

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

Editorial



What a difference a month makes!

I intended to illustrate this month's newsletter with an Easter bunny, but am disenchanted with rabbits at the moment. Those inhabiting our property have been totally disrespectful of the lockdown rules, holding parties in the paddock and excavating several new homes in the garden. So instead you see my favourite bear. See page 5 for more bear news.

This newsletter looks a bit different due to all the changes to dates. At this stage we don't know when 'normal service' will be resumed but will keep you up to date.

Check out page 3 for really useful information on how to access the Kapiti library version of Ancestry, if you haven't already done so. Ian's instructions are easy to follow. Even I managed it!

Make sure you read page 4 to see that the regular help sessions on Wednesday mornings have been replaced temporarily with online sessions from 1-3pm. Note that you have to register to be assigned a slot. Go to http://www.kapitigen.org/contact_us/

Page 4 guides you through the process of joining these and the Interest Groups that are meeting via Zoom.

I drew up a long to-do list to keep me occupied during the last month. Sadly, number one was 'sort out my genealogy bits of paper'. I got waylaid - as you do - and number two is still there! But I've enjoyed the time to explore branches of the family I didn't know existed.

Keep well and stay safe.

Sheila

Next meetings:
Tuesday evening and
Wednesday afternoon
on
dates to be advised!

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April Branch Meetings

Both evening and daytime meetings cancelled for this month.

Watch this space for May meetings when we know the situation.

The Australian and Irish Interest Group meetings are also on hold temporarily.

See pages 4, 6 and 7 for news on DNA, Roots magic and On-line Trees Interest Groups.

Branch news

Welcome to new member **David Tripe**.

You have joined at an unfortunate time in that our meetings and morning help sessions have had to be cancelled. But I hope you're able to take advantage of the free access to Ancestry in the meantime.

Tours. Kathy Callaghan advises that tours to the National Library and Archives will be suspended until further notice, due to the places being closed and unnecessary travel.

AGM - Due to the current circumstances our Branch AGM will now be held at the June evening meeting, unless there are further disruptions.

Don't forget the competition.

Now is your chance to get published - even if it is only in the newsletter! You can hardly say you don't have time!

Kapiti Genealogy invites members to get writing, or drawing, and submit either
500 words max on your family history, or a favourite ancestor or research journey
OR an up to A4 sized pictorial representation of your family tree.

Must be suitable for publication in the newsletter! Scandal allowed.

Entries close **May 30th**. Winning entry to be published in the June newsletter; others to follow as space permits. Send entries to editor "at" KapitiGen.org.

Any genealogist on a research trail will not be bored. However, if all else fails go to futurelearn.com and join their 'Genealogy: Researching Your Family tree' course. It is free and lasts six weeks, with an estimated time requirement of four hours a week.

It includes all the topics you'd like to cover; how to research, sources, documents and how to use them, the use of DNA, references and how to write up your family history. It guides you through many very useful websites and shows how to use them.

Other courses - 'Learning from the past: a guide for the curious researcher' or 'The Scottish Highland Clans: Origins, decline and transformation' may interest you.

Do check out their site. The courses are all run by recognised universities or colleges and are well worth while.

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/>

Great News!

