



Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc

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

October 2007 Newsletter

Next Meetings:-

Kapiti Branch: Tuesday 23rd October 7pm (Help Desk opens) for 7.30pm start. Branch Annual General Meeting. Plus Video of the British TV programme, "Who Do You Think You Are". (Mystery Person)

Computer SIG: Monday 12th November 7.30 pm.

Kapiti Community Centre, 15 Ngahina Street (near Paraparaumu Library). Sue Greene. Searching the web, using web sites such as Cyndi's list, and family search (LDS), Ancestry.com, findmypast.com, genesreunited, etc. Using a search engine to find records.

Computer SIG: Monday 10th December 7.30pm
Kapiti Community Centre, 15 Ngahina Street (near Paraparaumu Library) Research night. Computers online, branch laptops with branch CDs

Kapiti Legacy Users SIG. Saturday 27th October: 1pm for 2pm start. Masonic Hall, Tararua St, Pram. Contact: Gerald Twiss [gero\(at\)jihug.co.nz](mailto:gero@jihug.co.nz) or 021-151-6714

Getting Started / Beginners Course:

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th November 2007 9am-5pm each day,

Cost: \$40 for the 2 days

Where: Masonic Hall, 10 Tararua St, Paraparaumu

Enquiries: Derek Griffiths: 04 293-1092 or

Clive Palmer: 04 293-7631

Application Form

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb/meetings/gettingstarted2007.htm>

Convener's Comment:-

This is an appropriate time to promote the advantages of full membership of the Branch with the joint membership of our national body, the NZ Society of Genealogists Inc. So my comments this month are directed to those of you who have joined us recently or renewed their Branch association as *Associates*. This is the classification we use for those who are not members of the parent body.

The HQ of the Society is based at Panmure, Auckland and the centre of activity is the Family Research Centre. This houses the extensive collection of books, magazines, maps, microfiche, microfilms and CDs relating to worldwide family history and genealogy. For those unable to visit in person, a team of volunteers can search appropriate resources for you and which can

be borrowed by members. The catalogue of resources is on-line at www.genealogy.org.nz. Publications, CDs, Charts, and other items are also available for sale.

Member services include access to specialist assistance in purchasing Australian certificates; CD resources; General Record Office BDM index searches & certificate purchasing - England & Wales; Huguenot Research Service; Matching NZ Brides & Grooms Index; Pallots Marriage Index (UK); Passenger Shipping advice; NZ School Records lookup; Scottish Index searches and certificate purchasing, wills and probates; UK Probates index searching and certificate purchasing. Record collections available for searching include a BDM certificate collection; NZ Pedigree Family collection; pre 1856 Marriage Records Collection; a NZ First Families Collection and an obituaries collection. Some of these are available on-line. Other services include a member's interest research directory and an overseas magazine circulation service. Research advice on a wide range of topics is available to members. A range of Genealogy Guides are published to help you with your research.

There are several special interest groups with geographical and ethnic focus. A member's e-mail list is the nearest thing to a chat group to seek help from others and share information.

The Society's official Journal "*The New Zealand Genealogist*" is published 6 times a year and contains articles of family history interest and Society news and announcements. An Annual Conference is held somewhere in NZ at which local and international guests make presentations, research services are available and the Society's AGM is held. The next conference is in Christchurch, Queens Birthday weekend 2008.

You will find lots of background information on the website above. The section 'member's benefit page' will lead you into a description of the many services available. Search through each of the headings at the top of the page and you will be surprised at the wealth of information available. You can even download some family tree charts or fill your shopping basket. Happy hunting.

Clive Palmer

The Genealogist

The Society's journal "*The New Zealand Genealogist*" is to be reviewed. Council recently approved the present publishing arrangements for 1 further year only and have asked the Editor to investigate options for format, size and style. The Journal is a major item of expenditure for the Society, particularly so with its present format and paper quality. We hope members will be given the opportunity to have some input to this review

Notice of 24th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Branch of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc will be held at the Kapiti Community Centre, Pak'n Save Room, 15 Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu, on Tuesday 23rd October 2007, commencing at 7.45pm. The Agenda will be:

- Apologies
- Confirm 2006 Minutes
- Business arising from the Minutes
- Annual Report
- Financial Report
- Appointment of Auditor
- Subscriptions 2007/2008
- Election of Officers and Committee

Derek Griffis (Secretary, Kapiti Branch)

Nominees, Nominators, and Seconders, must all be members of NZSG, whilst Nominators and Seconders must all be members of Kapiti Branch.

