

# Kapiti Branch



New Zealand Society of Genealogists

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb)

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Registered charity no.C33988

## Newsletter - August 2010

### Meetings coming up

**Tuesday 24 August** Kapiti branch meeting  
7pm for 7.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre

Bring a research story to share: Heroes and villains (and ordinary ancestors who played hard to get)

**Saturday 28 August** Legacy Users Group  
12.30 to 4.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre  
Contact: Gerald Twiss on 902-0926 or [gero@@ihug.co.nz](mailto:gero@@ihug.co.nz)

**Saturday 4 September Help with your research**  
**10 am to midday, Alison Procter Family History**  
**Centre First floor, Paraparaumu Library**

**Monday 13 September** Computer-friendly genealogy  
7.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre  
Using, ordering and paying for certificates in England

**Thursday 16 September** WEA course: Family History – find a computer program to suit you  
1pm to 4pm, Kapiti Community Centre  
See details page 2.

**Tuesday 21 September** Australian Interest Group  
10am to midday, Alison Procter Family History  
Centre First floor, Paraparaumu Library

**Tuesday 28 September** Kapiti branch meeting  
7pm for 7.30pm, Kapiti Community Centre  
Speaker: Robert Barnes on FamNet and the New Zealand Genealogy Database

**Dates for 2010 branch meetings, interest and user groups are on the branch website.**

### August is Family History month

Library staff and other "experts" will be at National Library on Saturday 21 August until 4.00pm and until 7.00pm on Thursday 26 August for people who have trouble getting there during regular opening hours.

### Share a research story at the August branch meeting

The theme for the August branch meeting is "Heroes and villains (and ordinary ancestors who played hard to get)". Bring a story to share about a relation you've researched.

## Choosing genealogy software

A WEA course run by our treasurer, Lorna Henderson, is coming up in September. [1082: FAMILY HISTORY – FIND A COMPUTER PROGRAM TO SUIT YOU](#)

\$30 (Kapiti Genealogy Members \$25)

Thursday 16 September, 1 - 4pm

Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu

You've inherited a heap of family documents and photographs, have a pile of source information, pages of names and dates, and need to get it into shape. Or perhaps your current genealogy program isn't meeting your needs any more. What programs are out there that might suit? What can they do to help you with your family history? The most popular programs (free to fully-featured) will be compared, with demonstrations of several.

Book using the link above, or contact the WEA office (04) 293-8077. Programs being covered will probably include the free versions of RootsMagic and Legacy, as well as Family Tree Maker, Legacy, The Master Genealogist (TMG), Reunion and iFamily for Leopard.

## New at the Alison Procter Family History Centre

**The Jim Pearce Index Obituaries reported in *The Evening Post* 1929-1977** (Published by NZSG, 2010.) This index to the obituaries clipped from *The Evening Post* held at Central Library, Wellington City Libraries, is on a CD now in our resource library. The obituaries include reports of funerals or other events where a tribute has been made to the person who died. The indexing was done by Kilbirnie Branch.

## Help with your NZGDB questions

Following our successful negotiations to access NZ Genealogical Databases and FamNet for all branch members, developer Robert Barnes will be guest speaker at our Tuesday 28 September meeting at the Kapiti Community Centre. This will include a demonstration of using the site and an opportunity to ask questions and participate in contributing and accessing data. The next day, Wednesday 29 September, he will hold two workshops for those who would like some hands-on experience. Details will be advised closer to the dates once the venue is confirmed.



Kapiti Branch convenor Hanley Hoffmann, left, and Robert Barnes at the Family History Fair.

## Oral History Workshops

The Oral History Centre of the Alexander Turnbull Library is offering workshops for people considering using oral history in their work, community or personal projects. The workshops are taught by Judith Fyfe and held at the Wellington Girls' College Library.

### **Day 1: Introduction to Oral History, Saturday 11 September 8.45 am to 4.30pm**

An introduction to oral history methodology. How to plan an oral history project, choose the best equipment, achieve clear audio recordings, select informants, follow ethical procedures, develop questioning techniques, process oral history and make the material available for use.

