

Remember to
check our
website
[http://
KapitiGen.org](http://KapitiGen.org)
for additional
information on
events, Branch,
Interest & User
Groups, and
any late

Editorial

I trust you have all made good use of cooler winter days and evenings to achieve your Family Research goals. However, do not feel too bad if you, like me, have been shooting off on tangents and creating a list of things to do that is longer than the list of "completed goals".

Having said this though, I have really enjoyed what I have done and achieved, and for me, that's what it's all about. So my view, which is not necessarily a genealogist purist's point of view, is to enjoy the journey and do not burden yourself with having to complete something "for the family".

The other thing I want to comment on is the extremely interesting guest speakers we have at our monthly meetings. I went along last month, "just to go", rather than with any specific interest in the Auckland Islands. For those that were not at the Evening Meeting, Shona Riddell, a young author (I never thought I would be saying a 41 year old was young; must be something to do with my age) spoke on her book "Trial of Strength".

Her story, that of her great great grandmother who was born on the Islands in 1851, and the associated history of a failed British settlement, was extremely interesting and certainly left me inspired to read her book.

(See story on page 4)

To finish off with, if you have hung in this far, I would like to encourage any members who don't make it along to either our Evening or Daytime meetings to come along give it a go, meet other fellow genealogists and have fun.

Our last Evening meeting for the year on Tuesday 26th November is our Christmas Special and an event not to be missed, especially if you like a good story and a good laugh, chocolate, sweet stuff and wine or juice.

Our last Daytime meeting for the year is on Wednesday 27th November and again is a Christmas Special with plenty of festive fare - like the evening meeting - not to be missed. Come along, celebrate and share with others what a successful (or not) year you have had.

I love being part of Kapiti Genealogy and look forward to meeting more of you, maybe at our Christmas function.

Ian Barbour

Convener, Kapiti Branch NZSG

Next meeting
Tuesday October 22nd

Doug Miller
Genealogy on the
Cheap

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October Branch Meetings

Evening meeting.

When: Tuesday October 22nd 7pm - meet, greet and refreshments.
7.30 - 9pm, main session.

Where: Kapiti Community Centre, 15, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu

What: Doug Miller - Genealogy on the Cheap

Doug will walk us through the myriad of genealogical resources that are available at no cost



Convenor: Ian Barbour

Supper roster: F - J

Daytime meeting.

When: Wednesday October 23rd 1.30 - 4pm
2 - 4pm - meeting

Where: Waikanae Baptist Church Cafe, 286, Te Moana Rd, Waikanae

What: Beginners DNA and Family History. Followed by the usual discussion and research session.

Co-ordinator: Sonia Coom

Branch news

Age On The Go Expo.

Recently Kapiti Genealogy took part in "The All Ages On The Go Expo" being held at the Waikanae Memorial Hall. We were one of over 40 stalls, exhibits and displays of social, recreational, health and lifestyle opportunities for people of all ages and abilities here on the Coast.

Once the event got underway, there was a steady trickle of people stopping by to peruse the books and information the Committee had assembled for display.

The stall attracted a fair amount of interest from those visiting the event, with the most common conversations being around: *"I started a Family Tree years ago, and now I've retired & got time I want to get back into it"* **or** *"I've got kids & grandkids, and thought I should get our family history down while I still can, because if I don't do it, it will be lost"*.

Sonia Coom & Colin Cameron



Christmas Celebration

As mentioned in Ian's Editorial the next meeting on November 26th will be the last for the year. So don't miss out.

In the meantime, prepare for the break by noting some of the free resources that Doug Miller will be recommending this month. It's hard to know where to go for the right information when there are so many available.



My Genealogy Journey

My introduction to genealogy – in the late 1960s - came by way of a photocopy of a handwritten, much crossed-out, scrawled over, and added to, version of a my paternal Family Tree put together from the obituary of my great great uncle who died in 1880 aged 100 (we now believe he was 90 when he died). This uncle and his brother – my gg grandfather – emigrated to New Zealand in 1840 from the Scottish Highlands, and many of the names on this Tree were their supposed siblings who had fought and died in the Napoleonic and Peninsular Wars of the early 1800s.