Computer SIG

Rules of Posting Genealogy Information Online

The past few weeks have been fascinating. We saw Ancestry.com deliver a search engine that focused primarily on genealogy resources. The service was designed to simplify the process of finding family history information that many people would not be able to find easily because it is often scattered among numerous websites across the Internet. However, the service quickly became controversial as genealogists discovered various features that some felt were inappropriate, including caching of web sites and the use of HTML frames that hid the origin of a page obtained from another web site. Ancestry pulled the service after only a few days.

I watched the various comments fly back and forth with somewhat mixed emotions. I agreed entirely with some of the messages posted and disagreed with others. More than a few surprised me. In numerous cases, I thought to myself, "That's the way everyone does it. Not to say that it is right or wrong, only that it is common practice."

While Ancestry.com caught the heat recently, everything I will write about in the rest of this article

applies to all search engines, all message boards, all online genealogy databases and to all publicly-visible web pages. It applies to the now-defunct Ancestry.com Internet Biographical Collection as well as to Rootsweb, OneGreatFamily.com, FamilySearch, Google, Yahoo, Dogpile, Alexa, HotBot, AOL Search, Lycos, and the genealogy-specific search engine at WeRelate.org. These are ideas I would like to share concerning what to do and what not to do when you place information on the World Wide Web.

While I call these "rules," they are really suggestions. These "rules" are just a start. I suspect you can think of additional "rules." If you can add more, please post your suggestion(s) in the comments section below. OK, here are "Eastman's Rules of Posting Genealogy Information Online," a new set of rules invented today:

1. If you don't want everyone to know about something and use that something as they wish, don't post it online! There are no secrets after you post information online. You can claim copyrights or legal protection, but the fact remains that information placed on the web quickly becomes common knowledge. You may be correct in thinking that nobody else should ever reuse your information, but not everyone will agree with you. Regardless of your intentions, some people will re-use your data elsewhere. Getting the data removed later will be difficult and frustrating. Think before you post!
2. Keep in mind that all search engines will index your site (unless you take steps to do otherwise as listed in Note #1 below), and most of them will cache the information. One web site (www.archive.org which is not a true search engine) will cache your data more or less forever, even if you later change or remove your data.
3. A few specialty search sites will charge their subscribers a fee to search your site and millions of others. General-purpose search engines, such as Google, are usually free to the user. Specialty search engines that look only for financial data, legal data, real estate transactions, sports scores, etc. typically charge a fee. The more specialized the search engine, the higher the fee. Some charge very high prices. You and I don't hear much about the fee-based search engines, but they exist, nonetheless.
4. Facts are not copyrighted, at least not under U.S. law. If your web page contains only names and dates and locations of life events (birth, marriage, death, census entries, military service, etc.), you do not own that information. It is public domain.
5. If your page(s) contains additional descriptive information, interpretations, stories, or other information that you wrote, the original

information you added might be copyrighted. However, the dividing line between copyrighted information and public domain information is often fuzzy. Even legal experts who specialize in intellectual property issues often disagree with each other. You should realize that not everyone is going to agree with your interpretation of the legal issues involved.

Actually, all of this is probably a moot point anyway. Whether legal or not, it is very difficult to force someone to remove copies of information you supplied.

Never assume. You may have strong opinions concerning what is right or wrong, but not everyone will agree with you. Ask yourself, "What will happen if I place this information online?" Be realistic! The above are a few of my thoughts. Again, if you have further suggestions for additional "rules," please post your thoughts in the comments section at the end of this article.

Note #1:

If you do want to place genealogy information (or any information) on the World Wide Web and do not want your information to be found by search engines, there is a simple way to do so: create a ROBOTS.TXT file and place it on your web site. Thousands of web sites do this already when they don't want certain information to become too public. There are many web sites that will explain ROBOTS.TXT and tell you how to add such a file to your site. Start here:

<http://www.google.com/search?source=ig&hl=en&q=create+robots.txt+file&btnG=Google+Search>. Once you add a ROBOTS.TXT file to your web pages, your information will disappear from all search engines within a few months. However, don't be surprised if nobody visits your site anymore. It will be rather well hidden.

If you are willing to have some search engines index and cache your site but do not want all search engines to do so, you can be selective. Again, the solution is a ROBOTS.TXT file. You can exclude specific search engines by name. The format of the commands is a bit tricky, so study the instructions carefully. Start here:

<http://www.google.com/search?source=ig&hl=en&q=create+robots.txt+file&btnG=Google+Search>.

