

Kapiti Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists



P O Box 703, Paraparaumu
Kapiti@genealogy.org.nz

Newsletter March 2010

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb

Registered charity no. CC33988

Meetings and visits coming up

Tuesday 23 March, 7pm for 7.30pm
Kapiti branch meeting

Tall stories and true: My wild west ancestors
Speaker: John Dods

Wednesday 7 April, 1pm to 3pm
Help with your research
Alison Procter Family History Centre

Monday 12 April, 7.30pm
Computer-friendly genealogy
Military research

Thursday 15 April, 10 am
Visit to Archives New Zealand
contact Jackie (see page 4)

The Alison Procter Family History Centre is upstairs at Paraparaumu Library.

Looking ahead

Tuesday 27 April, 7pm for 7.30pm
Kapiti branch meeting

AGM and research night

Saturday 1 May, 10 am to 12 noon
Help with your research

Alison Procter Family History Centre

Monday 10 May, 7.30pm
Computer-friendly genealogy

Using PDF files

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina St, Paraparaumu.

For meeting dates of special interest and user groups, see page 3. You can see the year's programme on our website.

The AGM is coming (in April)

With four members retiring from the committee, we are looking for some new faces. Why don't you join us? We value those who serve and those who have served. In the way of modern organisations, we have job descriptions of the portfolios available so you can see what needs to be done. Please contact any of the current committee members if you want to find out more. Nominations can be made at the AGM, but showing your interest before then would be a great help!

Membership renewals

Our new membership year begins 1 April. Thanks to those who have already renewed their branch membership for 2010-2011. If you haven't renewed yet, please send a \$20 cheque (per person) payable to "Kapiti Genealogy". Address it to Membership secretary, Kapiti Branch NZSG, P O Box 703 Paraparaumu 5254. Be sure to write your name and address on the back of the envelope. Include your NZSG number if you belong to the national society.

You can also pay by internet banking to account number 03 0732 0263025 00. Put your surname in the first field, and if you have an NZSG membership number (for the national society), put that number in one of the other code or reference fields. Please email lornamoaa@gmail.com to say you've paid online so she can match names with payments. New yellow membership cards will be available at the branch meeting or sent to you.

Getting started in Petone

Hutt Valley branch is having a "Getting started in family history" research day on Saturday 27 March from 10 am to 3pm at Petone Library. Entry is \$5. For more information email huttvalley@genealogy.org.nz or ring Janice on 04 938 0346, or Deb on 04 567 0213.

London records

Findmypast.co.uk has launched its London Collection, which includes these records:

- City of London Burial Index - 1813 to 1890
- West Middlesex Marriage Index - 1538 to 1837
- London Docklands Baptisms - 1712 to 1933
- London and West Kent Probate Indexes - 1750 – 1858
- The Matchworkers' Strike - listing more than 700 participants of the strike in East London in 1888.

Kapiti branch has a subscription to findmypast.co.uk on computer 2 at APFHC, making access to this website of millions of genealogical records free to members.

New fees for England and Wales certificates

In April the standard charge for ordering birth, death and marriage certificates for England and Wales from the General Record Office (GRO) increases to £9.25. The amount will be the same whether or not you know the reference number. Last orders at the old rate of £7 must be with the NZSG Purchasing Officer by Saturday 3 April. (Orders through the NZSG Purchasing Officer are for members of the national society only.)

Book review

Census: The Expert Guide, by Peter Christian and David Annal. 250+ pages.

This is a compelling, up-to-the-minute guide to using the England census in your family history research. Written by a bestselling genealogy author and a National Archives expert, *Census* shows how to interpret intricate details of your ancestors lives. It explores how information was gathered on names, addresses, family relationships and occupations, revealing why 'mysteries' occur and what may be hidden between the lines. Also includes the 1911 Irish census. **The branch has a copy of this book to raffle at the March branch meeting.**

Another brickwall crumbles

For some years my 4xgreat grandmother, Elizabeth Blake, was a bit of a mystery. We couldn't find a death for her. She married Isaac Maddocks on 16 July 1835 in Bath, Somerset, England. It seems it wasn't a happy marriage. By the 1851 census, Elizabeth was on her own with the three children. To survive, Elizabeth had to work as a shoe binder. Throughout his life, Isaac lived in the workhouse, where he died 24 April 1898.

A search of other census records did not shed any further light on Elizabeth, so I assumed she had died before the 1861 census. A search of the English death records, however, did not say when she died. I decided she had missed being included on the indexes and left it at that.

Some years later, I scrolled through the microfiche at the National Library, looking for marriages of Maddocks children in the Gloucester area. I found a marriage for an Elizabeth Maddocks. Thinking she might be related to the family, I used the online indexes and cross-referenced the spouse. This Elizabeth had married Charles Woodman in 1870.

