



Kapiti Branch

Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc

P O Box 703, Paraparaumu [kapiti\(at\)genealogy.org.nz](mailto:kapiti(at)genealogy.org.nz)
www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/

May 2008 Newsletter

Upcoming meetings:

Tuesday 27 May

Kapiti branch meeting

Using the NZ Gazette Archive

Speaker: Matthew Prosser

7pm research facilities and help available

7.30pm questions

7.45 pm main session begins

Wednesday 4 June 1-3pm

Help with your research

upstairs, Alison Procter Family History Centre
Paraparaumu Library

Monday, 9 June, 7.30pm

Computer-Friendly Genealogy

Follow up using the NZ Gazette Archive

Looking ahead:

Tuesday 24 June

Kapiti branch meeting

19th Century ship travel to New Zealand

Speaker: archivist Ken Scadden

Saturday 6 July 10-12noon

Help with your research

Alison Procter Family History Centre
upstairs, Paraparaumu Library

Monday 14 July 7.30pm

Computer-Friendly Genealogy

Interviewing relatives

Speaker: Bill Carter

Meeting venues

All meetings are held in the Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu unless stated otherwise.

Need a ride to Branch or Computer-Friendly Genealogy meetings? Jackie Holland will co-ordinate car pools. Ring her on 293-2296 if you would like to be picked up or if you can offer a seat in your vehicle.

Dates for 2008

The complete list of meeting dates and topics for 2008 is available on the Branch webpage, www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/

For your calendar:

NZSG Conference

Queen's Birthday Weekend, 30 May to 2 June 2008 in Christchurch. Registration forms can be downloaded from the NZSG Website www.genealogy.org.nz or email [2008conference\(at\)genealogy.org.nz](mailto:2008conference(at)genealogy.org.nz) or write to PO Box 20 506 Bishopdale, Christchurch 8543.

Discover your Celtic family history at the

Scottish and Irish Research Day

Sunday 20 July 10am-4pm

Kapiti Community Centre

Online research, specialist reference books, expert research assistance.

Jenny Martin, Lower North Island Irish Interest Group and Pen Brown, Wellington Scottish Interest Group.

Pay \$10 at the door for the day.

No pre-registration required.

For more information contact Derek Griffis or Jackie Holland (phone numbers on page 4).

Convenor's comment

Our new monthly meeting format is proving popular with the doors open at 7pm for supper and research time. Our laptops are available with the CD collection and include access to the NZ Gazette. We are also online from time to time depending on the demands of the evening. The Help Desk and Branch Research Officer are in full swing. *It's all on at these meetings and we do need volunteers to help us set up from around 6.30pm and with supper.* Your help would be appreciated. 7.30pm is question and answer time and guest presentations commence at 7.45pm.

Ancestry.com and NZ Gazette are now accessible from our 2 PCs at the Alison Procter Family History Centre. You can also access

Papers Past, the online search facility of old newspapers at the National Library; and familysearch.org the website of the LDS church. If you need help with these sites please give me or the Secretary a call and we will arrange something. Alternatively mark off Wednesday 4 June in your diary from 1-3pm, which is our next help session at the Centre, so bring your notes and queries along.

At our May meeting the NZ Gazette will be the focus of a guest presentation from Matthew Prosser from Lexis Nexis, the suppliers of the database. This searchable tool of all Government-related matters goes back to the early 1840s; you can put your ancestors name in for example and check them out!

And we've just enrolled our 226th member – welcome!

- Clive Palmer

Introducing . . . Sue Greene

Twenty years ago, many who started their genealogy around the same time as me watched a TV series starring the late Alex Haley called *Roots*.

After watching the series, I thought if a black African American can trace his roots back to

the days of the slave trade, my research would be a piece of cake. Famous last words!

I am a first generation New Zealander, as is my husband. On my father's side my research centres around Lancashire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, and Cheshire. On my mother's side, it's Gloucestershire, Essex, Channel Islands, Wales, Shropshire, Devonshire, and Dorset. On my husband's side my research centres around NSW Australia, Sussex, Kent, Midlothian, Perthshire, Dumbarton, Shetland Islands, Ireland (mainly Dublin), Linlithgow, Ayrshire, Isle of Bute and Lanark. I have been researching both our lines now for some 21 years and I know I will never finish.

In that time I have been convenor of the Levin genealogy branch. In 1989 we formed an informal group in Otaki and five years later we became a formal branch of the NZSG, of which I have now been convenor for 19 years. I joined the Kapiti Computer group and was convenor for five years (maybe more) and continue to oversee things for the group as part of the Kapiti genealogy computer special interest group. I am also on the Kapiti Genealogy branch committee.

I was the NZSG First Families Officer for ten years and handed that job over when I joined the NZSG Council, a job I did for two years which I had to give up for health reasons. I have over the years been involved in many projects including indexing of Otaki schools registers and transcribing headstones at the Otaki cemetery. A new project is underway with the Otaki cemetery. We are also researching our soldiers on the Otaki memorials around Otaki. Plus a few other transcribing projects. My latest project is typing a WWI diary of a POW who was captured in Belgium in 1914 and released in December 1918.

Through sharing an interest I have met some wonderful people, and made many friends, some of them long life friends. It is nice to see that there are still many out there willing to share information and offer a lot of help.

Computer Corner with Sue Greene

April, just past, is the time we remember the fallen. Many of us have military research at some stage of our research I thought it appropriate to add some sites which will be of help to members.

New Zealand

New Zealand Defence department.

www.defence.govt.nz

National Archives New Zealand.

www.archives.govt.nz

If your soldier took their discharge in New Zealand use the book Discharged in New Zealand which is available in our library holdings.

