



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/

September 2007 Newsletter

Next Meetings:-

Kapiti Branch: Tuesday 25th September 7pm (Help Desk opens) for 7.30pm start. Informal. Help on Australian & New Zealand Research.

Day afternoon meeting Wednesday 3rd October 1pm to 3pm First Floor Paraparaumu Public Library (you may stay later if you wish) – using Branch resources

Computer SIG: Monday 8th October 7.30 pm. Using Rootsweb. (Venue changed to the Community Centre due to the library meeting room being used for Election counting).

Scottish Course Saturday 29th September

There has been strong support for this event but we still have room for a few more people. The final date for enrolment is this coming Saturday, the 22nd but completed paid Applications in our Branch Post Box on Monday the 24th will be accepted. The Enrolment Form was sent out attached to our 7/8 email, but those who for one reason or another are unable to print out the Form need only send in their \$25 cheque made payable to “Kapiti Genealogy” + a plain piece of paper quoting: Name, Address, Phone Number, & Email Address, to Kapiti NZSG, Box 703, Paraparaumu (mark envelope “Scots Course”).

Convener's Comment:-

A personal plea

Four years ago I attended an AGM as a relatively new member of the Branch and the Society and came home as the Convener! Yes, it's the classic story of why you shouldn't go to an AGM. But in hindsight I have no regrets. I accepted the challenge and have been privileged to work with a group of like minded Committee Members, Appointed Officers and supporters who have helped us develop the Kapiti Branch into one of the largest in the country.

In doing so we have *inter-alia*, forged a tremendously successful partnership with the KCDC Libraries begun by our predecessors; have received nearly \$20,000 worth of grants to expand our research resources and support facilities; launched a website and upmarket newsletter; developed a programme that extends beyond just a monthly meeting to include a weekly

help session at our research facility, visits to local data repositories; an improved Help desk and the KapitGenForum research finder; frequent update mail outs of forthcoming activities; four special interest groups; specialised research sessions and public EXPOS; a publicity and marketing schedule; a smarter internal financial and corporate management process; and regular interaction with our national body to try and obtain greater recognition of the major role branches play as a community grouping. In this period our membership has almost doubled.

However not all is well. The cruel statistic is that with a membership that for the last 2 years has been of the order of 220, only around 10% of the membership has been actively involved in any form of continuing support role. The reasons are varied – our lives whether in so-called retirement, with work, health, personal and family commitments or whatever, are involved and intense. Nevertheless, if we are to continue to provide the wide range of support concomitant with a large membership with an equally large range of family research interests and needs, we desperately need your help. New blood is needed to refresh the ideas and further the advances made.

As the 2007 year draws to a close and our AGM looms in October, we are in a critical state. Ideally the Committee should be around 10 persons. We have managed with 8 this year and lost Alison Procter early last month. 2 members have decided they will not stand again next term. For most of the 6 remaining, myself included, we are prepared to stand again for one term only but on the condition that we have newcomers who can understudy our roles and bring a fresh perspective. There is safety in numbers because the more Committee and off-committee appointments we have, the more we can spread the responsibilities.

You DO NOT have to be a (so-called) experienced family historian – whatever that is! It is simply your interest and ideas. Sure you came to Kapiti to escape the school/work/other committees you had been on! But this is a hobby scenario and the pressure is very different. We are very relaxed and laid back. So PLEASE, be brave & make a commitment like I did. If you can help us in general admin, publicity, finance, websites, newsletters, library, computers, sales,

research, programming, projects or simply your ideas and interests, put your name forward. There are heaps of opportunities on and off the Committee. Please give me a call if you would like to talk this through.

Clive Palmer

Membership matters

Negotiations by the Society in regard to the new charities registration legislation covered in the July newsletter continue. We have indicated to national headquarters that the Branch wishes to seek registration for charity and tax free status. To pre-empt what we believe will be a more rigorous audit trail of membership in future, we have introduced a 2-tier system for the 2007-2008 financial year. You will note this change on your new membership card. Those who belong to NZSG will be **Members** of the Branch, while those who do not belong to NZSG will be **Associates**.