So I set to, beginning with myself and working back by generation, quickly to discover how exponential families grow once you veer off your direct ancestral line. This was before computers and internet, and the arrival of our children which for some reason put paid to my Family Tree explorations.

Fast forward to about 2015 when one of my Scottish maternal 1st cousins tracked me down via Facebook (my mum was Glaswegian and never lost her accent), explained her love for family history and her MyHeritage family tree, and rekindled my interest. I had just stopped fulltime work, and like many farmers, had very few interests outside the farm gate, and getting back into genealogy did it for me.

By now computers and the internet had changed everything, genealogy included. On a trip to Ireland and Scotland in 2016 I visited my cousin (and the rest of them!) and transferred her MyHeritage tree onto my laptop by GEDCOM, and she got me up and running.

My next breakthrough came when I joined the Kapiti Genealogy Society and the wealth of knowledge so willingly shared by experienced genealogists like my “buddy” Lorna. My online MyHeritage tree was soon complemented by an offline RootsMagic tree, plus exposure to Ancestry and WikiTree.

DNA testing was the next thing to light me up, and over the last three years I have taken the Family Finder test (for males and females), the Y67, Y111, BigY500 and am awaiting results for my BigY700 test (males only, tracing direct paternal line), all with FamilyTreeDNA. My results from these tests have rewarded me with 2nd to 4th cousins I only vaguely knew may exist, in NZ, Australia, Canada, USA, UK and Europe. Some have clear paper trails to my tree, others not so clear. This is where the newest tools in our genealogy toolkit are proving their value. I'm getting thrilling clues and results by using GEDmatch, DNA Painter and chromosome mapping, Family Relativity Theories (MyHeritageDNA), cluster charts, chromosome browsers and triangulation tools there's something new around every corner, and we are able to tap into these resources thanks to the willingness of our members to share and guide.

As you may guess, I'm pretty hooked.

Colin Cameron

Cumberland Records added to FindmyPast

FindmyPast have added searchable records of Cumberland baptisms, marriages and burials to their collection. A valuable addition for those with border heritage.

The 76,000 baptisms contain transcripts and images of the original documents giving details of ancestor's name, date, place of birth, residence, parents names and father's occupation.

37,000 new parish marriages reveal the date, place of marriage, residences and fathers names.

Burial records number 61,000. Transcripts and images give ancestor's name, where they died and place of burial.

Shopping for books!

After the September evening meeting, no doubt talking, I did not get a chance to purchase a copy of Shona's book. No problems, I thought, so off to Paper Plus in Coastlands to get one. You'd think this would have been straightforward for a genealogist, skilled in searching for things.

After a while the Manager, Rob Clarke, came over to ask if I needed help. After not finding the book on the shelves he searched the computer... just like us genealogists, accurately typing in the book title I had written on my note 'Tower of Strength'. Not only did they not have it in stock, they were not able to source it either. So I left a bit annoyed with myself for not having bought the book on the night.

Not long home, sulking, I got a call from the Rob to say that he had located the book and had them in stock. It turned out he had been searching for the wrong book and, being a very good customer-service type person, did not assign blame.

As I talked to Rob on the phone I glanced at my note. Oh dear! 'TOWER of Strength' ...hmmm should have been 'TRIAL of Strength'!

All ended well, I picked up my new book from Paper Plus, profusely apologized to Kaye, the Managers very helpful wife and am now a very happy book reader.

So Paper Plus Coastlands do stock Shona's book at \$39.95 and I would highly recommend it. A great read.

Ian Barbour

Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson

Having overheard a remark that the British Prime Minister was "*just a playboy from a privileged background with no intellect*", I wondered where he did come from. I discovered a fascinating family history.

Boris's paternal great grandfather was an Ottoman Turk while his g.g.mother was Circassian, reputedly of slave origin. Their son **Ali Kermal** became a journalist who travelled widely. On a visit to Switzerland he fell in love with an Anglo-Swiss girl, **Winifred Brun**, whom he married in Paddington, London in 1903.

