



Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists

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www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/

March 2007 Newsletter

Next Meetings:-

Kapiti Branch: Tuesday 27th March 7pm for 7.30pm start Informal problem solving led by Clive Palmer and Sue Greene.

Kapiti Branch Day meeting. April 4th. 1pm to 3pm, first floor Public Library (you may stay later if you wish) using branch resources

Computer SIG: Monday 16th April 7.30 pm Using NZSG's website – Speaker: Sue Greene

Kapiti Legacy Users SIG: Saturday 28th April, 1pm for 2pm start. Adding Photos and pictures. Plus any questions and problems using Legacy. Masonic Hall, in Tararua St, Paraparaumu. (off Hinemoa St).

2007 Annual General Meeting & Conference of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

Queens Birthday weekend Friday to Monday 1st – 4th June 2007. Wellington Girls College, Pipitea Street Thorndon Wellington. Theme Land to live on. Law to live by. Literature to learn. [Registration click here](#)

CONVENERS COMMENT:-

B&B is the name of the game for our March 27 meeting. A Brickbats and Breakthroughs informal research evening. So bring along your documents, queries and success stories and be prepared to break up into groups to share views and explore options.

We will have some of our more senior members circulating to offer advice. Our help desk and branch research officers will be present so this is a chance to seek their guidance. If your quest is in the too hard basket then we will have lots of KapitiGenForum forms for you to fill in so that our research officer can get his teeth into these in forthcoming weeks. We will also be on-line for those who would like some web searching help.

The face of interloan microfilms from the LDS Church is changing. NZSG has entered into an agreement with the Genealogical Society of Utah to be an affiliate and while the FRC will be the focus for Auckland borrowing, negotiations are in place with a number of regional libraries. The National Library of New Zealand has agreed to be the Wellington Regional affiliate centre.

It is hoped the facility will be up and running in early June but there is a lot of planning to complete in the meantime. The logistics will require volunteers to handle enquiries at the National Library. Each Branch

has been asked to appoint a Branch Coordinator to be the local contact, elicit the help of volunteers and hopefully take local orders.

The initial proposal is for out of town branches to have a slot at National Library once a month. I have proposed that we look at using our Wed morning sessions in the Paraparaumu Library as a local ordering (and dispatch centre) and these can then be sent into Wellington and avoid you having to travel to place your order or for that matter look at the films. There is a microfilm reader in the Paraparaumu Library. Not sure how this has gone down! We need local volunteers PLEASE. Firstly, is there someone out there who would be prepared to be the Branch Co-ordinator and Contact person?. Secondly, are there folk out there who would be prepared to be on a one part day a month roster at National Library? – and you could do some of your own research while you are there too!

WE STILL NEED volunteers to help with catering at the Annual Conference in Wellington over Queens Birthday Weekend 1-4 June. Contact me if you are interested.

Clive Palmer

COMPSIG:- Computer SIG

Due to personal reasons I am stepping down from running the COMSIG meetings. Therefore we urgently need someone to take over the running of the meetings. I will still help with organising the programme's and will attend the meetings to help out when I can I will remain on the branch committee.

All that is required is someone to run the meetings each month, perhaps there are two people who would like to share the position. Please contact Clive or myself. Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported me over the years. The April meeting I will be doing a demo on using the NZSG's web site and going through what the NZSG has to offer to members.

Please make a special note on your Calenders that the April meeting is April the 16th. We have moved the meeting date as Easter Monday falls on our usual meeting date.

Sue Greene

Ancestorsonboard.com EXPO 2007

Kapiti 2007 Expo is now over. Last weekend (17th & 18th March) the Kapiti Community Centre and Paraparaumu Bridge Club rooms were taken over by the Kapiti Branch of the NZSG.

A lot of hard work by a small team must have gone into the planning and they were fortunate in having Hanley Hoffmann, who was original planner involved in the Kilbirnie Expo last year, among them.

Action began on Friday evening, when computers, microfiche readers and microfiche were transferred from the Paraparaumu Public Library to the centre. Once the Centre was cleared of other groups at 5p.m., the action began. Chairs were moved; cables for computers run in all directions to the various rooms and tables placed in position. All were labelled. A broadband internet connection was provided by one of our sponsors, Telstra Clear, and Barry Thomson connected up a router and several cables to strategic parts of the complex.

I think Clive Palmer our Chairperson must have slept there overnight, for he was there first thing in the morning with his team.

There was so much to see. At the entrance Trish Mackay had arranged pot plants, which were later raffled off. Derek Griffis was there selling Entry Passes and alongside him was the information desk, to point people in the right direction. On the sales desk was Sandy White of Kapiti Branch eager to sell things to visitors. The Help Desk was there serviced by Valerie Freeman of Kapiti and Aileen Wood of Kilbirnie.