Note #2:

You should realize that search engines are not perfect. Even the specialty search engines designed for a specific purpose will erroneously add some extraneous data. The search engine's filters may interpret words differently than a human would. For example, a financial services search engine might add your genealogy data to its search engine if your ancestor was named James Penney or Ezekiel Dollarhide. Likewise, a genealogy-specific search engine may add a page that describes the "roots of New Orleans jazz," and a real estate search engine may add information about "the history of the House family."

Many readers' comments about this article have already been posted at

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2007/09/rules-of-postin.html

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>

New Members

Welcome to new members who have joined or re-joined us since the previous Newsletter: Ken Cresswell, Liz Meyer, Helen Thomas, Ray & Anne Young, John O'Brien, and Lois Leeney. Welcome to you all.

Wikipedia Werelate

A Website Worth Looking at www.werelate.org
You're familiar with Wikipedia, a free online encyclopedia that anyone can contribute to. But are you familiar with the genealogy wikipedia, WeRelate? With more than 500,000 pages, it is one of the fastest growing social genealogy sites on the Web, and was recently named one of the top 101 best websites for tracing your roots by "Family History Magazine." Everything is free. Start by searching for people you know; then create your own pages for people in your family tree--either from scratch or by uploading a GEDCOM. Others can contribute their information to your page, though older versions of a page are preserved. You can also see your ancestors' lives plotted on a map.

The website has a ten-minute tour to introduce you to its features. www.werelate.org

Scottish Family History research afternoon.

Sunday 4th November 2007, 1:00pm -4:00pm,
at St Giles Church Lounge, corner Vallance St and Kilbirnie Crescent, Kilbirnie, Wellington.
We will have a brief AGM at 1:30 pm, and discussion on next years program.

We will have our own folder resources for Scottish family history research, and plan to have some family history magazines of Scottish interest. Microfiche readers, and photocopier available. If you have some useful Scottish material to share with others, do bring this along; and do label with your name. Wee door charge, \$2.**All Welcome.** Contact Pen Brown 389 7211 or [penbrown\(at\)globe.net.nz](mailto:penbrown(at)globe.net.nz)

Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group

A Family Tree Maker SIG is up and running for those interested in sharing and learning about this popular software and genealogy information storehouse. Those members interested please contact Hanley Hoffmann at [hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz) or (04) 904 3276
Next Meetings (venue to be advised)
October 17th 1.30pm:--November 19th 1.30pm;

Subscription Renewals (2007/08)

Current Branch Membership is at record levels at well in excess of 200, so we are anxious to spread out the now substantial workload of processing all the annual renewals. The Membership Year expired on the 30th September, so we would very much welcome receiving renewals.

Current Subscription Fees are: Single \$16, Double \$27, so those are the renewal amounts required. Please make cheques payable to "Kapiti Genealogy" and post in an envelope clearly marked "Membership Renewal", to: Kapiti Branch Treasurer, P.O.Box 703, Paraparaumu. Your indulgence and co-operation would be very much appreciated

Notices:-

Paraparaumu Library Rostered Volunteers

Every Wednesday morning, 10am – Noon, we have a volunteer on duty upstairs at Paraparaumu Public Library to assist and advise both our own members and the general public with their genealogical research.. This system was run by the late Alison Procter but, in the short term (I hope) is now being maintained by myself (Derek Griffis).

There is a list of volunteers and, on a rotational basis, each volunteer is only called upon once every 2-3 months to keep the system ticking over. It is not a difficult task, and no great fund of knowledge or skills is called for, whilst volunteers themselves learn a great deal from the experience of assisting others with their problems. We could use another two or three volunteers on our roster list to keep the numbers up, and I would be most pleased to hear (my phone is: 2931092) from any of our members who feel that they could make this their way of helping us keep our Branch running smoothly.

Personal Computer and CD-ROM Minder:

We still need a volunteer to keep a periodic eye on our PCs and CDs in the Paraparaumu Library. Come on those of you who use the COMPSIG – isn't this something you could take responsibility for – they say practice makes perfect!!
Clive Palmer

Round Robin Magazine Distribution:

The Branch has taken out a one-year trial subscription in "Ancestors" – the official Family History monthly magazine put out by National Archives in London. This is now available to Kapiti Branch Members on the usual "Round Robin" basis. Contact: Meryl Opie [opiemb\(at\)xtra.com](mailto:opiemb(at)xtra.com)

Australian Special Interest Group (SIG)

An SIG is operating for those Branch members who are interested in sharing research on their Australian ancestors and families. The key to the group is informality with those interested meeting as and when they desire, but usually in the afternoons of the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Those interested should contact Rex Roberts at [rxroberts\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:rxroberts(at)paradise.net.nz) or (04)905 6570.

