



Full programme details for the Branch, Interest & User Groups are on our website <http://KapitiGen.org>

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Convenor's Comment

Greetings Branch Members,

Our AGM went by without a hitch and while we were a little short of numbers to make up a full committee I'm sure those who have been elected will give of their best to ensure that the Branch functions effectively over the next 12 months. It was with much pleasure that we welcomed Hilary Cunningham to our last Committee Meeting as a co-opted member. My personal thanks to all those who served on the committee over the past year and in particular those who have not sought re-election.

Changes to the responsibilities of committee members have been made and you are asked to consult our web page to familiarize yourself with these changes.

It was with much pleasure that I was able to present Branch Member and NZSG Councillor Clive Palmer with a Life Membership in the Branch. Clive's expertise as a negotiator and his knowledge of NZSG matters has proved invaluable over the years. The citation read out on the evening has been reproduced elsewhere in this issue. Even though

he is no longer a member of the committee he will still maintain a close liaison with us and will continue to front the Branch's YURU programme. There are some interesting ideas coming up for future productions. Another of Clive's interests in coming months will be to produce a history of the Branch.

This brings me to another point and that is the May Branch Meeting at which we will be celebrating in a small way our 30th Anniversary. All past Convenors we have been able to contact have been invited to attend and we hope you will be able to come along and enjoy the occasion too.

Amongst all this and also preparations for the Kapiti Sportsperson of the Year awards function I have managed a little research into my family and have recently discovered a 3rd cousin who is now living in Seattle USA with roots in Oamaru and a sister living in Paekakariki, Neither of us knew of the other's family tree and so more names are being added.

Happy hunting

Bill McKeich
Convenor

*May meeting Tuesday
27 May
"On the Distin Trail"
presented by Hilary
Cunningham*

Kapiti Branch NZSG Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting on the 22nd of April saw a few changes to your committee.

Lyn Lee, Kathleen Gibson and Clive Palmer did not stand for re-election and were thanked for their past service.

Elected:

Convenor: Bill McKeith

Secretary: Denice McCarten

Treasurer: Lorna Henderson

Committee Members: Kathy Callaghan, Frances Braddick, Beverly Chappell, Dianne Sleeman.

(Subsequently co-opted: Hilary Cunningham)

The minutes of the last AGM, Convenors Report and Financial Report are on the web site under Communications > AGM

In addition to the normal AGM business we had great pleasure in bestowing a Branch Life Membership on Clive Palmer with the following citation



This Life Membership recognises the outstanding service Clive Palmer has given to the Kapiti Branch, NZSG for many years.

Clive joined the Kapiti branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists in 2002. Members very quickly recognised Clive's organising abilities and at the AGM in 2003 he was appointed to the position of Convenor. As a result of a membership survey, and in conjunction with then Secretary Derek Griffis, early initiatives included a marketing and publicity portfolio, a revamped newsletter and member liaison, improved meeting formats and a new location for monthly

meetings firstly at the Paraparaumu Public Library, where the branch resources had been recently housed, and then the Kapiti Community Centre in 2005.

Clive was re-appointed Convenor in 2004 and again in 2005 and at the Annual Meeting in October that year Clive reported that \$11,000 including grant money had been spent by the Kapiti Branch to improve its expanding research material and equipment.

Clive was faced with some resignations from his committee for health reasons and being not one to shy away from a problem, took on the roles of the Publicity and Grants and Programme Portfolios. He continued re-election in the Convenor role through to 2009. Clive then served on the Committee including a period as Deputy Convenor, stepping down in 2014. During these years he obtained approval to dedicate the branch resources as the Alison Procter Family History Centre (2007), in recognition of a former committee member and librarian.

Perhaps the most exciting journey for Clive Palmer with the Kapiti Branch has been his leadership along with Research Officer Sue Greene of the Why You Are You (YURU) project. Clive's dedication to this project has known no bounds and his enthusiasm is a measure of the success of the project over the years. Certainly Kapiti Genealogy has been kept to the fore amongst NZSG Branches throughout New Zealand because of this.

