

**KAPITI BRANCH N.Z.S.G. New  
Zealand Society of Genealogists**  
P.O. Box 703, Paraparaumu Meetings  
held at Paraparaumu Public Library  
Rimu Road, Paraparaumu

4th Thursday of months January to November at 7.30 p.m.

*As this is the Public Library's late night, our section upstairs is open from 7 p.m. until the meeting starts, for members to access our Branch books*

### **PROGRAMME**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>** Bob McDougall on "LINZ for Genealogists". (LINZ = Land Information NZ).  
(Note - in my absence, the meeting will be taken by Gerald Twiss - John).

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>** Kathleen Godfrey, one of our own members, will speak on "The life of an apprentice in a cotton mill". This is also our AGM night, so please come along and be prepared to stand for the committee.

### **NOTICES**

**The Annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Branch of NZSG will take place in the meeting room of the Paraparaumu Library at 7:30pm on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003. Agenda: Presentation of Financial Statement and Convenor's Report; Election of Officers and Committee.**

The branch now has a private box number (see top of this page), so if you enquire from anyone as to where to write, please give them this address.

Three of our committee will be retiring at the AGM: Shirley West, Valerie Freeman and John Glover. Since they occupy the positions of Treasurer, Secretary and Convenor, this will leave some important vacancies that need to be filled. Some people think that to be on the committee one needs to be an expert in genealogy, but this not the case. All one needs is enthusiasm to do your bit to keep the branch moving forward, for without a well-manned committee, the branch cannot continue to operate.

At our last meeting for the year, in November (usually a laid-back affair), members are invited to bring along family treasures they would like to show to the group. So dig out a treasure or two and have it ready.

### **INTERNET SITES**

How many tried the Web page for the Dictionary of NZ Biography, after hearing our August guest speaker? If you would like to try it, here's the address:

<http://www.dnzb.eovt.nz/dnzb/>

I found this site very easy to use. As well as biographies it has pictures which can be clicked, for an enlargement.

Its surprising how many local bodies have put cemetery indexes on-line. There's a lot of information to be found from these, at least to get you in the right general direction of research.

If you have an interest in genealogy in early Otago or Southland, try the Otago Nominal Index To 1876, at

<http://otago-nominal-index.otago.ac.nz/>

This searchable database holds records from Electoral Rolls, Street Directories and Police Gazettes for Otago and Southland.

### **GERMAN MIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The history of the Barossa Valley reflects the philosophical dream of South Australia as a haven of 19th century free enterprise and religious and political freedom. Soon after the colony was proclaimed in 1836, George Fife Angas, the founder and chairman of the South Australia Company, instructed a German mineralogist, Johann Menge, to survey the ranges north of the infant city of Adelaide. Menge's glowing report gave a vision of vineyards and orchards and immense fields of com. However, when the settlers became established, difficulties arose in getting their surplus produce to market in Adelaide, as eggs would break, butter would melt and cheeses become soft. Fortunately this problem was overcome when the Kapunda mine was opened, growing into a large settlement and other townships grew up in the valley and life became easier.

An early Adelaide newspaper reported in 1843 that Germans had established themselves at Bethany near Tanunda in the Barossa Valley, making a highly valuable class of colonists. They were an exceedingly industrious, sober and persevering people whose progress in the colony had been creditable. Although there were Scottish, English and Irish with a mixture of religious beliefs in the district, for nearly three generations it was the German influence that predominated with their customs, religion, language, entertainment, food, houses, festivals and dress. For over a hundred years they have preserved many aspects of their culture. Most farm implements were distinctively German, the best known being the German waggon which was used for everything from family coach to wedding coach and hearse. In between it served to carry hay, heavy transport, grape carrier and water cart. (from "Flinders Ranges Research")

Three additions to the branch library were decided at the September committee meeting. These are: British Vital Records CDs, and 1861 UK County Census CDs where these are indexed and the Eaton Seton/Kellaway Death Notices CD from NZSG. Members will be advised at the monthly meeting when they arrive.

### **THE SHIPS LIST - STILL LOOKING**

Since learning that a family member, 4th Officer on a Clan Line ship, had died at sea in 1920, aged 21, I was interested to know more. Had the ship foundered? Or was it an accident? Perhaps sickness? I have not found the whole answer, but had fun finding out more about the ship and the shipping line through the InterNet.

The Clan Line was founded in 1877 in Liverpool, as C.W. Cayzer & Company. Shortly afterwards Captain William Irvine joined the firm and his name was added. From there it grew, and the head office moved to Glasgow when an influential businessman from there joined the company. The Clan Line of Steamers Limited continued to expand, purchasing the Persian Gulf Steam Ship Company in 1894 and later merging with the Union Castle Line. Its routes carried passengers from Glasgow/Liverpool to Bombay/Calcutta through the Suez Canal. Later it added South African and East African ports of call. It had a South Africa to New York run for several years and, later still, even made trips as far as Australia (*after the dates I am looking at, unfortunately*).

Following this history of the Line, came lists of the ships which covered the next 10 pages. Yes, I did find the ship I was looking for." It was the first of its name and served from 1916 to 1935 when it was wrecked on Lizard Point. The next ship given the same name served from 1957 to 1979, then it was sold to Panama and renamed *Trinity Fair*.

So I am still looking

### **The collections of the NZ Society of Genealogists**

A very good summary of the different collections of researchable material of the NZSG may be found in the Keeping in Touch No 35, September 2003, on the NZSG Web site, or simply click <http://www.genjealpgy.Qrg.nz/intouch/kit35.html> Those with Internet access should look for the regular updates to "Keeping in Touch".

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

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