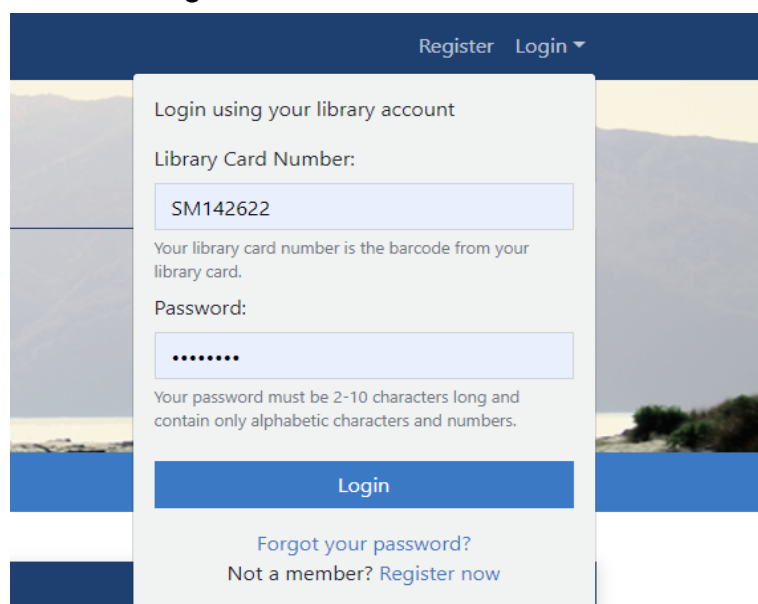
Although the Paraparaumu Library is closed, and we have no access to our resources in the APFHC, the KCDC Library has managed to enable access to the Ancestry Library Edition from home for Kapiti residents.

Here's how to do get there:

1. Go to the Kapiti Coast Libraries Catalogue

<https://kapiti.spydus.co.nz/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/HOME>

2. Click on Login



3a. If you are already registered, enter your Library Card Number and Password;

3b. If you have a Library Card but have never set up a Password, click on the "Forgot your password?" link. This does however require that your borrower account already has your current email address registered with the Library.

Once you've logged in to the Catalogue:

1. Click on the "Home" link (top left of the screen)

then

2. You will find the link to Ancestry.com on the right hand side of the screen

If you have any problems, just email Paraparaumu.library@kapiticoast.govt.nz They will be able to help you by e.g. registering or updating your email address on your borrower account so that you can set a Password.

Enjoy!

Ian Brooking

Meetings during lockdown

We have subscribed to the Zoom web conferencing application to give us the ability to hold virtual meetings while we are in lockdown.

Our first virtual meeting was held on Saturday 11th for the DNA group (<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/dna/>), and by all accounts was very well received. Next up was the Online Trees session focussing on MyHeritage trees (and the companion FamilyTreeBuilder software) on the following Saturday. (<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/online-trees-their-companion-software-programs/>), and RootsMagic will follow in May.

For the DNA and Roots Magic Interest Groups, contact is made with those already on the mailing list to set up the meeting. If you want to join either of these interest groups, contact us on http://www.kapitigen.org/contact_us/ and we will add you to the list.

A regular **virtual help session** slot has also been assigned on **Wednesdays between 1 and 3pm**, and will be available for members in lieu of the Wednesday morning APFHC sessions. Registration is required for a slot to be assigned to you, and the first of these was trialled by Lorna on the 15th April. The ability to share our respective screens during these sessions makes it relatively easy to guide you to answers for your burning questions. We welcome any volunteers to help in this slot, as your committee are by no means the only experts in the Branch!

As above, contact us on http://www.kapitigen.org/contact_us/ to arrange a slot in the help sessions. Briefly describe what you want help with, and if you can't wait till Wednesday we may even be able to arrange a more suitable time slot for you.

The process:

For all of the above meetings, you are required to pre-register.

Once you have expressed interest in attending any of these sessions you will receive:

1. An email with a link to **register** for the meeting.

You will need to fill in your name and email address.

Once you have clicked the Register button, you may be prompted to download Zoom.

You do not have to Sign in /register an account with Zoom itself.

2. Once you have **registered for the meeting**, you will receive another email which contains details of the meeting, along with a link to **join the meeting** and a password.

On the day, you will use this latter join link and password to enter the meeting (and another invite to download Zoom if you didn't do that earlier).

With the link you can join a meeting at any time it is in progress, and leave it likewise.

If there are any glitches, please bear with us, as we are all on a learning curve here!

If you have no experience of online meetings, these instructions from SeniorNet explain some of the equipment options and meeting process: <https://kapiti.seniornet.co.nz/using-zoom/>

You can use any device to participate (see SeniorNet explanations),

but participation does work best if you have the ability to use voice and video. It can however work with text only via the Chat capability.