Clive had a close interest in the affairs of the parent body of NZSG. In 2010 he was appointed to its Constitution Review Committee and in 2012 was elected to NZSG Council. Given the portfolio of strategic planning, he led a team which prepared the Society's plan for the future, approved by Council in March 2014.

The Committee and Members of Kapiti have much pleasure in conferring upon Clive Palmer Life Membership in the Kapiti Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

May Branch Meeting: On the Distin Trail

When: Tuesday May 27th 7 pm—9 pm

Where: Kapiti Community Centre

Our Branch Member Hilary Cunningham will speak

on how her family grew from just a handful to about a thousand after a visit the UK to research her roots.

How to: change your contact details via our website

APFHC News



Additions

A recent addition to our library, *Maritime Memories of Mount Street Cemetery*, will be reviewed next month, by which time it should be in the KCDC Library catalogue (along with all our books - search instructions on our website under Resources, APFHC).

Computer Password at the APFHC

APFHC computer password changes regularly: check the red folder in the drawer. Members need to get the cupboard key from library help desk. We also request that you sign the blue sign-in book in the drawer - such statistics help us when applying for grants such as those that allowed us to add the two

Computers

Our six computers should now be consistent, and be able to access most of our cd collection without the disks being loaded.

It's been a long journey, but we think we're there!

Many thanks to Dirk and Sue.

Please note that at the review of who does what carried out by the incoming committee has resulted in the appointment of Frances Braddick as our computer liaison person.

All equipment issues encountered at the library should continue to be logged in the yellow book.

replacement computers.

FindMyPast

A friendly reminder to those using FindMyPast at the APFHC. Please do NOT log out of the site. Simply close the browser window, or leave it open when you log off the pc so that the next user can still access the site.

Printer, Paper and Toner

Please remember that you are asked to contribute 10c per copy for the printing service provided.

This amount does not even cover the cost of the toner used.

Where possible you are encouraged to use memory sticks instead to record the results of your research.

Round Robins

Deborah, one of our Round Robin subscribers, passes on these snippets from her reading:

FamilyTree magazine of Jan 2014 p14-18 has a brilliant article about British WWI soldiers' uniforms to give clues to the when and who of the photo and where to go next.

When Ancestry.com leads you to a digitised document, check the page before the one that Ancestry takes you to. (the landing page) There may be more of the file documents there. An example was given of what he thought was a 4 page WWI record being a 40 page digitised record. (*I can certainly confirm this one, but it doesn't work on FindMyPast as far as I can tell - Ed*)

See the key events in British and World History when your ancestor was born, married etc. by entering the year at www.en.Wikipedia.org

Check which day of the week a ceremony took place at <http://calendarhome.com/calculate/day-of-week>

A reminder that we subscribe to three magazines on your behalf: Who Do You Think You Are, Family Tree, and Australian Family Tree Connections. After they have done the rounds of those who have subscribed to see them as part of a RoundRobin system, they are all placed in binders on our shelves at the APFHC.

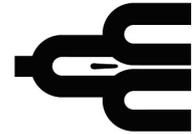
If you wish to subscribe to any of our Round Robin magazines, contact Meryl Opie (RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org) to get your name added to the list. Further details on our website under [Resources > Round Robins](#).

All have items of interest in them.

NZSG Conference and Annual General Meeting



“Hills Harbours Heritage” Queens Birthday Weekend 30 May - 2 June



Hosted by Kilbirnie Branch

Wellington Girls College, Pipitea St Wellington.

The conference is open to all, whether NZSG members or not.

Read all about on the website <http://www.genealogy.org.nz> or in the February New Zealand Genealogist.

The keynote speaker is Dr Colleen Fitzpatrick a ‘forensic genealogy’ consultant for major military and civilian organisations, and has solved some of the most puzzling identification cases both historical and recent. She was a key member of the team who identified the remains of the “Unknown Child of the Titanic” and was also consulted on the case in which the author of the international bestseller *Surviving with Wolves* was exposed as a fraud. Colleen is now the forensic genealogist looking at the possible discovery of the remains of Amelia Earhart.