Jan Gow from Beehive Books was at the end of the foyer, for New Zealand launch of "Ancestorsonboard.com" and other activities, Jan also had the DNA test kits for those who wanted to follow their heritage line. Our local Legacy Special Interest Group sat nearby. Tucked in a corner, Barry Thomson helped interested people restore old photos,

NZSG had a small room to themselves, with computers for researching, and a selection of books to sell; (at half-price!) Peter Nash EO of NZSG and David Bryant NZSG Councilor and Convener Genealogical Computing Group Auckland were in attendance. In the middle hall The National Library, the local Paraparaumu Library (who had Ancestry.com linked up), Scrap-booking, and the Kilbirnie Branch with personally produced family histories, had their tables set up.

In the big hall, Kapiti Branch NZSG had their tables, holding microfiche and readers, and laptop computers. Kapiti Branch, along with membership information,

had a table just inside the door; we were able to direct the public in the right direction. In the hall was the Otaki Branch table, where Sue Greene was kept busy helping many folk. Alongside them were the Lower North Island Irish group, the Wellington region Scottish Group and Howard Chamberlain with his military records. Rex Roberts had his Australian information and engaged in lively research with some of his recently formed Australian Interest Group members and other visitors. Copying facilities were provided by another of our sponsors Fuji Xerox at a nominal fee, and that provided researchers an opportunity to go away with hard copy of "finds", and there were plenty of those instances.

Coffee, tea and sandwiches were provided for the workers in the Community Centre kitchen where volunteers could have their lunch in peace and away from the research "coal face".

Over the two days twelve workshops were conducted by Joan Egan of Wanganui Branch, Marlene Sayers of Kilbirnie Branch, Jan Gow of Beehive Books, David Bryant of the Auckland Genealogical Computer Group, Clive Palmer of Kapiti Branch, Shona Lee (Creative Memories) on Scrap booking, and Barry Thomson of Kapiti Branch on digital imaging and repair of old photographs. The average attendance at workshops was thirty one, with the maximum 61 and the smallest attendance 9. Some 400 people attended EXPO over the two days, and with a plethora of electronic aids and broad band internet, everyone could leave with some insight into the sophisticated tools available to the family historian these days.

The Kapiti Bridge Clubrooms were ideal for conducting the workshops with comfortable seating and tables for visitors to use. In the Bridge Club Rooms; there were static displays by both the Kapiti Historical Society and by the "Museum of Sea." People came from far and wide to attend the EXPO from Hawkes Bay, Wanganui, Wairarapa, Lower Hutt, Wellington, Porirua, Horowhenua, and Manawatu. There were representatives from every Branch of the Southern North Island Region of NZSG. All Branches are getting into the use of computer data projectors that enhanced the images displayed for those attending the workshops, and improved the presentations.

Over the weekend 8 new members were signed up for Kapiti Branch, and all membership forms for NZSG were given out with feedback from many that they were going home to complete their forms and mail them off. This is a key component of EXPO in that we want members of the public to see and hear what Branches and NZSG have to offer. Over the next three months or so Branches in the region and NZSG should have an influx of new members through their mail boxes

A huge thanks from the many volunteers from Kapiti, Otaki and Kilbirnie Branches without whom the EXPO would not have been the success it was

Click here to see photos

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzsgkb/meetings/kapitiexpophotos2007.htm>

Notices:-

Australian Special Interest Group (SIG)

Member Rex Roberts has offered to set up an SIG for those Branch members who are interested in sharing research on their Australian ancestors and families. The key to the group will be informality with those interested meeting as and when they desire. Rex has a very large resource base and broadband access to the internet and has kindly offered to host the group at his home. Those interested should contact him direct at [rxroberts\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:rxroberts(at)paradise.net.nz) or (04)905 6570.

Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group FTM SIG

Hanley Hoffmann, Clive Palmer and Barry Thomson have offered to set up a Family Tree Maker SIG. Those Members interested please contact Hanley Hoffmann who will take names of those interested and advise when the first meeting will take place. Please contact Hanley by email in the first instance [hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz) or phone 04 904 3276

New Members

Welcome to new members: Yvonne Brown, Bill & Joan Painter, Liz Matthews, Kathleen Normann, Francis Berry, Viti Burson, Margaret Burton, Garth Henry, Denis Horan, Leonie & Graeme McLeod, Audrey Swallow, and Jenny Stagg, who have all joined us since the previous Newsletter. Welcome.

Beginners Help Line: Valerie Freeman runs our "Help Desk" at our Monthly Meetings, but those seeking basic advice and guidance on Family History research are reminded that they may also ring her at home (298-7396) at any time, within reason!

Supper Helpers: We are continuing with the practice of calling for volunteers (by initial of surname) to assist with supper at our Monthly Meetings in the Kapiti Community Centre. In particular, this calls for assistance with serving and tidying up afterwards. March *S to Z*. Please make yourself known to Meryl, the Supper Organiser.

Family Tree Charts: There will be a full range of Charts available for sale at this month's Meeting. Please see our Sales Officer, Sandy White, who will be happy to sell you these, and various other items. Each chart is 50 cents more than the asking price on the NZSG web-site to enable us to recoup the p&p costs: 7-generation (\$3-00), 8-generation (\$3.50), 9-generation wheel (\$3.50), 12-generation (\$4.00).