Keep safe, keep well - and keep an eye on our web pages for any breaking news (right hand side Recent Changes list).

Lorna Henderson and Ian Brooking

Bear Essentials!

Bear hugs, bubbles and where would we be without the “Bear Essentials” - almost sounds like Fred Dagg's where would you be without your gumboots...

If you have been getting your exercise by going out for your daily walks while we are in level 4 of the Covid-19 lockdown you may notice some furry little faces popping up in windows. That is because a big nationwide teddy bear hunt is underway - albeit one from a distance.

The idea started out to provide a bit of excitement at a time when there is so much uncertainty out there and to give kids something to spot when they're out on their neighbourhood walks, to show we are all in this together and support each other to show we're not scared. Seeing the smiles on people's faces puts a smile on our own and it says a lot for the community feel.

While the signs are very encouraging we must still stay in our bubble and when out walking, stay close to our own surrounding streets. We want to try to keep it as stress free and as normal as possible.



A number of our members are within that vulnerable age bracket so our message is stay safe, stay at home. While we send our thanks to those workers keeping essential services open, closer to home our thanks also has to go to this month's “good sort's” - those Committee Members (I don't include myself as I just “tagged” along) for continuing behind the scenes, working on ideas so that other members can stay in contact during lockdown and provide support in whatever way is possible.

The idea evolved from our Secretary, sitting in on “Senior Net's” presentation for using Zoom (<https://kapiti.seniornet.co.nz/using-zoom/>) where they encouraged sharing the link with others. Thanks to those other techno savvy Committee Members, Kapiti Genealogy has now subscribed to Zoom and given us the ability to hold virtual meetings.

Our first joint virtual committee meeting was via Skype this month, however the DNA interest group session on 11th March and the MyHeritage session on March 18th were held on Zoom. (<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/dna/>). (<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/online-trees-their-companion-softwareprograms/>). So all new learning curves for me. Never too old to learn!!

Lockdown has given me the opportunity to tidy up my family trees, plus add more to the story line, go through DNA matches and make notes or follow up on how each person is connected. If you have a My Heritage Family Tree like I have, the little box at the top right corner of each person's DNA match is a great place to start.

For those more techno savvy than me, keep an eye on the Kapiti Genealogy Group facebook page. Feel free to make it known amongst people who will be interested in joining. You can refer people to come and join us, but please do not add them yourselves. Let them know the link, which is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/KapitiGenealogyGroup/>

Here members can take part with contributions and/or updates on genealogy news or events that are interesting for us here in Kapiti. Please feel free to ask questions, share notices of happenings in relation to genealogy or alternatively check out the website <http://KapitiGen.org>

Best wishes from Pooh Bear, Honey Bear and Pee Wee the Kiwi along with their cousie bros from across the ditch - stay safe and remember - stay inside your bubble.

Sonia Coom

Grumpy old gt gt gt granddad

We know more about my 4 x gt grandfather than my 3x, as he was Alexander MacGillonie-Cameron, 5th and last of Invermallie, tacksman to Lochiel (Chief of Clan Cameron).

Alexander and his wife of 75 years had 5 children, of whom my 3x gt grandfather Angus was 3rd in line. But Alexander made the age-old error of favouring one heir over the others when sharing what would have been very hard-earned wealth. His eldest son got the lion's share (some 20-or-so years before the clearances took his father out in 1803) and headed off to the West Indies and Surinam where he established several cotton and sugar plantations and owned upward of 550 slaves.

This deemed inequity got right up Angus' nose. So aggrieved was he that court records of the time tell of him taking his own father to court in an attempt to rectify the situation.

When this proved unsuccessful, Angus spent the next few years lining up cousins and kinsmen in a series of court cases for alleged wrongs that in most cases were dismissed for insufficient evidence.

We don't know at this stage what happened to Angus for the next 20 years, until he turned up in Paramaribo, Surinam, around 1830.

How do we know this? Sure enough – court records have him suing a nephew for recompense over a family financial dispute! Who lost the case? Gt gt gt granddad Angus!

