

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

Editorial



I don't suppose many people danced around the Maypole this year. It would be a bit hard to keep a 'social distance'!

This month has been fraught with difficulty in trying to arrange a date for the AGM. In the end the NZSG decided that they would extend the deadline out to September and that we could hold it online with certain provisions. The Committee have settled for an online AGM on 28th July. I have repeated the instructions for joining an online meeting on page 5 for reference. It is a learning curve for most of us. Those Interest Groups using the Zoom system seem to be successful.

Also, I expect you already know that KCDC took advantage of the lockdown to address some necessary maintenance work at the Community Centre. It will be closed for several weeks, posing problems for groups that meet there regularly.

We are waiting with baited breath for all the entries to the competition - see page 2.

An interesting journey by George Warcup's family is documented on page 4. It must have been a nightmare for so many who ventured on that long uncomfortable trip to an unknown future.

If you are thinking morbid thoughts, take a look at the brilliant memorial found by Deborah Shuker to Lora Burton Downay. Also Lindsay's find on writing a codicil to your will to save all the hard work you've done compiling your family history.

When we can get back to the APFHC I must check out the Tithe maps mentioned on page 6. They could really enhance the background to a search.
Keep well and stay safe.

Sheila

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

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May Branch Meetings

Once again both evening and daytime meetings will have to be cancelled for this month as we are only allowed 10 people at a gathering.

Watch this space for the June meeting. Our AGM will now be held in July - see below.

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

Page 7 gives dates for DNA, Roots magic and On-line Trees Interest Groups meetings.

Branch news

AGM - Due to the current circumstances our Branch AGM will now be held on **July 28th**.

We have been advised by KCDC that, during the lockdown, the Community Centre is undergoing repairs and maintenance to the building. It is currently closed to the public and will not be available for 4-6 weeks (*plus extra for the usual underestimate for public works!*)

As a Branch of NZSG, our governing body has decreed that an online AGM is an option, provided those present have been checked as financial members and that voting is visible and recorded by the Returning Officer.

COVID-19 legislation has allowed a time extension to the deadline for the AGM to be held, which allows us to hold ours in July. Your committee has decided that our AGM will be July 28th and online.

We acknowledge that not everyone is comfortable with online meetings and will be including a Q&A session on the reports in the first physical meeting after the AGM.

Instructions on how to register for the AGM will be forwarded to financial members nearer the time. The agenda for the AGM will be in the June newsletter.

The agenda is on our website, with a link to the rules governing our branch and nomination forms for the positions of Convenor, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee members
<http://www.kapitigen.org/2020/05/2020-agm-agendanomination-forms/>

Please forward completed nomination forms to our Secretary.

Welcome to new member Juana Kelson

Don't forget the competition.

Now is your chance to get published - even if it is only in the newsletter!

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.

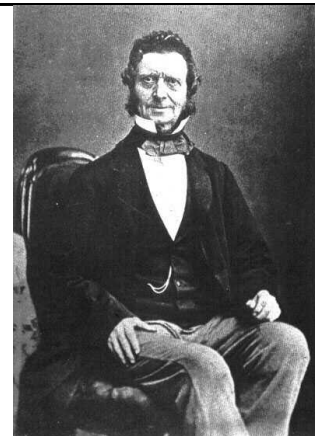
Entries close **May 30th**. Winning entry to be published in the June newsletter; others to follow as space permits. Send entries to [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:editor@KapitiGen.org).

Joke from Deborah to cheer you up! Answer on page 7.

Two Mothers and two daughters went shopping. They all bought shoes and came home with three pairs. How could this be?

A Voyage to Wellington - cont. on page 4

On Sunday 8th of August 1852 the sailing ship True Briton set out from London. On board as cabin passengers, bound for New Zealand, was the Carruthers family; Edwin Montague Carruthers and his wife Jane, the mother of their ten children, now once again four months pregnant, Thomas Johnson Carruthers, my Great Grandfather then aged seventeen, his younger brother John Butler C, and three daughters Mary, Catherine, Ann and Jane.



Edwin Carruthers

The True Briton was a Blackwall Frigate built in the Blackwall yards in East London, outfitted as a merchant ship with three masts and dummy gun ports painted along the sides. On Friday 13th August, five days after setting out from London, the True Briton was anchored off the coast of Devon where she was to take on more passengers including detachments of troops from the 58th and 65th Regiments, together with their wives and children, also bound for New Zealand.

For another two days strong contrary south west winds held the True Briton at the Downs while the crew laboured to maintain station and retrieve lost anchors, while the passengers confined below experienced their first bouts of seasickness. Late afternoon on Sunday the 15th August the wind suddenly changed and the True Briton with nearly four hundred souls aboard set out for Wellington. Another five days of foul weather passed before they finally lost sight of England only to be becalmed in a swell in the Bay of Biscay.

