



Kapiti Branch

November 2004

Convenor's Comment

We had a well-attended and constructive AGM on October 28th. Your new Committee sees the return of myself as Convenor, Secretary Derek Griffis, with members, Meryl Opie, Alison Procter, and Barry Thomson and new faces Treasurer, Rex Roberts and members Harry Gilgrist, Sue Greene and Bary Scott. A good mix of old and new. We will introduce ourselves in more detail in future Newsletters. The Committee had its first meeting on November 11th. As I mentioned in my Annual Report, our thanks go to retiring Committee members and Appointed Officers, several of whom are long serving.

For those of you unable to attend the AGM, the 2003/2004 Annual Report and Financial Statement are on our website. The annual subscription remains the same at single \$16, double \$27 and door charge for visitors \$2. These are due before December 31st 2004.

During the meeting we had the pleasure of presenting a very special award to long serving member, Valerie Freeman. Valerie (NZSG Member No, 11032) joined the Committee in November 1990 as Hostess, holding that position for 5 years until in November 1995 becoming Secretary, which she held for 8 years until October 2003. She then immediately became Appointed Officer for Help Desk/Branch Research Officer, and has agreed to carry on in the Help Desk role. In October 2000 she was presented with an NZSG "Branch Service Award". She has attended a total of 116 Branch Committee Meetings, many of which were held at her home. Thus a total of 14 years continuous service and still serving.

After the meeting we held a useful discussion on how the 2005 programme of activities should be focused. Key suggestions were on sorting and storing data together with publishing in book form. A need was identified for beginner and learner courses in a more intimate setting than monthly meetings. Visits to centres of interest such as Archives NZ, National Library and facilities in Porirua were also promoted. And, of course, from November we will be meeting in our new venue - the Kapiti Community Centre.

As we have recently welcomed a number of new members, and more will probably join as we start a new year, it is pertinent to re-state our place in the sun with respect to the national body, the NZ Society of Genealogists. As a branch of the NZSG we come under the constitution and rules of the Society. If you are not a member of NZSG, membership of the Kapiti Branch does NOT give membership of the parent body. Membership of the branch and membership of NZSG are separate but complementary - just over half of our Branch members are also with

the NZSG. Our local resources and activities add value to those available from the national body. I strongly recommend those who are not NZSG members, investigate the very extensive resources available. Have a look at the NZSG website at www.genealogy.org.nz or pick up a brochure from our research room at the Paraparaumu Public Library or from the information desk at our monthly meetings.

At its first meeting on Nov 11 your new committee filled several portfolios. Others will be announced in due course. We welcome Barry Thomson as Newsletter Editor commencing with the January issue. Barry welcomes your inputs and anecdotes so please send them to him. Your input is vital to this major communication tool. His and other committee members' contact details appear on the last page. New Programme Manager is Harry Gilgrist. The 2005 programme will be finalised at the January meeting of the Committee and your suggestions would be welcomed either directly to Harry or the Secretary. So send in these suggestions before Christmas. Sue Greene will take up the Project portfolio, which currently comprises Kapiti regional school records transcriptions as part of a national NZSG project. Sue will be checking all records completed to date, and in the New Year, armed with this inventory, will be looking for further assistance to take this project to the next stage.

Clive Palmer

Computer Corner

To Legacy Family Tree Users Part 1

You have been invited to a Meeting in Auckland on 27th November 6.00p.m. to 10pm Cost \$5. Coffee, tea and biscuits available. To be held in the NZSG rooms, 159 Queens Road, Panmure. All suggestions that have been sent in will be included on the agenda. Jan Gow is ready with Legacy Cruise T-shirts and any further matters of interest.

Kapiti Legacy Meetings 4th/ 5th December 2004. Jan Gow Weekend will be open to all who are interested, regardless of previous attendance at Legacy meetings.

The approximate cost will be either \$8 per session or \$20 to attend all three: Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. This will be held at the MASONIC HALL, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu

The Kapiti meeting first weekend of December with Jan Gow as guest replaces the scheduled 27th November meeting.

Please register your interest in attending at kapitlegacy@hotmail.com

Enquiries: The following enquiries/comments have been received from Legacy users, and if anyone has a response please let me know for distribution to others, including the originator. I have not included the originators name, so they may respond having found out more in the interim without me realising (and my apologies for the delay in getting this list together). The topics may be prompts for discussion at the next meetings, generally if not in detail, as representatives of user issues.

Descendant Tree: Two suggestions for improving the printout of this Tree are:-

- 1. At present details of the children of each union are printed following the details of the parents. They are then repeated in the next generation where they belong. I suggest that listing the children after the parents should be confined simply to the number and name. The rest is just a waste of paper, ink and time.
- 2. In each generation the phrase "son/daughter of (father) and (mother)" should appear immediately after the name of the person. This would speed identification. In my father's tree the most common given name is John and in some generations there are several Johns, some of brothers or sisters.