Should an Associate join the Society during the year then their status will obviously change. This seems to be a pattern being adopted by several other Branches. It is a naming process only and does not mean any lesser or greater access to our resources and activities. Nor does it change, only clarifies the current constitutional fact that the Branch is a legally identified body of a national organisation. Only *Members* can be on the Committee and vote at General Meetings, while *Associates* can participate in the many other off-committee and support tasks required to keep the Branch up and running. We are unlikely to have any further feedback from the national body until after Council meets in November.

Clive Palmer

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)

The Committee recommends that the subscriptions remain unchanged at: Single \$16, Double \$27, Door Charge \$2. Nominees, Nominators, and Seconders,

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

Computer SIG

Family Tree Maker 2008 is Released

The new 2008 version is has been completely redesigned, a good thing in my opinion. It will be interesting to see if long-time users of FamilyTree Maker agree.

You may be interested in the comments posted about the beta test version at

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2007/07/family-tree-mak.html.

Family Tree Maker 2008 provides users tools to quickly build their family trees, record their memories and organize their family photos, stories, video and audio clips. Users can quickly find and import facts and historical documents about their family from the Internet and print custom-designed family trees and books. With dynamic satellite maps and customizable timelines, Family Tree Maker 2008 truly broadens the capabilities that every family history program should include.

"Family Tree Maker 2008 redefines family tree building software, providing users with powerful, unrivaled tools and resources to discover and share their family stories," said Tim Sullivan, CEO of The Generations Network, Inc., parent company of Ancestry.com. "The software's seamless integration with the Ancestry.com Web site further solidifies Ancestry.com as the family history authority both on and offline."

Family Tree Maker users can tap into Ancestry.com's unrivaled collection of family history records and powerful search features - without leaving Family Tree Maker. When connected to the Internet, Family Tree Maker 2008 automatically searches Ancestry.com for historical documents about the individuals in the user's family tree. With a few mouse clicks, users with an Ancestry.com subscription can view and import these historical records into their family tree.

"Family Tree Maker 2008 offers every user an intuitive out-of-the-box experience," said Megan Smolenyak, Chief Family Historian for Ancestry.com.

"Ancestry.com developers worked closely with industry professionals as well as family history beginners to create a program that uniquely spans the range of user ability with an easy-to-use interface that also offers advanced, robust features."

The following new and updated features expand Family Tree Maker's capabilities:

Interactive Street and Satellite Maps - Use Microsoft® Virtual Earth™ to access dynamic street and satellite maps that pinpoint important locations in ancestors' lives from within Family Tree Maker. A place-name database and hint engine helps users correctly enter localities in a consistent format.

Web Integration -View and search any Web site from within Family Tree Maker. Once users locate

information about their ancestors, they can easily import appropriate images, text and even a cached version of the Web page in to their family tree.

*Individual Biographies - Create biographical sketches for each ancestor, adding life facts, historical documents, photos and other digital media. In addition, timelines highlight important personal, family and world events that occurred during ancestors' lifetimes. Family Tree Maker 2008 is now available for sale online at <http://www.familytreemaker.com/> for \$39.95. The program is also set to be released in select retail stores in October 2008.

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@globe.net.nz

Familysearch Microfilm Service

Do you live in Wgton and want a convenient place to order and view your familysearch film orders?

Could/would you like to volunteer to help out on the roster?

