

KAPITI BRANCH N.Z.S.G.
New Zealand Society of Genealogists 53
Donovan Road, Paraparaumu Beach



Meetings held at Masonic Lodge Rooms,
Tara rua Street, Paraparaumu
4th Wednesdays of months January to November at 7.30 pm
May 2002

PROGRAMME

May 22nd Sister Joseph Mary speaking on local history.
Jun 26th Workshop

NOTICES

WELCOME to New Members, June Gratzner, Colleen Morrison, David Grantham and John Maddocks. We hope you will enjoy being with us and get the help you want here.

MANY THANKS to everyone who donated items for our Garage Sale on 11th May. Especial thanks go to Doreen & Bob Heron for providing the venue. Luckily the rain held off until after we had packed up. You will, no doubt, be pleased to hear it raised \$647.

NZSG RESEARCH will be closed between 27th May and 9th June 2002 as material will be down in Oamaru, promoting genealogy there.

ANYONE FOR AUCKLAND? A group from Levin and your Editor proposed visiting the NZGS later this year for 3 or 4 days, probably at the end of July. If you are interested, let Alison know.

RESEARCH WEEKEND! Hutt Valley & Wellington Branches are combining to hold a Research Weekend on Saturday 29th June 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 30th June 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hutt Bridge Club, Park Avenue, Lower Hutt. Introduction to Family History- Birth, Deaths & Marriages - NZ Archives- Family History Centres - British Census- Irish Research - Swiss Records in Jura area - Computing - Recording your Family History etc. Cost:- Weekend ticket \$15 visitors, Day ticket \$10 visitors. Hot Drinks and soup on sale, bring your own lunch.

HERITAGE WEEKEND Queen's Birthday Weekend, 1st and 2nd June (Saturday & Sunday) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ?t Southwngnds.

RAFFLE A grocery raffle will be held at our Club meeting at \$1 a ticket. Bring your coins and have a try for it.

NZSG CENTRAL DISTRICTS - SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP will be held in Levin on Saturday, 15th June at Thompson House, Kent Street. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Door charge \$3, morning & afternoon tea provided, BYO lunch

NEWS FROM CATHOLIC ARCHIVES Baptism records for the following parishes have now been completed':
Ashburton 1881 -1995 Greymouth 1866-1999 Kumara 1870-1924
Methven 1912-1999 Papanui 1924-1977 Enquiries through the Diocese
Archivist, Administration Office, Babadoes Street, Christchurch

SUPPER HELPERS

To assist the Committee, will members please help with supper duties, particularly the serving and washing up

MayD-G JunH-J

WHAT IS A CORDWAINER?

When I first saw this term I was certain it had something to do with shipping and ropes (i.e. cords), but on further research discovered instead it had to do with shoes! The term "Cordwainer" was introduced to England at the time of the Norman invasion in 1066 as an Anglicization of the French word *cordonnier*. Its origins came from the Moorish city of Cordoba where *cordouan* leather was made from the skin of the Musoli goat which was cured with alum, not tannin, by a method supposedly known only to the Moors. English Crusaders brought supplies of this fine leather back home where it became the material most in demand for the best footwear in all of Europe.

The term *cordwainer* .meaning "shoemaker" first appears in England in 1100 but, by the late 13th century a distinction grew between Cordwainers who used the leather cured in the tradition way to the shoemakers that employed an inferior "tanned" sheepskin, which was prohibited for footwear apart from long boots.

Today cordovan leather is a "vegetable tanned" horse "shell" and, like the Medieven cordwa/n is used only for the highest quality shoes.

Since the Middle Ages the title of *Cordwainer* has been selected by the shoemakers themselves, and used rather loosely; however, generally it always refers to a certain class of shoe and boot-makers. The first English guild of shoemakers who called themselves "Cordwainers" was founded at Oxford in 1131. "Cordwainers" was also the choice of the London shoemakers, who had organized a guild before 1160, and the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers has likewise used this title since receiving their first Ordinances in 1272.

* %>*

One distinction preserved by Cordwainers since the earliest times is, that a Cordwainer works only with new leather, where a Cobbler works with old. Cobblers have always been repairers, frequently prohibited by law from actually making shoes. Even going so far as to collect worn-out footwear, cut it apart, and remanufacture cheap shoes entirely from salvaged leather, Cobblers have contended with Cordwainers since at least the Middle Ages. In 16th century London the Cordwainers solved their conflicts with the Cobblers of that city by placing them under the powerful authority of the Cordwainers' guild, thus merging with them

Whenever shoemakers have organized, they have shown a clear preference for the title "Cordwainer" conscious of the distinguished history and tradition it conveys

LANDLORDS, TENANTS & TITHES

If anyone is over in the United Kingdom at the end of this year searching for elusive Irish ancestors there is a Family History Conference being held in Belfast and Dublin between the 24th September and 1st October 2002. Apparently these conferences have been held over the past 11 years and this year it focuses on Landlords, Tenants & Tithes. The land question has been an integral part of the Irish problem for hundreds of years. The relationship between landlord and tenant impacted upon major events in Irish history and helped to define the social and cultural character of Irish society. Not known to many researchers is that Ireland has a first class collection of land and valuation records from Griffith valuation, the tithe applotment, **landed Coiait; leUUua, iu line icyu.liy ui" J^vJa, -uiuh&iIC^ au'.voj li&i'fiOia Si'iu iMup-. ThsSC VGC.1 rCoOU'C-C** have survived and are easily accessible to family historians.

The Conference provides guided research covering the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland, Presbyterian Historical Society, National Archives, Registry of Deeds, as well as several Castles, Houses and Cities of historical importance in both Belfast and Dublin. Optional extra tours are also offered.

Following this Conference there is a Family History Tour of Scotland between 1st and 6th October, covering Fortwilliam, Edinburgh and Glasgow, dealing, again, with Landlords, Tenants and Tithes.

Brochure for further information available from Committee

COMMITTEE 2002

CONVENOR SECRETARY	John Glover	902-2486 j	
TREASURER MINUTE	Valerie Freeman	ohn.glover@ @metSERVICE.COM	
SECRETARY LIBRARIANS	Shirley West	298-7396	
	D	293-4438	jasmwest@ @xtra.co.nz
	ebbie Benton		
	Meryl Opie	902-4940	twisted@ @paradise.net.nz
PROGRAMMES & GRANTS	Angela Milsted	298-8737	opiemb_nz@ @yahoo.co.nz
HELP DESK	Valerie Free'man	299-0338	
SALES	Barbara Humpage		amilsted@ @kapiti.co.
MICROFICHE	Barbara Tunley Meryl		nz
HOSTESS/SUPPER	Opie Gerald Twiss	298-7396	
PUBLICITY	Alison Procter	902-4979	raymondh@ @paradise.net.nz
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Marydell Haddock	298-6531	b.tunley@ @paradise.net.nz
PROJECTS		298-8737	opiemb_nz@ @yahoo.co.nz
		902-0926	gero@ @ihug.co.nz
		904-3229	aprocter@ @paradise.net.nz
		*#3-7254	

d.m.haddock@@paradise.net .nz

7