I didn't take much notice of the husband's name until one day I happened to look at the 1861 census. On this census was Edwin Maddocks, the son of Elizabeth and Isaac. Also listed were Charles Woodman and his wife Elizabeth. This Elizabeth was the right age for my Elizabeth. She was living with Charles. However, to save face they gave the relationship to the head of the house as wife.

In 1870 he decided to do the right thing and marry her. The marriage was registered on 13 June 1870. On the 1871 census she is with her husband Charles and a lodger, William Privett.

By 1881 Elizabeth was living with her daughter Jane and son James. William Privett was now the head of the house and Elizabeth was recorded as a widow. By 1891, sadly, the children were in the workhouse. The census did not turn up an Elizabeth Woodman, so I assumed she had died. I was intrigued that William Privett had lived with the family for a number of years. I searched the 1891 census for William Privett only to find he now had a wife Elizabeth, aged 73, born in Lincolnshire, Stamford: the right age and birth place for my Elizabeth.

A search of the marriage indexes showed Elizabeth Woodman married William Privett in 1882. I purchased the marriage certificate, which proved it was my Elizabeth. They were married on 10 October 1882.

At last I found her death, as Elizabeth Privett, on 19 October 1895. What I discovered was that Elizabeth was a bigamist, not once but twice. There was never a divorce between her and her first husband, Isaac Maddocks. Her third husband, William Privett, was 20 years her junior. Her first husband outlived her by three years. - *Sue Greene*

Have you broken down a brickwall recently? Email the editor with details to include your story in a future newsletter. You may give other members new ideas for tackling their own.

Branch notes

Official AGM notice – 27 April 2010

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Confirm 2009 AGM Minutes
3. Business arising from the Minutes
4. Branch Report for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010
5. Financial Report for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010
6. Appointment of Auditor for 2010/2011
7. Election of Officers and Committee*
8. General Business

*Nominations are called for a minimum of five Committee Members, including the positions of Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominees, Nominators, and Seconders must all be members of NZSG, whilst Nominators and Seconders must all be members of Kapiti Branch. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. While nominations will be received at the AGM, members are encouraged to submit these beforehand so that credentials can be checked.

Dave Muirhead
Secretary, Kapiti Branch

Victoria Outwards to NZ 1852-1923

This CD of passenger lists has been loaded onto the computers upstairs at Paraparaumu library. **You do not need to insert the disc.** Look in the Australia folder on the desktop.

New members

A warm welcome to Peter TAYLOR, Tina AINSLIE, Linda CRAFAR, Margaret NOCK and Ann WARNER, who have all joined the branch since the last newsletter.

Tea makers

If your surname begins with the letters **H** to **M** please be at the February branch meeting by 7pm to help prepare the hot drinks. In April it will be someone else's turn.

Help with your research

Every Wednesday, research help is available at APFHC upstairs at Paraparaumu Library from 10am to 12 noon.

Meeting with NZSG

Deputy Convenor Clive Palmer represented local NZSG members at a meeting in Auckland in March to discuss issues with Council. A report on this meeting will be sent to NZSG members.

Interest and User groups

The 2010 programme for the Computer-friendly genealogy group, and all other user and interest groups, is on the branch website. On the main page click programme. On the next page, click on Interest and User Groups.

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/

The March meeting of Computer-friendly genealogy was on Australian research. If you'd like a copy of the notes used in the demonstration, contact Sue Greene (details page 4). The notes will also be kept in the branch library.

Legacy (database software)

meets: every two months on Saturday
next meeting: 24 April, 12.30 to 4.30pm contact Gerald Twiss 902-0926 _
gero@@ihug.co.nz

Family Tree Maker (database software)

meets: quarterly on Saturday
next meeting: 24 April, 9.30am to 12.30pm
contact: Hanley Hoffmann (see page 4)

Scottish interest group

meets: quarterly on Saturday
next meeting: 1 May, 9.30am to 12.30 pm contact: Trish Mallia 293-3966 _
tmallia@@xtra.co.nz

Computer friendly genealogy

meets: monthly, second Monday
next meeting: 12 April 2010, 7.30 pm
contact: Sue Greene (see page 4)

Irish interest group

next meeting: Saturday 8 May, 10 am APFHC
contact: Hanley Hoffmann (see page 4)

Australian interest group

meets: monthly, third Tuesday, 10am to 12pm next meeting: 20 April, APFHC
Contact: Deborah Shuker 905-2238 shuker@@xtra.co.nz

APFHC = Alison Proctor Family History Centre (upstairs at Paraparaumu Library)

On the web

Historical directories: See local and trade directories for England and Wales 1750 – 1919
www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/

Australia, New Zealand and Pacific genealogy – links to many resources www.freesurname.com/search/ausnzp/index.html

Committee			
Convenor	Hanley Hoffmann	hdhoffmann@@paradise.net.nz	904-3276
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