of a small pub or eating establishment, or watch harvesting or ploughing. We were sad to leave - my birthplace, our family home for four and a half years, our youngest son born there and many good friends and memories.

Reminders of our origins were never far away. Standing in the torchlight in a French grotto and observing the footprints of a pre-historic teenage male; mingling with the modern day French, as a reminder that France and England were intertwined in history - the English language is a part-product of that, and my wife has Huguenot links; visiting the villages where our ancestors lived, ever restless, looking for a better life in a far-off land; and standing outside the house where my parents decided in post-war Britain to accept an opportunity in New Zealand. But it is good to be home!

# New online from the UK

Deadline for next month's newsletter contributions:
Saturday 3 November

editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Greenwich Cemetery Burials complete online: www.deceasedonline.com

New genealogy gateway site for UK: www.forebears.co.uk

Family History Show (Nick Barratt) - download / watch online: www.familyhistoryshow.net/the-vodcasts National Library of Ireland new YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/NationalLibraryNLI

Glasgow crew lists (1863—1901) online at Ancestry UK:

http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=2895

Scottish Council on Archives—new website: www.scottisharchives.org.uk

# Talk to the Old People!

**Kay Carter** 

Thanks so much for the reminder (September newsletter) of what happened in 2000 – how time flies! Yes, that was my first family history book about my father's Scottish FISHER roots. Fishers of Pukerimu won the NZSG Kevin McAnulty award in 1998.

I was lucky to grow up in the Waikato with many of the extended Fisher family around me. It is so important to talk to older family members to tease out the stories not available in public records. I visited Scotland in 1996. I knew my great-grandfather was a miner and had lived in Lugar at 10 Store Row according to the 1851 census. As I drove my rental car over a hill I was not prepared for the feeling that suddenly came over me. There was an open-cast mine and not far away part of a row of miner's cottages. Forget the fact they are now well restored and popular homes. They were the history I had been researching from so far away.

My decision to ask family members to contribute their own stories to the book, as I have done with my second, came from the writing group I joined in 1995 at Victoria University. It was called *With Love – writing your story for your grandchildren*. Some of us from that group have continued to meet and share our short stories. A collection, *Postcards from the 20th Century*, was published by Harper Collins in 1999.

So many people helped me when I began. When our branch met in the Masonic Lodge hall the library books had to be taken from locked cupboards and placed on trestle tables and, of course, stacked away afterward. That half hour before the meeting was when the questions flowed. It is good to see that one-to-one helping is still a strong feature of the branch.

The next stage was the introduction of computers when Alan Kenning, Brendon Wilson, Mark Scherf and Bill started the computer group. We linked eight computer monitors through a 'spider' so that members could follow the demonstration. This was well before Broadband. The NZSG was yet to recognise the computer, and articles on computers in genealogy we submitted to the magazine were summarily rejected. That is all now in the past. Like everyone else, Bill and I were delighted when Sue Greene took over - temporarily - what happened to that Sue! You have gone ahead in leaps and bounds!

Group visits to National Archives, National Library, Turnbull and the LDS at Upper Hutt were a great help but so much can now be researched online from home. However, I wonder how many of our members are as grateful as I am for the help of Joan McCracken and Margaret Hurst, Heidi Kuglin, Graham Langton and Mark Stoddart.

My most recent family history is *Maria Gallaher*, her short life and her children's stories.

As a child I knew I was related to Dave GAL-LAHER, the first All Black captain. My mother was Loeta Fisher, nee Gallaher. In 1953 when I first came to Wellington as a raw 17 year old country bumpkin to work at the Post Office I boarded with her cousin Kathleen BROOKER. She gave me a photograph of James and Maria Gallaher and told me their story was too complicated for anyone to work out. Well, it took me 58 years but I did it!

Irish research is not easy – again it was important to talk to older family members. I was able to copy letters back as far as 1879. Granted, they often produced more questions than they gave answers. But so valuable! Sadly, many of the older family members who gave so freely of their time and papers and photographs did not live to see the finished product. Nor did Gwen Reiher of the Irish Interest group of the NZSG who gave me so much help!

In summary, a 21 year-old schoolteacher married a widower 35 years her senior, had 14 children, emigrated to New Zealand, became the family breadwinner and died at 42 of ovarian cancer in 1887. Her surviving children spread across Australia and New Zealand. Some, including David, fought in the Boer and First World wars.

It took me some time to trace the families, but the spelling of the name Gallaher helped and I rang all the Gallahers in the Perth, and Melbourne phone books. Others I found by putting notices in the newspapers. If it had not been for Bill's skills in editing my stories from the 400 pages of research notes and the enhancing of hundreds of old photographs, my book would never have happened.

In 2003 I visited Ramelton and found, much to my surprise and delight, that "Crammond House", the bed and breakfast I had booked into online was, in fact, the house and shop where James and Maria had lived and where their children were born.

## Talk to the Old People! - continued

At that time I spoke to the local school children about how lucky they were to be living in

such a beautiful village with all their family history around them. To help them to relate to the fact that I had come so far to find my roots, Bill had organised a box of Kiwifruit to give them.

The David Gallaher Society invited the All Blacks to visit to David's birth place in 2005. The town went "ballistic" with photographers and TV coverage.