He developed liberal democratic convictions which caused him to be exiled from the Ottoman Empire and he fled to England in 1909. They already had a daughter and their son **Osman Wilfred Kermal** was born in Bournemouth, where Winifred died shortly afterwards. He and the children went to live with his mother-in-law, Margaret Brun (nee Johnson), until he returned to the Ottoman Empire in 1912. He was assassinated in 1922.

Osman became known as **Wilfred Johnson** using his middle name and Margaret's maiden name. (Margaret's grandparents were Hubert von Pfeffel and Helene Arnous-Riviere, hence adding French and German to the lineage.) Wilfred married Irene Williams, daughter of Stanley Williams and Marie Louise de Pfeffel. Their son **Stanley**, Boris's father, was born in Penzance in 1940. He has had an illustrious career as an author, politician and conservationist. He worked for the world bank and the European Commission, and in 1984 received the Greenpeace Award for Outstanding Services to the Environment.

This is a very sketchy outline. You can find out so much more by searching on any of the names.

But it is not even half the story! Boris's maternal great-grandfather was **Professor Elias Avery Lowe**, a Russian American palaeographer - born to a Russian Jewish family - who emigrated to America. He ended up as a professor at Oxford University.

So - "crafty, colourful and controversial" Boris may be, which possibly can be explained by the cacophony of genes running in his blood; but lacking in intelligence - I think not!

Ed.

European Research

September's Day Group meeting focused on European research, and had contributions from Hanna Wagner-Nicholls (Otaki Branch – German research), Jocelyn Prvanov (Romania, Serbia) and Kathy Callaghan (Scandinavian). For many European countries, shifting borders, the lack of centralised records and different naming conventions are but a few of the problems encountered. Here are a few of the useful links that were mentioned on the day:

For Germany, the Archion paid service <https://www.archion.de/en/> provides a starting point. For all countries, both the Family Search research wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) and Cyndi's List (<https://www.cyndislist.com>) provide excellent entry points for discovering what resources exist. e.g. https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Norway_Genealogy

Kathy pointed out that Family Search has many of the Scandinavian records, and they are easier to navigate than each country's archives: Norway: <https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/>
Sweden: <https://riksarkivet.se/startpage> :Denmark: <https://www.sa.dk/en/>

Don't forget to check out Facebook groups, join mailing lists on RootsWeb (<https://home.rootsweb.com>), and think outside the box by writing to local newspapers and joining local Family History Societies.

For Huguenot information, the National Huguenot Society (<http://www.huguenot.netnation.com/general/>) has some useful resources.

Highclere Castle - alias Downton Abbey

For those of you who have seen the film or followed the TV series, Deborah Shuker has sent this interesting **Findmypast blog extract Aug 2019** giving the history of Highclere Castle.

Highclere Castle, Hampshire, where Downton Abbey is set.

The first records of the 5,000-acre estate where Highclere Castle is built date from 749; the property was even recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. The Bishops of Winchester took charge of the land in the 9th century and built the stately home and gardens. In the 17th century, Sir Robert Sawyer redeveloped the site into Highclere Place House. It has been in the family ever since, as the current residents are Sawyer's direct descendants.

There is a 1782 newspaper article offering two guineas reward for "discovering" the vandals who destroyed six fir trees on the estate. Lord Porchester, the owner at the time was Henry Herbert, 1st Earl of Carnarvon. He inherited Highclere from his uncle Robert Sawyer in 1769.

The iconic exterior facade of the mansion was completed by renowned architect Sir Charles Barry in the 1840s. This transformed the property from Highclere Place House to Highclere Castle.

The 1861 census lists the Earl of Carnarvon, his mother, two siblings, two visitors and no less than 17 servants in residence. During the First World War, Highclere Castle was converted into a military hospital. Lady of the manor at the time, Almina Herbert ran the hospital, which provided care for soldiers who were injured on the front line. Almina's husband, the 5th Earl of Carnarvon is famous for his discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb along with Howard Carter in 1922.

By the time the Second World War broke out, only live-in staff at the Castle are listed in the 1939 Register. Maybe because Henry Herbert, 6th Earl of Carnarvon, was honeymooning with his new wife, Tilly Losch. Highclere Castle was a turbulent place during wartime. Not only had it opened its doors to child evacuees, there were also several plane crashes on the site.