BBC Launches "Who Do You Think You Are?"

Magazine The BBC is launching a website and magazine to go along with its popular TV series, "Who Do You Think You Are?" The magazine will be 100 pages, full colour, and will be released thirteen times a year. Each issue will also contain a DVD or CD with outtakes from the TV series. The first issue was released 25 September.

<http://www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouare.com/>

Old Sydney Burial Ground

The Old Sydney Burial Ground stood on the site of the current Sydney Town Hall and was in use from 1792 to 1819. The City of Sydney has recently discovered evidence of the burial ground during archaeological excavations for their upgrade project. The council has placed information regarding the burial ground online including a brief history of the site and an inventory of burials.

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/AboutSydney/HistoryAndArchives/OldSydneyBurialGround.asp>

The Master Genealogist Special Interest Group

Local users, or intending users, of The Master Genealogist (<http://www.whollygenes.com/>) can join informal get-togethers to share hints and or tips, learn how to use the product to its full potential, Lorna Henderson is facilitating this. Contact [Lornah\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:Lornah(at)paradise.net.nz)

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: Volunteers are called to assist with supper at our Monthly Meetings in the Kapiti Community Centre. Assistance with serving and tidying up afterwards is welcomed. Please make yourself known to Meryl, the Supper Organiser.

Meeting Dates and Times

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 Kapiti Community Centre 15 Ngahina Street (near Paraparaumu Library)

Ink Cartridges Special – New and unused

The twice-yearly task of taking the used ink cartridges into the dealer has been completed, and we are \$184 the richer. Well done everyone, and thank-you for your support in this painless way of raising some extra funds. Over a period of time, in collecting the used cartridges, I also am given some partially used cartridges, and even some totally unused cartridges, so I hold these back from the dealer as we would only receive nominal amounts (\$1-\$5) for them. These have built up over time, and are now listed below with the invitation for interested persons to make me (Derek Griffis) an offer, as otherwise they will have to be included with the next bulk cash up of the used ink cartridges – which would be a waste, and a pity. I understand that fair prices would be in the range \$5-\$20, depending.

Hewlett Packard

(tri-colour c1823d) “half-used” “new”
(black 51645a) almost new” c6656a) 2 cartridges
(tri-colour c6657a)?

Canon

(black BCI-21)
(yellow BCI-3eY) “unused”

Epson

(black TO461)
(blue TO472) (red TO473)
(black TO621)?

New Branch Resources

The following two new reference resources have recently been purchased from the NZ Society of Genealogists (see page pviii, opposite page 267, of the July/August 2007 issue of “The New Zealand Genealogist”) and are now available to Branch Members in our main Resource Collection upstairs at Paraparaumu Library.

“Early Wellington Settlers” CD, containing more than 130,000 entries.

“NZSG Cemetery Collection 2006 Update” of 120 fiche, plus the Cemetery Handbook 2006

COMMITTEE 2006/2007

Convener:- Clive Palmer c-mpalmer@xtra.co.nz
Phone 293-7631

Secretary / Branch Research Officer:- Derek Griffis
griffisnz@ihug.co.nz Phone 293-1092

Treasurer & Membership:- Lorna Henderson
lornah@paradise.net.nz Phone 293-7771

Editor & Webmaster:- Barry Thomson
thobar@clear.net.nz

Programmes/Activities & Computer SIG:- Sue Greene
sueg-97@xtra.co.nz Phone: (06)364-8196

Publicity and Marketing:- Trish Mackay
mackay.nth@xtra.co.nz

Librarian:- vacant

Hostess & Round Robins: Meryl Opie
opiemb@xtra.co.nz

Sales:- Sandra White tersan@xtra.co.nz

APPOINTED OFF COMMITTEE

Help Desk:- Valerie Freeman Phone: 298-7396

Library & Research Support:- Ray & Valerie Davison.- v.r.davison@paradise.net.nz, & Bev Chappell

Meeting Registrar: Dave Muirhead
jenda@paradise.net.nz

Computer Support:- vacant

Programme Support:- Bill & Kay Carter
kaybill@xtra.co.nz

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Australian SIG Rex Roberts

rxroberts@paradise.net.nz (04) 905-6570.

Family Tree Maker SIG Hanley Hoffmann
hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz (04) 904-3276

Master Genealogist SIG.. :- Lorna Henderson
lornah@paradise.net.nz (04) 293-7771