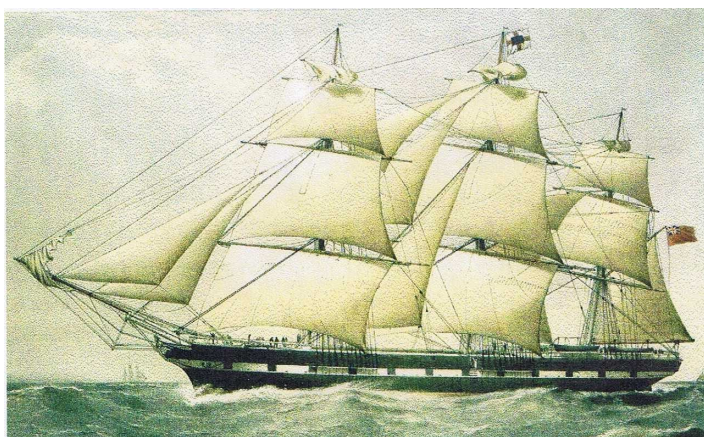
So far they were almost constantly in sight of other shipping. On the 5th September they sighted the islands of Madera and Porto Santo and next morning there were still thirteen ships in sight. After spending two days endeavouring to round the islands to the west they changed course to the east and lost sight of land again the following day.

The weather grew warmer, flying fish, turtles and sword fish made their appearance. Soon they picked up the north east trade winds, and the True Briton sailed on its south westerly course towards the equator at a very acceptable seven knots, their fastest speed so far. They met the tropic of cancer on the 9th September and, after a month in the tropics, crossed the tropic of Capricorn. Now in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, they changed course south east to round the Cape of Good Hope.

With the wind behind them their speed picked up, some days making 200 miles at speeds reaching nine knots, and the temperature grew rapidly colder. By the 26th October they were at latitude 45 degrees south, well south of the Cape where winds are the strongest and most consistent on earth. Pitching and rolling, a battened-down True Briton set course eastward for New Zealand.

For days on end they were served with just bad bread and carrots. Anything that could be caught or shot, bird or fish, was eaten - even albatross steaks were considered a delicacy.

Cont. on page 4



The voyage continues

On calmer days when the galley fires could be lit anything edible was thrown into the pot and served up as sea pie. With no heating, clothing stored in cabin trunks became damp and mouldy while, due to the constant motion, sleeping in bunks became dangerous. Most passengers tried to sleep on the floor.

One hundred miles off the southern tip of Tasmania they altered course to pass south of Stewart Island before altering course again for Wellington. They caught sight of the east coast of the South Island in the distance on the 12th of December and next day it was clearly in view. Four days later they were in sight of Port Nicholson the entrance to Wellington Harbour, but lost ground that night.

There was a shortage of accommodation in Wellington so many of the passengers remained on board a few more days until they could find somewhere to live.

Jane's pregnancy was well advanced and three weeks later another daughter, Theresa Alice was born.

We know from preserved correspondence that the voyage was a difficult time for Jane.

I have done a lot of research into Carruthers "My Grandmothers ancestors" with the help of Australian and Canadian family branches 4th Cousins and we have come up with many interesting stories The True Briton account is all my own research from The Australian Archives in Canberra from a diary held there and transcribed by me with the help of Kapiti branch member Margaret Merton .

George Warcup

(Photos are courtesy of George's Australian cousins.)

York Minster, England. Died 24th April 1812.
Plaque erected in 1836 by her third son

APRIL XXIV. MDCCCXII
DIED
AT HER HOUSE IN CHARLES STREET
NEAR BERKLEY SQUARE LONDON
(WHERE SHE RESIDED ALTERNATELY WITH
HER SEAT BOOKHAM GROVE IN SURRY
FOR A PERIOD OF ABOVE THIRTY FIVE YEARS
HAPPY AND RESPECTED)
AFTER AN ILLNESS OF THREE WEEKS.
AT MIDNIGHT
OF THE TWENTY FOURTH OF APRIL
M DCCC XII
IN THE PRESENCE OF ALL HER FIVE CHILDREN
AND OF THREE OF HER OLD AND FAITHFUL ATTENDANTS.
IN THE SEVENTY THIRD YEAR OF HER AGE,
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORA
BURTON DAWNAY
VISCOUNTESS DOWNE.
WIDOW OF JOHN DAWNAY FOURTH VISCOUNT DOWNE.
MOTHER OF THE FIFTH VISCOUNT AND OTHER CHILDREN,
AND ONLY CHILD AND HEIR OF WILLIAM BURTON, ESQUIRE,
OF ASHWELL, RUTLAND.
BY HIS WIFE ELIZABETH PITT DAUGHTER OF GEORGE PITT
OF STRATFIELDSAY
BY HIS SECOND WIFE LORA GREY OF KINGSTON, DORSET.
FOR HER CHARACTER AND OTHER PARTICULARS
SEE THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE FOR MAY MDCCCXII.