Highclere Castle is still the family seat of the Earl of Carnarvon. While the Earl and his family have their own private living quarters, parts of the castle are open to the public and have been since the 1950s. It is a venue-of-choice for high profile concerts and celebrity weddings.

www.instagram.com/p/BI_xdHsjuiH/ Photo of Highclere Castle staff outside the library.

Dates for Your Diary

Kapiti Genealogy Venues

APFHC: Alison Procter Family History Centre, Ground Floor, north west corner, Paraparaumu Library

KCC: Kapiti Community Centre, Pohutukawa Room, 15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

Waikanae Baptist Church Cafe, 286, Te Moana Rd, Waikanae

All Kapiti Branch events are in the programme on our website on the calendar.

Monthly evening meeting: Tuesday 22nd October, 7-9pm - details of meetings on page 2

Daytime meeting: Wednesday 23rd October, 1.30-4pm. Waikanae Baptist Church, Te Moana Rd.

Wednesdays: 10 am to noon. Experienced researchers on hand to help you use our resources at the APFHC.

Saturday 2nd November: Members help session, 1- 3pm, APFHC. **By appointment only.**

Saturday 7th December: Members help session, 1-3pm, APFHC. **By appointment only**

This is a great opportunity to get one-on-one help. Please pre-book a slot by phoning Ian on 298 8371.

Interest Group meetings (see Programme>Interest Groups on our website for further details)

Tuesday 12th November: Irish interest group. 2 - 4pm, APFHC

Thursday 14th November: Australian interest group. 10 - 12 noon APFHC

Saturday 30th November: NZ Kapiti Legacy users group, Kapiti Community Centre, 1- 4pm.

Saturday 16th November: Roots Magic Interest group. Kapiti Community Centre, 2 - 4pm.

Saturday early in 2020: DNA Interest Group. Waikanae Baptist Church, 286, Te Moana Road. 2 - 4pm.

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursday of every month from February to November.

Next session **Thursday 14th November, 10-12noon** at APFHC for help with any Australian research.

DNA

Next meeting **Saturday early in 2020. Date to be advised. Watch this space.**

2-4pm at Waikanae Baptist Church Café, 286 Te Moana Rd. \$3 door charge.

<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/dna/>

The DNAGedCom clustering tool will be continued in a future session.

Useful blog post links for DNAPainter, not forgetting the help files on the site itself.

<https://dna-explained.com/2019/10/14/dnapainter-instructions-and-resources/>

Legacy Users

Meetings are usually held on the last Saturday of every second month from February to October.

Everyone is welcome.

Next meeting **Saturday 30th November, 2-4pm.**

Kapiti Community Centre. Doors open 1- 4.30pm.

Tea and coffee available. Cost: \$2. Contact Gerald Twiss on gerot@xtra.co.nz for details.

Irish

Next meeting **Tuesday 12th November, 2-4pm.**

APFHC, Paraparaumu Library.

Contact us at <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/irish/>

Roots Magic

For those using or interested in using Rootsmagic to keep track of their family history.

Next two-monthly meeting will be **Saturday 16th November, 2-4pm** at Kapiti Community Centre.

\$3 door fee. to cover rental/refreshments

Come and share your experiences, tips and techniques.

Details on <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/>

Information for new members

Branch meetings:

Evening meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from January to November.

Daytime meeting is on the following day, the fourth Wednesday from Jan. to November.

Coming up.

Tuesday October 22nd 7:00pm: supper
7:30pm: meeting starts

Wednesday Oct. 23rd 1.30pm: meet and mingle
2 - 4pm: meeting

Free to members of the Branch, Visitors \$3

Details of both meetings on page 2

Committee meetings are held at 2pm on the 1st Thursday of months January - November.

Evening meeting upper roster: F – J

If your surname starts with the above letters, we would appreciate your assistance. (Don't worry - we use the dishwasher provided!)

We welcome new member:

Rita Klus.

If you are a new member or have not previously attended an evening meeting, please make yourself known to Donna on the entrance table.

Help with Research

Our help sessions on Wednesday mornings at the Paraparaumu Library 10-12am and on the first Saturday of every month, 1-3pm, will assist you to make the most of our facilities.