Exercises to be completed before Day 2 will be discussed. Fee: \$150 (\$110 unwaged) Limit: 14.

### **Day 2: Recording Seriously, Saturday 16 October 8.45 am to 4.30pm**

Recording Seriously builds on Day 1, reviewing work completed and covering in more detail interview techniques, equipment standards, project planning and ethical and legal issues. Some experience in recording or processing oral history is necessary. Completion of an earlier essentials course or a recent equivalent introductory course is required.

Fee: \$150 (\$110 unwaged) Limit: 14.

For further information about registration contact the Oral History Centre on 04 474 3162 or [atl@natlib.govt.nz](mailto:atl@natlib.govt.nz).

## New NZSG Councillor

A recently-elected member of the NZSG Council, Liz Chandler of Palmerston North, has been invited to visit Kapiti and meet with your committee in October. This will provide an opportunity for an exchange of views on the future development of the society and to establish ongoing links with her as the Lower North Island regional contact.

## Wellington branch celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

October brings the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Wellington branch, and they are having a luncheon on 30 October to celebrate. Any former Wellington branch members who would like to attend should ring Les Davys (04) 478-9544 or email [les.davys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:les.davys@xtra.co.nz).

## YURU Trademark

Acting as the agent for our parent body, Kapiti Branch has been granted a trademark for YURU, by the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand. It is planned to make this a marketing and promotional facility for the society and branches and we are currently putting together a proposal for consideration by NZSG Council.



YURU started in 2008 as our local answer to the UK TV series *Who Do You Think You Are?* with the branch researching the ancestry of two local identities, Kevin Milne of TVNZ's *Fair Go* and Anna Kenna, a TV and radio producer and children's books author. Their presentations were well received at the Branch expo in October that year and Anna gave an updated version at our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary function in May 2009.

Research work is underway with Sue Scott, a former weather presenter on TVNZ. Her YURU presentation will be at our final meeting of the year on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are now considering

candidates for the 2011 selection and would welcome suggestions from members. Contact Clive Palmer.

## Branch notes

### Introducing . . . committee member Lyn Lee

Lyn says: I had been vaguely collecting bits of family information as it came my way for about ten or fifteen years, when in 2000 we decided to have a GOE (Geriatric Overseas Experience). We were going to go and live and work in the UK for an indeterminate period, but we guessed somewhere between one and three years.

While there I contacted Spurgeon's Orphanage in London, where my father had been sent at the age of ten after his father had abandoned the family, and his mother had died. Spurgeons had sent him to New Zealand at the age of fifteen, to work on a farm in the Waikato, and I wanted to find the reason for this decision. They were not able to give me a plausible explanation, but I did find the house in East Ham, London where he was born.

We returned to New Zealand in 2003, then in 2005/6 we went to work in Timor Leste for eighteen months, and while there, with time on my hands in the evenings, I started to do some research on the net. Then I was hooked!!! When I retired and we shifted to Waikanae, I joined this branch of the NZSG, and have now joined the committee to give a little back. I enjoy helping out at the Alison Procter Family History Centre on occasional Wednesday mornings, and nearly always learn a little bit more for myself.

### North America and South Africa resources

Members at the July meeting heard about researching in Canada, USA and South Africa. Some of the websites recommended were:

#### Canada

The Canadian Encyclopedia – Look up place names here, to find out about the area, and check links lower down the page which may lead to other local sources of information (museums, archives and libraries).

[www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com](http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com)

Local histories can be found for many Canadian communities at the site below. [www.ourroots.ca](http://www.ourroots.ca)

Library and archives Canada – This is a collection of national resources but has many links to records held by the provinces.

[www.collectionscanada.gc.ca](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca)

#### United States

Family Search wikis can help you find out where to look and what you might find.  
[https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/United\\_States](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/United_States)

Family Search Record search pilot has a rapidly growing source of indexed and/or scanned original documents.