FROM WHICH THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXTRACT.
A REAL UNPRETENDING AND ALMOST UNCONSCIOUS GOOD SENSE,
AND A FIRM DESIRE TO ACT RIGHT ON ALL OCCASIONS,
TO THE BEST OF HER JUDGMENT,
WERE HER MOST DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS.
ACTIVITY OF MIND AND BODY,
SOUND HEALTH,
CHEERFUL MANNERS,
THE OPEN CONFIDENCE OF AN HONEST MIND,
THE LIVELY SERENITY OF AN EASY CONSCIENCE,
WITH A BENEVOLENT DISPOSITION,
AND HEREDITARY PERSONAL GRACES, BOTH OF FORM AND FACE,
WHICH EVEN IN AGE HAD NOT DISAPPEARED,
COMPLETE HER PICTURE.

Lindsay Olsen found an interesting 'Codicil to my last will and testament'. Upon my demise it is requested that you **DO NOT** dispose of any or all of my genealogical records, both those prepared personally by me and those records prepared by others which may be in my possession, included but not limited to books, files, notebooks or computer programs for a period of two years.

The executors were charged with finding relative interested in continuing with the family history and reminded that years of work had gone into the collection!

If your ancestor's gravestones are ready for a fresh look, check out BillionGraves' blog post, [Gravestone Cleaning Tips](#) to learn more.

If we were cleaning our own ancestor's gravestones, this is exactly the way we would do it!
Happy Gravestone Cleaning!

The BillionGraves Team

To register for online meetings

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 followed 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

Virtual Family History Show



On June 20th The Genealogist is sponsoring a virtual family history show. The virtual theatre gives you the chance to watch talks from the same lecturers who would have been at the York event. The presentations will cover a wide range of family history topics and be available throughout the day.

Early Bird Special.

Tickets to attend are currently available for £5.50.

Attendees also receive a Virtual Goody bag worth £10.

To find out more, go to <https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/online/>

Latest additions to Papers Past (April 2020):

Gisborne Times (1901-1937)

Hokitika Guardian (1917-1940)

Opotiki News (1938-1950)

Saturday Advertiser (Jul 1875-1878)

Wanganui Chronicle (1860-1869)

Organising your research records

For those who wonder how to keep those research records in order, check out this blog by Roberta Estes on '10 ways I wish I had organised my research library.'

<https://dna-explained.com/2020/05/19/10-ways-i-wish-i-had-organized-my-research-library/>

The Genealogist adds Tithe Maps to MapExplorer

Our Map Explorer™ which can help researchers find an ancestor's property and watch the landscape change over time has now been enhanced by the addition of georeferenced black and white Tithe Maps for Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire.

Joining the georeferenced Lloyd George Data Layer, Headstones, War Memorials, and colour Tithe Maps for a number of counties, the new additions allow researchers to trace property from Victorian times to the modern era.

The addition to the Map Explorer™ of these black and white tithe maps linked to the apportionment books will enable researchers to find the details of the plots, their owners and their occupiers at the time that the survey was taken in Victorian times while also identifying the plots on the maps. By using the Map Explorer™ controls the researcher can then see how the landscape changes over time with the aid of the georeferenced historical and modern map layers.

Tithe maps and records were drawn up from 1836 to the 1850s, with additional altered apportionments in later years when property was sold or divided. Tithes usefully record all levels of society from large estate owners to occupiers of small plots such as a homestead or cottage

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.

Tentative dates for the next Interest Group meetings are listed below. Do keep an eye on the respective group pages on our website for any last minute changes. <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/> See page 5 for Wednesday Help Sessions.

Answer to Joke on page 2. Grandmother, mother, granddaughter

Interest Groups

Australian

Usually second Thursday of every month from February to November.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 9th June, 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 11th June, 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/>

DNA companies advise that processing is proceeding as normal. To which I can add that postage delays may be experienced for kit deliveries to/from.

Next session: Come prepared to show each other what the first thing YOU do when you check for new, hopefully exciting, matches.

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) .

Roots Magic

For those using Rootsmagic for their family history.

Our May RootsMagic group met online with the main topic of discussion being on how to format and add sources to your tree efficiently.

Next meeting will be on **Saturday 18th July, 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/>



Branch Officers

Convener: Ian Barbour

Convener "at" KapitiGen.org

Secretary: Colin Cameron

Phone: 022 674 9165

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)

Online Trees: Lorna Henderson

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 2021.

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 cream membership card.

Last year's card is no longer valid.

Further details at [http://www.kapitigen.org/2020/01/](http://www.kapitigen.org/2020/01/membership-for-the-202021-year/)

[membership-for-the-202021-year/](http://www.kapitigen.org/2020/01/membership-for-the-202021-year/)

Next meeting

To be advised -
watch this space!