Saturday's are by appointment only. If you need individual help phone Ian on 298 8371 to book a session.

If you are new to genealogy, go to <https://www.genealogy.org.nz/> and click on the 'Getting it Right' logo. These free resources are an ideal starting point. Each resource consists of a video and a set of notes. You can pick and choose what you learn or you can start from the beginning and work your way through.

Facilities at the

Alison Proctor Family History Centre

The APFHC is located at Paraparaumu Library . Turn right inside the library entrance and at the far end you'll see the six computers, microfiche and library. The cupboard on the right hand side of the area contains the red folders mentioned below.

Members need to get the cupboard key from the library Welcome Desk, when you will be asked to show your membership card.

You will need the new **pink** card for the year 2019-20.

Computer Password at the APFHC

The APFHC computer password changes regularly: check the red Computer Help folder in the top drawer. Keyboards are in the lowest drawer. Please sign the red signing-in book found in the top drawer.

Replace the cover on the computer when you leave and lock the keyboard in the cupboard.

We have wonderful resources on all six of our computers at the APFHC, quite apart from all the other records and books. You are encouraged to use these resources as often as you need.

All six computers have subscriptions to Ancestry, FindMyPast and access to The Genealogist, as well as free sites like FamilySearch (we suggest you use your own log-in to FamilySearch). A microfiche is available. You are encouraged to save the results of your searches on a USB memory stick or send them to your own email address. We have a printer if you wish to print a hard copy. Please put 10c per copy in the honesty box on the cupboard door.

Please **do not switch off** the printer.

Website

Log in and explore, update your details and find information on our user groups.

<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme> gives full details of all meetings in the calendar and is easy to negotiate.

Should any member wish to have their research interests published in the newsletter to contact others, please complete the Members Interests form in the Members Only section of our website <http://www.kapitigen.org/membership/members-only/#introduce> . You will have to log in to do so. Instructions for logging in are available at <http://www.kapitigen.org/2012/07/logging-in/>



Branch Officers

Convener: Ian Barbour
Convener "at" KapitiGen.org

Secretary: Colin Cameron
Phone: 905 3000
Secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer : John Miller
Treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org

Branch responsibilities

Membership:

Lorna Henderson: Phone: 293 7771
Membership"at"KapitiGen.org

Programme & Activities:

Ian Brooking
Programme "at" KapitiGen.org
Denice Mc Carten

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Daytime co-ordinator: Sonia Coom
[daygrp"at"KapitiGen.org](mailto:daygrp@KapitiGen.org)

Magazine Round Robins:

Bev Chappell
[RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RoundRobin@KapitiGen.org)

Webmasters:

Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Meeting registrar: Donna Bridgeman

Sound System: Ian Brooking

Member: Gerard Denton

Newsletter Editor: Sheila Jolley
editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Equipment Support:

Lindsay Olsen. Backup; Ian Brooking

Catering: Judy Olsen

Schools project: John Glover

Schools liaison: Bill McKeich

Raffle: Stephen Sherring

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker

[OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:OzSIG@KapitiGen.org)

DNA: Lorna Henderson

Irish: [IrishSIG"at"KapitiGen.org](mailto:IrishSIG@KapitiGen.org)

Legacy Users: Gerald Twiss

[gerot"at"xtra.co.nz](mailto:gerot@xtra.co.nz)

Roots Magic: Lorna Henderson

[RootsMagic "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RootsMagic@KapitiGen.org)

School Admission records project:

[pamandjohnglo "at" gmail.com](mailto:pamandjohnglo@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.kapitigen.org>

Portfolio descriptions and current holders are listed on our web site - in the **Who Does What** section of the "About" menu.

Email links

Throughout the newsletter email links are clickable. Remove the extra @ symbol before sending.

Membership

New members always welcome.
A bargain at \$25 for the year to 31st March 2020.
Check out <http://www.kapitigen.org/membership/>
for the application form or to apply online.
Bank account for internet banking payments:
BNZ 02-0591-0040791-000

To access our resources at the Paraparaumu Library
use your **pink** membership card.
Further details at <http://www.kapitigen.org/2019/01/>

Next meeting
November 26th

Christmas Celebration