Australia

WW2 Nominal Roll

www.ww2roll.gov.au

National Archives Australia

www.naa.gov.au

Prisoners of war (incomplete)

Behind the wire

www.1914-1918.net/POW/index.php

England

National Archives documents online WW1 medal card indexes. This site also has some WW2 records also many earlier military records for England, Scotland, and Ireland.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The LDS www.familysearch.org have microfilmed a lot of early military

records. Use the family history catalogue. If you know the number or name of the regiment. eg. 46th regiment of Foot in the key word records that the LDS hold will come up in a new window. If you have access to the catalogue on microfiche, look under military.

Commonwealth War Graves

www.cwgc.org

The Great War Forum is where you will get plenty of help. Also worth searching in case someone has information on a soldier you are tracing.

<http://1914-1918.invisionzone.com/forums/index.php>

Ancestry.com are filming the **British WWI medal card indexes**, they also have the British pension records which they are slowly filming and adding their website. The records are incomplete, you will need to keep checking back. To find what military records they have, use see all databases at the bottom of the main search page. A new page will open. On the left hand side is a list of databases: click on military.

Branch notes

New members

Welcome to these new members who have joined us since the previous Newsletter: Evelyn Piper, Jill Cameron, Pam Beldham, Isabel Robertson, Leo McKeefry, and Judy Pearson. Welcome back to Barbara Haynes, who has re-joined us.

Branch meeting report

Margaret Brown talked about key identification factors in family research at the April meeting. These help to prove that a name found in different documents refers to the same person. Besides the name itself, a birthplace or place of residence in common could show a link, as could having the same occupation or religion. Knowing the period in which a person lived was important.

Other things to consider were fertility patterns. The childbearing age is not infinite (although it might have seemed so to some!) and a person born when a woman was over 60 was unlikely to be her son or daughter. If a person seemed to have migrated, was that likely? Could he or she be joining relatives already living in that place? Margaret's examples showed that it

wasn't always clear that different documents referred to the same family because details varied. The more documents that showed confirming links, the more likely there was a true connection.

Day meetings and winter meetings

Volunteers are wanted to help us assist less experienced members in finding their way around our Branch Resource Collection in the Alison Procter Family History Centre upstairs at Paraparaumu Public Library. You don't need vast experience or knowledge, as long as you are willing to learn, and are ready to help others (and, believe me, this is one of the best ways of increasing your own knowledge!). Day Meetings are Wednesdays, 4 June and 1 October, 1-3pm, and Winter Meetings are on Saturdays, 5 July and 2 August, 10am to noon. Contact Jackie Holland if you can lend a hand on 293 2296 or at jtholland@xtra.co.nz.

Printers and paper

Paper for the two printers at the Alison Procter Family History Centre will be found on a lower shelf in the lockup cupboards.

Used ink cartridges

As part of our continuing fund-raising we are, as ever, very pleased to receive used ink cartridges for: Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, and Epson. These may be brought to Branch monthly meetings, or left in the labelled box in the middle locked steel cabinet upstairs at Paraparaumu Library. If more convenient, you may leave them in my letter-box at: 94 Ngaio Road, Waikanae.

Library news

Each month we receive newsletters from other genealogy branches, which are kept in printed form in our library cupboard. They often contain interesting items that are too long to reproduce here.

Newsletters received from branches: Canterbury, Kilbirnie, Bishopdale and Levin.

Added to the list are the Dunedin Family History Group's letters, January-May. These are 10-20 pages each and just crammed with info, here and abroad. They are a MUST read for all!

Kapiti Branch help desk

Valerie Freeman runs the "Help Desk" at our branch monthly meetings, but those seeking basic advice and guidance on Family History

research may also ring her at home (298-7396) at any time, within reason!

Branch resources

A very recent addition to our collection upstairs at Paraparaumu Library is the fiche: "Levin Chronicle Index 1926-1939" together with "Shannon News Index 1921-1929" (as advertised in the latest "The New Zealand Genealogist"). These are located in the NZ Miscellaneous box of fiche in our steel cabinets, and a full listing of our Fiche Holdings (and much more) can be found on our Kapiti Branch Website – Resources.

Special Interest Groups:

Family Tree Maker Hanley Hoffmann
phone 904-3276
[hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz)

Australia until further notice contact
Hanley Hoffmann (as above)

The Master Genealogist Lorna Henderson
phone 293-7771
[lornah\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:lornah(at)paradise.net.nz)

On the web

Auckland city council online archives lets you search valuations, rates rolls, registers of employees, publicans and other licences and burial registers back to 1852.
www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/archives

NZSG members can access an online archive of historic newspapers from the UK and US. The **Gale Digital Newspaper collection**, including 200 years of the London Times, can be accessed at home through the NZSG site, www.genealogy.org.nz. Log in using your NZSG membership number (this is **not** the Kapiti branch membership number) and password and click on Member Services, selecting Online Newspapers from the drop down menu.

For a **weekly newsletter of genealogy websites**, look at this one:
http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~origins/website_sgalore.htm
Subscribe by email: [websitesgalore\(at\)ihug.co.nz](mailto:websitesgalore(at)ihug.co.nz)

Italian genealogy

Free research tips online to find your Italian surnames, Italy Roots, Ancestral heritage and

immigrant family ties.

www.anzwers.org/free/italiangen/index.html

Kae Lewis's website includes a database of **20,000 gold miners in New Zealand** between August 1861 and December 1868.
www.kaelewis.com.

Committee 2007-2008

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