<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#>

Ancestry.com includes census data from 1770 to 1930, but coverage in earlier years is not for all current states, and individual household members are not mentioned until later.

Original historical documents online

[www.footnote.com](http://www.footnote.com)

US GenWeb project -

[www.usgenweb.org](http://www.usgenweb.org)

GenForum and Rootsweb message boards for states and counties of interest <http://genforum.genealogy.com>  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com)

Brigham Young University family history library <http://lib.byu.edu/sites/familyhistory>

Search historic New York newspapers  
<http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>

### South Africa

National Automated Archival Information Retrieval System (NAAIRS) [www.national.archives.gov.za/naairs\\_content.htm](http://www.national.archives.gov.za/naairs_content.htm)

1820s settlers in South Africa \_  
[www.1820settlers.com](http://www.1820settlers.com)

Cyndi's List for South Africa \_  
[www.cyndislist.com/soafrica.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/soafrica.htm)



### Pub Charity support continues

Our thanks go to the charitable trust Pub Charity, which continues to be a major supporter of branch activities. As announced in the July newsletter, the most recent grant of \$8300 was to support our negotiations with NZGDB for a two-year subscription.

Over the past five years, Pub Charity has contributed nearly \$30,000 to the branch. This has helped us with major upgrades to our PC suite at the Alison Procter Family Research Centre and allowed us to get a new data projector which has vastly improved presentations at the Kapiti Community Centre.

Another grant allowed us to purchase the NZ Gazette Archive, the official monthly publication of the New Zealand Government which goes back to the early 1840s. It can be viewed at all three Kapiti Coast District libraries, including at the Alison Procter Family History Centre. Pub Charity has also been a substantial supporter of national NZSG activities.

### New members

Welcome to Martin HARRIS, Brian CLIFFE, Marion HANSEN, Helen KIDD and Jane WILLCOX, who have joined the branch since the last newsletter.

### Tea makers

If your surname begins with the letters **N to R** please be at the August branch meeting by 7pm to help prepare the hot drinks. In September it will be someone else's turn.

### Interest and User groups

Meetings taking place before the September branch meeting are listed on the front page. For all interest and user group dates, and the full list of branch meetings, see the website. \_  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/)

### Found

Green, pink and blue winter scarf, left at the July branch meeting. Pick it up at the August meeting or ring Liz on 293-8553.

## On the web

### New on ancestry.com

Ancestry.com has today released probate calendars for most English and Welsh wills between 1861 and 1941. This collection forms an index to wills and probate records for this period, and information found there is:

- probate date
- full name of the deceased
- death date
- death place
- registry where issued.

The library edition of Ancestry.com is available free at all three branches of Kapiti Coast District Libraries, and at the Alison Procter Family History Centre.

### New Zealand passenger lists coming online

The first of about three million records of passenger and crew lists for arrivals in New Zealand are being uploaded to the family search website in partnership with Archives New Zealand. About 10 percent of records are already online, with the rest to follow over the next few months. From the webpage below, select "Search or Browse our record collections".

<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#>

### Dating old photographs

This site gives descriptions and examples of UK fashions from different decades starting in the 1860s and some other clues to help you work out approximately what year a photograph was taken.

<http://www.cartes.freeuk.com/time/date.htm>

### UK National Archives

Read free newsletters from the National Archives. Sign up to receive one by email, or read current and back issues online.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

### Committee for 2010-2011

Convenor	Hanley Hoffmann	<a href="mailto:hdhoffmann@@paradise.net.nz">hdhoffmann@@paradise.net.nz</a>	904-3276
Secretary	vacant	<a href="mailto:kapiti@@genealogy.org.nz">kapiti@@genealogy.org.nz</a>	
Treasurer	Lorna Henderson	<a href="mailto:lornamoa@@gmail.com">lornamoa@@gmail.com</a>	293-7771
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	Derek Griffis	<a href="mailto:griffisnz@@ihug.co.nz">griffisnz@@ihug.co.nz</a>	293-1092
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