

KAPITI BRANCH N.Z.S.G.

New Zealand Society of Genealogists 53
Donovan Road, Paraparaumu Beach



Meetings held at the Paraparaumu Public Library,
Rimu Road, Paraparaumu 4th Thursdays of months January
to November at 7.30 pm

PROGRAMME

27th Mar. Further
surprises! 24th Apr. To be
announced

NOTICES

WELCOME to new members, Angela Scott, Angeline Trainor, Ross McCarron and Jacky Renouf, hoping we can help you with your research. Also Welcome back to Jennifer Small.
OUR LIBRARY BOOKS. Unfortunately, we have not got the system in place yet for members to borrow our library books, as negotiations continue with the District Librarian. But we are working on putting in place a temporary scheme to bridge the gap, and, hopefully this will be up and running in the next month or two

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HUTT VALLEY BRANCH. In its latest newsletter, they announce *HAPPY BIRTHDAY From the Ancestors* in celebration of their 20th anniversary! What an exciting newsletter it is Part 2 of their party has some of their foundation members as speakers and everyone bringing a plate for the party. It sounds great! How old are we? Further on they give a timeline, going back a long way further than the 20 years, in fact to 1793 when the first free British settlers arrived in Australia. Then they announce the **NZSG Education Day at the Hutt Bridge Club Rooms on 12th April** with **Sherry Irvine**, a Canadian who specialises in British Isles research and has written two books and numerous articles. She is currently President of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She will be presenting 3 papers at the Australasian Congress in Melbourne and will be briefly touring NZ beforehand. In fact she will be in Lower Hutt (details in "*The New Zealand Genealogist*") but numbers are strictly limited and pre-booking is necessary (through NZSG). Morning Session is "Foundations for Irish Research" and Common pitfalls' while in the afternoon "Carefully spending your internet dollars" and in the evening "Old Data - New Insights: using census reports to look at the social history") Cost is \$25 for each day session, with a reduced cost of \$40 if you book both day sessions. The evening session is \$5. This is the only NZSG Education Programme to venture South of the Bombay Hills! Anyone interested? I will be unable to go, even if there are spaces available, but I would love to get a report on it for our next newsletter.

Via the **WAIRARAPA BRANCH:** from *Bill Orange* comes the following story:-

"A language teacher was explaining to her class that in French, nouns, unlike their English counterparts, are grammatically designated as masculine or feminine. "House" in French is "la maison" while "Pencil" in French is masculine "le crayon".

One puzzled student asked "What gender is computer?" The teacher did not know, the word wasn't in her French dictionary. So for fun she split the class into two groups appropriately enough, by gender, and asked them to decide whether "computer" should be a masculine or feminine noun.

Both groups were required to give four reasons for their recommendation.

The men's group decided that computer should definitely be the feminine gender because:-

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic.
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for possible later retrieval
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your pay on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine because:-

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on.
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves.
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem.

4. As soon as you commit to one, you realise that if you had waited a little longer, you could have got a better model.

The Women Won

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NZSG REGIONAL MEETING was held in Levin on 22nd February. Unfortunately, neither John Glover or myself was able to be there, but from the notes received, I have gleaned the following items:- NZSG Council was calling for nominations four councillors (applications closed on 28th February!) They are also looking for a School Register Look-up Officer, a Cemetery Records Officer and a North Island School Records Officer. Anyone interested? The Hawkes Bay Branch has put in a bid to host the 2004 Conference and AGM. Graeme Constable (current NZSG President) has been nominated as the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO) delegate and NZSG has applied to hold Congress for 2009 in New Zealand. This year's one is in Melbourne and the next one in 2006 will be held in Darwin.

LEVIN BRANCH holds films of the "Chronicle" newspapers and has offered to do lookups for anyone interested, but would like a donation and stamped addressed envelope, please

DNA & GENEALOGY Did anyone read of the amateur American genealogist who is trying to create a way of finding out through DNA peoples antecedents? He is interested in discovering descendants of Benjamin Franklin through this method and is looking for volunteers to provide an analysis of their Y chromosomes instead of disturbing Franklin's bones, buried 212 years ago. Y chromosomes change infrequently from generation to generation and even after two centuries males related to him would have almost identical ones to his. Apparently rumours had it that Franklin may have fathered several illegitimate children. Is this the way of genealogy in the future?

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DESCENDANTS SOUGHT. An article in a recent *Kapiti Observer* is about an Auckland film maker who is looking for descendants of some of the earliest Pakeha-Maori marriages in New Zealand. Apparently Kiwa Film is making a TV1 documentary about settlers who arrived in the country between 1800 and 1840 and were adopted into Maori society. Researcher, Jane Reeves is looking for those descended from:- Jacky Marmon, James Caddel, Frederick Maning, John Love, Jose Manuel, John Rutherford, David Coburn, George Bruce, Bامت Burns, Louis Hetet, Louis Bidois, John Rudolfus Kent, Phillip Tapsell, Dicky Barrett, Captain John Kent, Joseph Bryer, John Vittoria Cowell, Astley Laurie and Caroline Perrett. Jane can be contacted on (09) 377 7674 or email jane@@kiwafilm.com Any connections here?

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QUOTABLE QUOTES: *Share you knowledge, it is a way to achieve immortality
"Crazy" is a relative term in my family I want to find ALL of
them! So far I only have a few thousand Snobs talk as if they
had begotten their own ancestor*