He died in Surinam in 1854, aged 90, leaving his descendants wondering what he would have been like to live with.

By your grumpy old secretary.

Virtual DNA

Although we couldn't meet in person, our 11th April meeting went ahead electronically with positive feedback being received.

There was good interaction with questions being asked and answered and the technology worked well. The demo section was on MedBetterDNA, the chrome browser extension for additional features for those working with AncestryDNA.

This tool allows you to:

- see the full notes entered against a match when viewing the overall DNA match list;
- overcome the limit of 24 coloured dots to categorize your matches and also
- to allow for negative searches.

For this to work you must have access to the Notes field of the kit being displayed or filtered, as it works by reading the Notes you have input against the individual matches.

The options can be changed via the right click menu when viewing your matches.

You have to have entered #tags in the notes that you wish to filter for their presence or absence, eg significant surnames, MRCA info, contacted.

Remember to UNset the filter after you've used it as your match list will be rather reduced otherwise.

Notes from the session have been sent to those on our DNA Group mailing list (but will probably be a bit cryptic to those not present!)

Your homework for next time is for YOU to tell US what you look for first when you check your new matches / DNA results at whatever company.

Lorna Henderson

General Information

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.

The New Zealand Ministry of Health advises those who have travelled/transited from areas with large COVID-19 outbreaks or are feeling unwell, please consider others and self-isolate for 14 days.

In view of the virus now being in Wellington the National Library FamilySearch desk will be closed from today 17th March 2020 until further notice to safeguard the health of our volunteers.

For further advice, please see the Ministry of Health website.

As you will all know our Branch meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Tentative dates for the next Interest Group meetings are listed below. See page 4 for Wednesday Help Sessions.

Interest Groups

Roots Magic

For those using Rootsmagic for their family history.

Next meeting will be on **Saturday 16th May, 2-4pm** either at the Kapiti Community Centre or via Zoom, depending on Covid 19 restrictions.

For more information <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/rootsmagic/>

Australian

Usually second Thursday of every month from February to November.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 14th May, 10-12noon** at APFHC, for help with Australian research. Check <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme> for changes. Unlikely to take place.

Irish

Next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 12th May, 2-4pm**. APFHC, Paraparaumu Library.

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

DNA

Next meeting, one way or another, is scheduled for **Saturday 13th June, 1:30 for 2-4pm**, either online or at Waikanae Baptist Church Café, 286 Te Moana Rd. Keep an eye on our web page for any changes to this <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/dna/>

See page 6 for news on how the DNA Zoom session went.

Online Trees/software.

Next scheduled session **Saturday 27th June, 1.45-3.45pm**. Paraparaumu Library meeting room or online.

<http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/online-trees-their-companion-software-programs/>

These sessions are designed to show you options for sharing your tree online eg. as cousin bait, and to aid your record searches.

Our 18th April Online Tree session went ahead on schedule, using Zoom, with very few technical glitches. The ability to share screens to demonstrate live examples is very useful - although we did find that pop up screens didn't show up (eg when inputting a new person on FamilyTreeBuilder) .



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@KapitiGen.org

Magazine Round Robins:

Bev Chappell
RoundRobin@KapitiGen.org

Webmasters:

Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Meeting registrar: Donna Bridgeman

Sound System: Ian Brooking

Member: Gerard Denton

Membership

Members are reminded that our subscription year ends 31st March and subs are now overdue.

Still a bargain at \$25 for the year April to March.
Bank account for internet banking payments: BNZ
02-0591-0040791-000

Further details for existing or intending members at
<http://www.kapitigen.org/2020/01/membership-for-the-202021-year/>

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@KapitiGen.org

DNA: Lorna Henderson

Irish: IrishSIG@KapitiGen.org

Online Trees: Lorna Henderson

Roots Magic: Lorna Henderson

RootsMagic@KapitiGen.org

School Admission records project:

pamandjohnnglo@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.

Next meeting

To be advised -
watch this space!