Lineage I have been trying to get out some 'lineage' reports for a family reunion from the grandchildren of the grandmother's line to include several more older generations. I can get the male line, but the female line always reports on her husband's forbears. Is there a way to get the desired report? Gedcom I am trying to create a Gedcom from a focus group of my (tagged) Great-Grandfather's ancestors to send to England, but I keep getting his descendants as well. Have read a lot of Help files, but must be missing something. Can you suggest what I should try? Change I recently switched over from Family Tree Maker to Legacy and I think it's a great piece of software, but have a question on proper naming convention for photos.

Following the suggestions on this page <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/tipsPictureFileNames.asp> I've been naming my photos as "Lastname Firstname 0001.jpg" where 0001 is the RIN number. However, an email I got back from Legacy suggests that using RIN might not work that well if, for example, an individual is deleted then there is an abandoned RIN. Can anyone in your group suggest a good naming convention for photos?

Future Meeting Dates

Auckland: 26th February 2005, 28th May 2005, 27th August 2005, and 26th November 2005

Kapiti: 22nd January 2005, 26th March 2005, 28th May 2005, and 23rd July 2005;

Pass this invitation on to others, including those who are not yet users.

Notices

Subs are now due! No doubt you will be pleased to know that the subscriptions for 2004/2005 remain the same: \$16 single membership, \$27 joint membership and \$2 per meeting for visitors. These were approved at the Annual General Meeting.

For Sale: Microfiche Reader \$45. Contact May Blackburn Ph. 902-0254

Reports

The Annual General Meeting is over for another year and we have now lost a few Committee members. We wish to thank: Debbie BENTON as Librarian; Marydell HADDOCK, Project Officer for work done on school rolls; Doreen HERON, Treasurer; Angela MILSTED as Programmes Organiser & Grants Officer; Jack BURTON and Gerald TWISS. We are also sorry to lose George WATSON who kept the register and sorted out the nametags after each meeting. However, we can welcome Rex ROBERTS, who has agreed to become Treasurer, Sue GREENE for the Computer Interest Group, Harry GILGRIST and Bary SCOTT. The Convenor told the meeting that there are several vacancies for Off Committee Appointments to cover Labels & Registration; Fundraising, Publicity and the Help Desk. We look forward to hearing from you keen genealogists who can give us a little time and support.

In appreciation for her work as Secretary for many years, and also on the Help Desk, the Branch presented Valerie FREEMAN with Honorary Branch Life Membership

From the Regional Meeting we learnt:

1 That Lady Teviot is coming to Palmerston North on Saturday, 19th February 2005 with all new subjects: Baby Farming in the 18th & 19th Centuries, Vaccination in the 19th Century in England, Work House in the 18th & 19th Centuries and Genealogical Geography. It is not clear at present which or how many of the above will be covered at this meeting. Times 10 am. to 4 pm. door charge \$10. Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided. Venue Kilwinning Lodge, Church Street, Palmerston North (near the Police Station). 2 That the NZSG Family Research Directory for 2005 should be on sale mid year priced at \$25. 3 That A New Zealand Beginners Guide to Family History Research has been published by Whitcoulls 4 The next NZSG Conference will be held in Nelson at Queen's Birthday Weekend 2005, after which keynote speaker, David Webster, will come to Wellington during his post-conference tour. I understand he speaks on Old parochial records.

Articles

Kapiti Coast Public Libraries Genealogical Resources (Derek Griffis)

Although our Branch resource books have been located at the Paraparaumu Public Library for two years now, their continued non-cataloguing prevents our members from taking them out through the normal library lending processes. Cataloguing is an exacting task, and it must be accepted that it is one that has to be performed by professionals, so in the meantime we just have to be patient.

All is not lost though. Our Public Libraries have genealogical holdings of their own, including some items that we don't have whilst we, of course, have some that they don't have. To put a positive spin on the current situation, let's look at what they have because, after all, we can take out their books even if we can't take out

our own. There are three KCDC Public Libraries (Otaki, Paraparaumu, and Waikanae), and all are open six days a week, for extensive hours. Assuming that you have a KCDC Library Card (and if you haven't, you wouldn't be able to access our collection anyway!) you may borrow directly from any one of those three libraries, and if the holding in which you are interested is in one of the other two libraries, it may be brought in for you for a fee of \$2.