List of speakers available at http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Speakers_259.aspx

Always a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Late breaking news:

Colleen Fitzpatrick our visiting speaker from the US who is talking on DNA matters will not be available for extra speaking engagements in Wellington as part of her post-conference tour of New Zealand.

We would like to give those not actually attending the conference but who would like to hear her speak the opportunity to do so. We are offering you the chance to attend her talks. The cost is \$5 per session payable at the Conference Registration Desk at the main entrance of Wellington Girls College.

The times and titles of the talks are:

- Saturday 31 May 9am. The identification of the unknown child on the Titanic.
- Saturday 31 May 1.15pm. Forensic genealogy: CSI meets Roots
- Sunday 1 June 1.30pm. The secrets of Abraham Lincoln's DNA
- Monday 2 June 1.30pm. Genealogy and the 6 degrees of separation

All talks will be held in the College Hall and those who wish are welcome to visit the exhibitors at The Hub on the first floor while they are there. It is open to the public.

NB. We are not taking advance bookings, just roll up on the day and purchase your ticket. Please arrive early for the 9am Saturday session - there will be conference delegates registering then as well. The door opens at 8.30. Copies of the conference proceedings on USB may be ordered at any time over the weekend to be collected after Colleen's talk on Monday. Cost \$20 if collected, otherwise postage is \$5.

From the Family Search blog: [Oral Family History Fades in Just Three Generations](#)
What are YOU going to do to make sure it doesn't for YOUR stories?

New resources to explore

Ancestry

Probably the most exciting new release for those researching in New Zealand is the inclusion on ancestry of our BDM indices.

Yes, you can now search **New Zealand Births and Marriage** indices up to 1950 and **Deaths** up to 1980 AND use wild card searches to do so, or search by forename only.

No more guessing how a name might be indexed on the Dept. of Internal Affairs historical index, and yes, I did mean 1950.

Message board posts do indicate that the places indexed for the events may not be as accurate as you may wish, but as with all indices, indeed all information, double check it against other independently derived sources.

FindMyPast

FMP has taken a leaf out of Mocavo's book and has been advertising the release over 100 days the releasing and showcasing of 100 record sets.

Listed in this release recently are:

[New Zealand Pensions Granted in 1868](#) - all 181 of them

[New Zealand Prisoners Pardoned 1860-62](#) - all 182 of them

[New Zealand Return Of Officers In Provincial Governments 1866](#) - 487 records

[New Zealand Civil Establishment Nominal Roll 1871](#) - about 2,100

[New Zealand Railway Employees 1896](#) - 4,496 records

Looks like someone has been busy indexing from the AtoJs, so those without a FindMyPast subscription, or not wishing to venture out to the APFHC, may be lucky searching them directly at

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

AtoJs are the Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives and the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives - and they contain a wealth of fascinating information that may give you a lead to put flesh on the bones of your relations.

Not all years have been digitized.

Mocavo

Although not always of great relevance for Australian and New Zealand research, always worth a try.

Back in October they announced "free forever" (and added benefits for the paid subscribers).

Since then they claim to have added more than 350,000 databases online "to help you discover your story"

The announcement continues "today we are adding an

additional 100 record indexes to the usual 1,000 databases we launch every day. These indexes document more than **10 million records** from a variety of countries including the United States, Canada, France, New Zealand and more."

The reference to NZ however was a solitary one, "Colonial Experiences: Incidents and Reminiscences of Thirty-Four Years in New Zealand, by Pratt", published in 1877.

I do so wish that the document "A Register of the Scholars Admitted Into Merchant Taylors School : From A. D. 1562 to 1874" would hold some of my ancestors though, it looks like a dedicated Rev. Charles Robinson, M.A., of West Hackney's labour of love to the genealogical community. Definitely an eclectic bag.

