



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

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

PROGRAMME 24th April Mike Foster, author
of "A Comedy of Errors" (he will have a few books for sale)
22nd May Sister Joseph Mary, to speak on Local History over the Years
26th June Workshop Evening

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| | NOTICES MISSING! | Does anyone |
| know where the Club Library copy of the Genealogical | | |
| Research Directory 2001 has gone? Please contact Debbie. OUR | | |
| ADDRESS Please note that our address is now: 53 Donovan Road, Paraparaumu | | |
| Beach, and not the former P.O. Box number. | | |
| E-MAILS (This is particularly for reciprocal Clubs, but also for Members who have gone OnLine) We are now sending out our Newsletter via this medium wherever possible, so if you have an E-Mail address, please let us have it. Newsletters sent in RTF | | |
| ON-LINE The Cambridgeshire (UK) Family History Society now has the 1841 Census On-line as well as Births & Deaths between 1800 and 1837 HELP-DESK Valerie Freeman mans this at Club meetings for those who need it. She has a lot of information especially for beginners. | | |
| GARAGE SALE This has now been put off until May. | | |

COALMINING

Organized coalmining had its tentative beginnings in the mid 15th century, but it was not until the 1850s that Inspectors of Mines were employed. Before this the mining workforce suffered terribly. Earlier records of mine disasters were rarely kept unless they were particularly large, and some can be found through local press reports of the day.

After 1850 the Coalmining Research Services (Family History) has a good record in the six-monthly annual reports of the Inspectors, some of which are still available together with individual colliery attendance registers and details may be accessed of colliery, location, job description and even where the person was at the time of the accident and, occasionally, additional details of that person, with an idea of the typical working day, how much they earned and their general lifestyle.

In Lancashire's Lune Valley there were a number of coalmines and, in general, the miners seemed to live in fairly stable communities, daughters marrying into other mining families in the area around the 18th century. But mainly after the turn of the 19th century, the miners and their families became migratory, moving from one colliery district to another, sometimes the length and breadth of the country. So these people rarely feature in the normal documentation of the times, unless involved in a serious accident.

» Overwinding was a regular occurrence, especially if the engine driver was distracted at the crucial moment, for, if he did not stop the engine in time, the waggons being pulled up could go up over the pulley with disasterous results. Another hazard, before the Davis Safety Lamp was invented, was the risk of explosions for the miners used candles, and the workins at times made a deal of sulphur (fire damp). The only warning was when the colour of the candlelight changed

ELGIN PUBLIC LIBRARY Cooper Park College Street, Elgin, Moray, Scotland Their Local Studies Department hold O.P.Rs Censuses and several other references that may help. They cover a large district including parts of Banffshire and are very helpful if given the fullest particulars.

NZSG FAMILY RESEARCH CENTRE & BOOKSHOP

Our member, Derek Griffis, has visited the newly opened and updated NZSG premises in Panmure, Auckland and reports on his findings. The Centre opened for business on 25th February this year and its hours are from 10 am to 4 pm on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, as well as 10 am to 8 pm on Wednesdays. It is closed on Tuesdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. He says it is very important to check on the days and hours of opening before making a special trip to Auckland, as the Centre is manned by volunteers.

Access is restricted to NZSG Members only (and this does not mean Kapiti Branch members who are not members of the Federation) Your membership will be checked that it is current on arrival. Sessions are 10 am to 1 pm, 1 pm to 4 pm & 4 pm to 8 pm with charges of \$2 per session. On Wednesdays a triple-session is available for \$5. There are free lockers for bags, satchels, etc. There is no lunch room. Only pencils are allowed, laptops may be used and mobile phones are banned. A complete list of all library holdings is progressively being prepared.

Free parking is nearby, on Kings Road but buses 756 and 757 come from Downtown Auckland approximately every half hour and suburban trains stop at Panmure Station. Derek says it is 1½ hours' walk from the top of Queen Street (slower walkers may take longer!)

For information on local accomodation, contact the Centre before your visit to get details of hotels, motels, or maybe persons who are willing to host out of town members.

Thanks to Derek for providing this information

| COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2002 | | |
|------------------------|------------------|------------|
| I | | |
| ICONVENOR | John Glover | 902-2486 |
| SECRETARY | Valerie Freeman | 298-7396 |
| TREASURER | Shirley West | 293-4438 |
| MINUTES SECRETARY | Doreen Heron | 902-1918 |
| LIBRARIANS: | Debbie Benton | 902-4940 |
| | Meryl Opie | 298-8737 |
| J PROGRAMMES & GRANTS | Angela Milsted | 299-0338 |
| HELP DESK | Valerie Freeman | 298-7296 |
| SALES | Barbara Humpage | 902-4979 |
| MICROFICHE | Barbara Tuney | 298-6531 |
| HOSTESS/SUPPER | Doreen Heron | 902-1918 |
| PUBLICITY | Gerald Twiss | 902-0926 |
| (NEWSLETTER EDITOR | Alison Procter | 904-3229 ' |
| PROJECTS | Marydell Haddock | 298-7254 |