So just what have they got that might be of use to the genealogical researcher? Well quite a lot, ranging from introductory books for the beginner, through to advanced publications for the specialist. One way to find out is, for those with on-line computer access, to visit their website. Go to:<http://library.kapiticoast.govt.nz> You will first need to register, but that is a painless on-line process, and then....

(1) You are in "Quickfind", so click on "Subject" (2) In "Subject Search" type in "genealogy", change "Records per page" to 100 (to save yourself some time), and click on "OK". (3) You will now be presented with 163 headings, and it is then a matter of clicking on your preference.

To illustrate the process, click on heading #107, which is "New Zealand - Genealogy", and you will be presented with a full listing of all 65 items. Select and click on the item of your choice, and if #57 is chosen you will see that "Tracing Family History in New Zealand" (1988) by Anne Bromell is at Waikanae Library (amongst other places), Reference 929.3 BRO, and is "Available". If you want to know a bit more about the book, click on the name of the book itself. Another interesting example is #65 "Writing your Family History: a New Zealand guide" (1997) by Joan Rosier-Jones, Reference 929.1 ROS When you have found what you fancy, just follow standard procedures for taking out the book.

For those without on-line computer access or who, like me, simply like browsing in libraries, then the obvious alternative is to front up at the one or all of the libraries yourself. Books are shelved under the Dewey System, and for "Genealogy" you will be looking for the short range 929.1 to 929.4. The last group includes quite a number of "Naming the Baby" type books, but inter-mingled with these are some useful publications on the origins and meanings of surnames. If you are not already familiar with those numbers, then it pays to etch them into your memory, as no matter where you are in the country if you should happen to visit a Public Library you can then zoom straight into their Family History Section by searching out those numbers.

Computers have their place in genealogy, but you cannot carry out your research by computers alone - regardless of what some people may think. Used in tandem with books though, they make a powerful combination. However, to get started, and later on, for the really serious stuff, you can't beat taking the relevant books home with you from time to time, to read and re-read at your leisure.

Tested to Destruction

In the U.K., over the last few years, there have been about ten accidents involving headstones falling on people visiting cemeteries. Three of the accidents were fatal. In response to this situation, local authorities in some parts of Britain have introduced measures to make cemeteries safe for the living

The 'topple test' has gained favour in many areas. It involves the use of a special machine which exerts a force on the gravestone. If the stone is unstable, the force causes it to fall. The strength of the force can be adjusted. Originally, a force of 110lbs was recommended. However, so many gravestones succumbed that currently a reduced force of 70lbs is the norm. It appears that the indiscriminate use of the topple test has caused outrage in many parts of Britain. In one cemetery alone, in Liverpool, about 1,000 gravestones were razed to the ground by these health and safety measures. Even little stones, less than two feet in height have not escaped. Parents visiting the graves of their children have found the memorials they erected in their memory knocked over.

It is difficult to understand why local authorities are causing such destruction and grief since the likelihood of being killed by a falling headstone is about the same as the danger of being killed by lightning.

(Irish Roots #51 2004 via Deborah Shuker)

Calling on Latin Scholars

The following is a copy of a preliminary to a 1696 Will. Can anyone translate it for me? The script is not very clear, and, of course, in those days "s" & "f" could look very much the same, so I hope I have got it right.

"NOverine universo per presenten Nos(here follows a couple of names, places and would 'agricola' be connected with agriculture?) Ambo yavochia do Long Preston (these last written in by hand.

"Teneri & firmiter Obligari venerabili viro Richardo Sterne Armigerio Artum Magistro ScaceArij Reverendissimi in Christo Patris & Domini Domini Johannis Providentia Divina Ebor' Archiepiscopi Angiæ primæ & Metropolitanani Commissario legitime Constituto in ...(handwriting here hard to read) .. libris bonæ & legalis monetæ Angliæ, Solvendis eidem Commissario aut suo eerio Attornat' Executor' Administrator' five Assignatissuis. Ad quane quidem solutionem, bene & fidenlter faciend' Obligamus nos & (...?) Nostrum per se, pro tote & in solid' Hædes Executor' & Administratores nostros firmiter per præsenten. Sigill' nostris Sigillat' Dat' Decimo Sexto die mensis Novembris Anno Dm. Millesimo Sexentesimo Nonesimo Sexto.

This statement is followed by "Conditions of this Obligation", fortunately in English! Alison Procter

Wife & Child Deserters in Australia

<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~hdharris/deserters.htm>

As well as its familiar meaning, the term son-in-law can also mean an adopted son or stepson from another marriage. This son of James Smith may also have changed his surname to Brown when his mother married John Brown, just to muddy the waters. A "woman living on her own means" could mean she has investments providing income, or that your income comes from her lodgers' rent or doing housework. She is economically independent - for good or bad.

Thanks to Deborah Shuker for this item