PapersPast

Latest additions to Papers Past (May 2014):

[Clutha Leader \(1901-1920\)](#)

[Mataura Ensign \(1901-1914\)](#)

[Taranaki Daily News \(1900-1920\)](#)

[Tuapeka Times \(1910-1920\)](#)

FamilySearch

Continues adding images and indexes at an amazing rate, just some that jumped out:

366,158 indexed images added to [BillionGraves index](#) and 2,500 indexes added to the existing [Dorset](#)

[\(England\) Parish Registers 1838-1936](#) (the previous week 838,697 images were added for this collection).

30,652 images added for the [New Zealand, Auckland, Albertland Index, 1862-1962](#),

a Card file index of individuals associated with "Albertland," an area north of Auckland. The index was compiled from various sources including "Halfpenny scrapbook," "Passenger List from Auckland Museum Library," "Taylor scrapbook," "J. Grant clippings" and others. Cards are arranged alphabetically by surname. Each card typically contains the source citation and the context in which the individual is mentioned. Includes references to obituaries, passenger lists, cemetery transcriptions, area histories, land records and newspaper items.

Keep up by following their blog.

Improvements have also been announced for their online Family Tree including display options in descendancy view for a more compact view, and research suggestions and data problem analysis.

As for all online trees, do make sure you have your own copy safely tucked away as a backup.

Dates for Your Diary

Kapiti Genealogy

Venues

APFHC: Alison Procter Family History Centre, Level 1 Paraparaumu Library

KCC: Kapiti Community Centre, Pak 'n Save Hall, 15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

All Kapiti events are also all in the [programme information on our website](#), both in a downloadable document and on the calendar.

May 27th: Tuesday 7pm Monthly meeting. On the Distin Trail with Hilary Cunningham

June 24th: Tuesday 7 pm Monthly meeting: Reports from the NZSG Conference

Every Wednesday: 10 a.m. to noon Experienced researchers on hand to help you use our resources at the APFHC and further your family tree. Six computers available, all with Ancestry, three with worldwide FindMyPast. Public and members welcome.

Interest Group meetings (see [Programme>Interest Groups on our website for further details](#))

June 8th: DNA for genealogy 2pm to 4pm Phone Lorna 293 7771 for directions/biccie count. NB this is Sat rather than the usual Sunday afternoon.

June 28th: Family Tree Maker Users Group 9:30 to am tea 2006 and earlier (Hanley) 10:45 to 12 2008 and later versions (Lorna) - the web search menu

June 28th: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group 2 to 4pm (KCC) doors open 1pm. \$2 door charge;

You may also be interested in:

30 May to 2 Jun: NZSG 2014 Conference (**Hills - Harbours - Heritage**) and NZSG AGM see NZSG Web Site at http://www.genealogy.org.nz/Conference_2014_254.aspx .

Tues 17th June 12.10pm – 1.00pm Monthly National Library Lunch Time talk . Lower ground floor, National Library building, corner of Molesworth and Aitken Streets Book your spot by emailing [atloutreach "at" dia.govt.nz](mailto:atloutreach@dia.govt.nz) or calling Celia Joe

Interest Groups

Australian

Please note that there will be no Oz group meetings in June or July but we expect Deborah back in August with a heap of new ideas.

Legacy

The April session saw 27 dedicated attendees despite it being around a holiday weekend.

Next session Jun 28th.

FamilyTreeMaker

This continues to be poorly patronised, but as April was a holiday weekend and there is still some money in kitty, one final attempt to gauge sufficient interest to justify paying the rental will be held on Jun 28th. 2006 and older versions - Hanley 9:30 to am tea; 2008 & later versions - Lorna - 10:45

to 12 continues the exploration of the menu items -Web searches.

DNA

Two monthly, very informal, group for anyone wanting to share tips and hints and ask for assistance. Next session Sunday 8th June - any questions, and using third party tools such as [GEDMatch](#) to explore your FamilyFinder matches. Contact Lorna 293 7771 for more information.

As always, check out our website for further details - Programme> Special Interest Groups.