On May 6 2011 The David Gallaher Society arranged my first book launch of Maria's story held in McDaid's wine bar at Ramelton. We had musicians, singers, Irish dancing, and two poets reading the poems they had written about David and given to me for the book. It was all quite emotional. I gave a Power Point presentation and to my hosts, with permission from the New Zealand Rugby Union, an All Black jersey with David's signature embroidered on one sleeve. On the way home I had a launch in Sydney for some of the Australian relations.

My final book launch was held in Katikati at the school where Maria taught. There was a good cluster of

a good cluster of Gallaher descendants. A mural of Maria and David Gallaher is now on the side of the original class room that is still part of the Katikati primary school.

Later that year the Katikati Players produced a play, *Gallaher*, based on my book. It is due to be staged in Ireland this year. Most recently it

has been quite a hoot to be flown up to Auckland to meet

with a team from BBC Northern Ireland. We had a couple of hours filming an interview with the statue of David Gallaher at Eden Park as the background.

Writing family histories is hard graft, but there are a lot of satisfying experiences in the process and when the book is produced. It should also be the time one remembers the people who have helped, particularly my fellow branch members.



Kay Carter in Ramelton with her book

# **Handy Hint: FreeBMD Postems**

**Maureen Robb** 

This is a facility for adding details to an entry on FreeBMD for an individual's birth, death or marriage.

Example: **BOND** Jane Death March quarter 1854 St James 1a/256

Click on the envelope icon to read my posting with all the information outlined on the death certificate. This helps another researcher to identify the correct certificate. I have also used the option of adding my email address.

The added benefit is when a researcher makes contact with a family connection. I have had four successful contacts made by distant family members using my 'postem' and this has led to the exchange of more family stories and details.

FREE BMD: http://www.freebmd.org.uk/

Select individual
Click on the (red) 'info' box
Scroll down and click on the (blue) add postem
Scroll down to the empty box provided and type in your information
Click on 'create'



P O Box 703, Paraparaumu 3234 Kapiti@gencalogy.org.nz Registered charity no. CC33988

Branch meetings: 4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

Time: 7pm, supper / research
7:30pm, meeting start
Venue: Kapiti Community Centre,
15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

### Branch fundraiser - Used ink cartridges

The Branch collects used ink and toner cartridges for recycling: Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard,

Epson & Brother

Bring your old cartridges to Derek at a branch meeting, put them in a box in the locked metal cabinets at the APFHC in Paraparaumu Library, or leave them in Derek's letter-box:

94 Ngaio Road, Waikanae.

### Computer Password at the APFHC

APFHC computer password changes every month: check the red folder in the drawer. Members need to get the drawer key from help desk.

### This month's meeting: Tues 23 October

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start (Meeting details, page 1)

Supper roster: **U - Z** 

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **November meeting**

Tuesday 27 Nov: Emerson Vandy, National Library & end of year supper (details on page 3)

### Wed Help Sessions at APFHC

November 7, 14, 21, 28: 10am - 12pm

#### **Branch Committee**

Convener: Bill McKeich Tel: 905 6952 convenor "at" KapitiGen.org
Secretary: Lyn Lee Tel: 293 1610 secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer / Membership:

Lorna Henderson Tel: 293 7771 treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org

Deputy Convenor: Clive Palmer

Programmes & Activities: Kathy Callaghan & Frances Braddick

Librarian: Beverley Chappell Denice McCarten, Dianne Sleeman

### **Branch Officers**

Newsletter Editor: Blanche Charles editor "at" KapitiGen.org

YURU Marketing: John & Kathleen Gibson Communications Assistant: Derek Griffis

Webmaster: Barry Thomson

Magazine Round Robin Manager: Meryl Opie

RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Meeting Registrar: Mary Braddock

Sound System: Kerry Lee FamNet Administrator: Lyn Lee

Computer Support: Lindsay Olsen, Kerry Lee (Asst)

Research Officer: Sue Greene

#### **Interest Groups**

Computer Friendly Group - Sue Green - ComputerGroup "at" KapitiGen.org

Family Tree Maker Group - Hanley Hoffmann and Clive Palmer

FTM "at" KapitiGen.org

Australian Interest Group - Deborah Shuker OZSig "at" KapitiGen.org

Committee meetings: 7pm, 1st Wednesday

Newsletter content deadline: Saturday after 1st Wednesday

Send to: editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Photos welcomed for illustration - resolution of 300dpi or higher NB: To ensure publication, submissions **must** be received by deadline

# YURU goes to Taranaki

Fresh from a successful revival of *Flowers from My Mother's Garden* at Downstage Theatre in Wellington, Dame Kate Harcourt has agreed to accept an invitation to take YURU 2012 to Taranaki. Our production of *Virtues From The Past* is a more in-depth look at Dame Kate's family history, as those of you who have seen the shows will testify. The Inglewood Branch, NZSG and Taranaki Electricity Trust Cue Theatre have been in discussions over recent weeks and our production will show at that theatre on Sunday 2 December at 2pm and 7.30pm.

The YURU team is back in action planning for its second regional visit, having taken Sir Jon Trimmer's show to Hamilton Family History Fair last year. The team will be travelling to Inglewood the day before the shows for setting up and rehearsals and is looking forward to meeting all those folk who live around that famous mountain.

If you have friends in Taranaki, give them a call and tell them that bookings open later in the month at the Inglewood Book Centre. Full details will be on our website.



YURU 2012: L-R Kate Harcourt, Clive Palmer, Sue Greene Photo: © Kathy Callaghan