Call and see us at the NZSG Familysearch Microfilm Service Desk National Library.. We are located in the central part of the Library ground floor. Ask the senior Librarian on duty to direct you to the Electoral Rolls Area. We are open every day from 10am to 4pm and Saturday 9am to 12.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Contact Marlene Sayers Ph 970 7682 or Beverley Keall 972 1508

NZ Papers Past

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>

The new website is designed to be a little friendlier to people with slow connections and bandwidth limits. The images are scaled down before they are displayed, and sometimes only the articles need to be sent (rather than the whole page), so less bandwidth is needed to see the page images. While this is nice for people on slow connections, people on fast connections are noticing longer image loading times (they have to wait while the images are scaled down). We have also noticed that search result pages are slower than we would like. We are currently working on these issues. Gordon Paynter, Technical Analyst, National Digital Library, National Library of New Zealand

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@paradise.net.nz or (04) 904 3276
Next Meetings (venue to be advised)
October 17th 1.30pm:--November 19th 1.30pm;

Early 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. Although the current Membership Year does not expire until 30th September, we would very much welcome receiving early renewals from those of our members who are willing to send in their remittances in advance of that expiry date.

The Committee will be recommending to the Branch Annual General Meeting in October that there be "No Change" to the current Subscription Fees (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.

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)

New Members

Welcome to new members who have joined or re-joined us since the previous Newsletter: Vic & Jude Young, Merle Kocsi, Judith Simon, Clifford Gregory, Leanne Morris, Berenice Crowther, Donald Rudd, Catherine Savage, Julie Mansfield, Peggy Martin, Gay Graham, Russ Beban, Richard & Chris Robertson, and Robert & Christine Hiddleston. Welcome to you all.

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.

Used Ink Cartridges: As a continuing fund-raising activity we will be pleased to receive used printer ink cartridges – particularly Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, and Epson. These may be handed to me (Derek Griffis) at our regular Monthly Meeting or, if more convenient to you, may be left in the suitably marked cardboard box in our steel cabinets upstairs at Paraparaumu Public Library. For the environmentally conscious there is the added satisfaction of knowing that these cartridges will get re-used, and that therefore there are that many less of them finishing up in the local rubbish tip.

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 the Paraparaumu Public Library (downstairs)

COMMITTEE 2006/2007

Convener:- Clive Palmer [c-mpalmer\(at\)xtra.co.nz](mailto:c-mpalmer(at)xtra.co.nz)
Phone 293-7631

Secretary / Branch Research Officer:- Derek Griffis
[griffisnz\(at\)ihug.co.nz](mailto:griffisnz(at)ihug.co.nz) Phone 293-1092

Treasurer & Membership:- Lorna Henderson
[lornah\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:lornah(at)paradise.net.nz) Phone 293-7771

Editor & Webmaster:- Barry Thomson
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Programmes/Activities & Computer SIG:- Sue Greene
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Publicity and Marketing:- Trish Mackay
[mackay.nth\(at\)xtra.co.nz](mailto:mackay.nth(at)xtra.co.nz)

Librarian:- vacant

Hostess & Round Robins: Meryl Opie
[opiemb\(at\)xtra.co.nz](mailto:opiemb(at)xtra.co.nz)

Sales:- Sandra White [tersan\(at\)xtra.co.nz](mailto:tersan(at)xtra.co.nz)

APPOINTED OFF COMMITTEE

Help Desk:- Valerie Freeman Phone: 298-7396

Library & Research Support:- Ray & Valerie Davison.- [v.r.davison\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:v.r.davison(at)paradise.net.nz), & Bev Chappell

Meeting Registrar: Dave Muirhead
[jenda\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:jenda(at)paradise.net.nz)

Computer Support:- vacant

Programme Support:- Bill & Kay Carter
[kaybill\(at\)xtra.co.nz](mailto:kaybill(at)xtra.co.nz)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Australian SIG Rex Roberts
[rxroberts\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:rxroberts(at)paradise.net.nz) (04) 905-6570.

Family Tree Maker SIG Hanley Hoffmann
[hdhoffmann\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:hdhoffmann(at)paradise.net.nz) (04) 904-3276

Master Genealogist SIG.. :- Lorna Henderson
[lornah\(at\)paradise.net.nz](mailto:lornah(at)paradise.net.nz) (04) 293-7771