Used Ink Cartridges: Mid-Year (Branch) Round-Up: With the 31st March approaching, coupled with a desire on my part to avoid the cartridges on hand building up into unmanageable numbers, I propose taking in a mid-year batch for redemption into fund-raising cash. Would you therefore please let me (Derek Griffis) have any used ink cartridges (particularly Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, and Epson) at our Monthly Meeting on Tuesday the 27th or, if more convenient for you, by leaving them in the cardboard box in our steel cabinet upstairs at Paraparaumu Library.

Sales Table :

We have several plastic containers which could be used for storing CD disks for your genealogy, or your program disks for your computer. OR, if you have recipe cards, they may fit - feel free to bring a card along to try. There is a limited supply - price \$2. We have 4 only Genealogy Research Directory's - 2002, 1999, 1998 and 1996 - \$1 each. See Sandy White (Raffles & Sales) after the meeting. There will be some containers and the books on the raffle table for you to peruse!

Meeting Dates and Times KBNZSG

Kapiti Branch:- 7.30pm, 4th Tuesday, Jan-Nov at Kapiti Community Centre 15 Ngahina Street (near Paraparaumu Library)

Computer SIG:- 7.30pm, 2nd Monday, Feb-Dec in the Paraparaumu Public Library (downstairs)

Kapiti Legacy Users SIG:

Meetings are held at the Masonic Hall, in Tararua St, Paraparaumu. (off Hinemoa St). Doors open 1pm, meeting starts at 2pm. Entry charge kept to a minimum and will cover hall hire, tea and coffee and any presenter's costs. Contact Gerald Twiss: [gero\(at\)ihug.co.nz](mailto:gero(at)ihug.co.nz) or phone 021 151 6714. The Kapiti group is an "informal" one. Anyone with an interest in the Legacy programme can attend.

THE COMPUTER SWALLOWED GRANDMA

The computer swallowed grandma. Yes, honestly, it's true. I pressed the "Control" and "Enter" and she disappeared from view. It devoured her completely - the thought just makes me squirm. She must have caught a virus, or been eaten by a worm! I've searched

through the recycle bin and files of every kind. I've even used the internet, but nothing did I find. In desperation, I asked Jeeves my searches to refine. The reply from him was negative, not a thing was found online. So. If inside your "Inbox" my grandma you should see, Please "Copy", "Scan", and "Paste" her, and send her back to me.

(Contributed by Ruth TURNBULL)

SEARCHING THE FREE CENSUSES AT FAMILYSEARCH www.familysearch.org

Whether you're searching the US 1880, Canada 1881, or England & Wales 1881 census, you start at the same page, headed up Census Records. (home page and click the link in the middle on the right)

One of the options at FamilySearch is to search all of the resources at once. In our experience this **never** gives the best results, so we recommend that you always search each resource separately. Similarly, **never** search all three censuses at once - always specify which census you want to search. (Note: sometimes when the FamilySearch site is very busy you aren't given this option; in this case we recommend waiting until the site is less busy.)

Whenever you're searching a census, no matter which census, which year, or which site, you should always be aware of the likelihood of errors in the data. These may have arisen when the data was collected, or when it was transcribed. So don't tick the 'Use exact spelling' box. And don't specify an exact year of birth - half of all ages shown on the census are wrong (we'd suggest allowing a range of at least 2 years on either side). At both FamilySearch and Ancestry the year of birth is calculated by subtracting the age from the year. Someone aged 40 in the 1880 census is assumed to have been born in 1840, even though it's more likely they were born in 1839 (the census was on June 1).

Often the name and year of birth are all you should need to enter. However, if the surname and forename are both common you may need to cut down the number of results by specifying the country of birth, and perhaps the county, province, or state too. If one of the results looks as if it might be the right person, click the name to display the Individual Record. To see the entire Household click the word 'Household' (far right - level with the name).

Once you're satisfied that you've found the correct household you can print out the Household Record page. It isn't a complete transcript of the census but includes the references. If you can't find your relatives at FamilySearch it's worth knowing that the censuses England & Wales 1881 and US 1880 can also be searched free at Ancestry. The following article gives a few key hints for using that site.

ANCESTRY TIPS The transcriptions at Ancestry are exactly the same as at FamilySearch - in fact, if you

look closely, you'll see that the index has been licensed to Ancestry by the LDS Church (which runs the FamilySearch site). That's why it is free to search.

However, the ways in which you can search the census at the two sites are very different. At Ancestry you can specify just the first three letters of a forename, surname, or place so long as you add * as a wildcard character. This is particularly useful when the surname is one that could be spelled in different ways, or one that could have been unfamiliar to the census taker or transcriber.

When you search the censuses at Ancestry you'll find the transcribed data by clicking View Record (not View Image). The census references are at the bottom, under Source Citation, and for England & Wales they are the same as at FamilySearch. However, page numbers for the US 1880 census are shown in different ways e.g. Ancestry page number 378.1000 is recorded as 378A at FamilySearch. From www.lostcousins.com Feb 2007 supplied by Debroah Shucker

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