APFHC Familiarisation

The second of our regular APFHC familiarisation sessions on May 15th was well attended with all learning how to explore our Birth Death and Marriage resources. In particular we covered using our FindMyPast and Ancestry access, and the NZ online indices and FamilySearch. We showed how to supplement the indices found on those sites with the fiche collection to add more information such as place, and use the folio numbers from the fiche for the Intentions to Marry documents at the National Archives.

We completely forgot to cover the extensive collection of cemetery fiche, the burial locator and the marriage index all of which have uses to glean any further hints as to when and where a relative was hatched matched or despatched!

Our Wednesday morning helpers will be pleased to help you explore further. Next session on census records - July 17th.

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday 27 May 2014

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start.

Supper roster: Q—Z

If your surnames starts with the above letters, your help with the supper would be appreciated.

Committee meetings: 7pm, 1st Wednesday of months February—December

Welcome

We welcome new members Stephen BISHOP, Dirk de WIJK, Cassandra COLLINGS, Lois & Byron ANDERSON.

30th Birthday



Those of you around five years ago will remember that we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of the branch. It's celebration time again. Come and share some of the cake at our May

meeting.

Branch History

Your Committee has accepted an offer from Clive Palmer to put together a story of the branch over this period. He would be particularly keen to hear from those who were involved in the earlier years of the branch. He will also be in contact with former convenors and committee members, particularly those in the pre year 2000 period. Clive can be contacted through the Secretary or Convenor.

We will also be making an effort to bring more of our historical newsletters to the website. (anyone want to help with this?)

Portfolios

Following the AGM, the incoming committee reviews portfolio allocations.

As always, the duties and people assigned are available on our website under the About >Who does what link (and summarised on the back page of each newsletter).

Website

Late breaking news and events that we find out about between newsletters are added to [our website](#). These will normally appear in the Recent Changes section top right sidebar, but you can always click on any "tag" in the list to find all pages marked as of relevance to the topic selected. Remember that by logging into the website you may post events of relevance and interesting links yourself.

Subscriptions

At the AGM the sub was increased, with immediate effect, to \$25 per year.

As our financial year began back on the 1st of April, the new cream membership card valid to 31 Mar 2015, is now the only card accepted by the Library staff for collection of the key to our resources at the AFPHC.

If you have not yet renewed, payment may be made by cash or cheque (made out to Kapiti Genealogy) and handed to a committee member at any meeting, or by internet banking Westpac 03 0732 0263025 00

If paying by internet banking, please remember to include your surname and membership number for identification purposes, preferably also emailing the [Treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Treasurer@KapitiGen.org) to advise that payment has been made.

Please also enter your NZSG number, if applicable, in one of the payee/reference fields.

Allow up to a fortnight for processing & delivery of your new card.

We look forward to your continuing membership and participation in our activities..

**Branch meetings:** 4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

Time: 7pm, supper / research
7:30pm, meeting start

Venue: Kapiti Community Centre,
15 Ngahina St, Paraparaumu

Branch fundraisers:**Bag, sweat shirt, t-shirt**

Available from our store

<https://KapGen.printmighty.co.nz>

**Used ink cartridges**

Please continue to bring your empty cartridges to the monthly Branch meetings or leave them either in or on top of the glass cabinet in the APFHC. Alternatively they may be dropped off to Pat in Raumati, 39 Lorna Irene Drive. If they won't fit in the letterbox just leave them at the front door.

Pat Keppell Ph (04) 299 1100

Kapiti Genealogy on Facebook

Check out [our facebook page](#). You don't need to be a registered user of facebook to read it, simply click on the link if reading this on your computer, or search for Kapiti Genealogy facebook.

Please let Kathy Callaghan have any suggestions as to how best to use this medium.

If a Facebook user, do remember to click "like".

Research Assistance

Members needing assistance with their research, are welcome at the weekly Wednesday morning sessions at the APFHC at the Paraparaumu Library. Alternately, contact your buddy, or use the Kapiti Gen Forum form on our website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/resources/research/genforum/>) to contact our Kapiti Branch Research Officer, Sue Greene.

Branch Committee

Convener: Bill McKeich Tel: 905 6952 [convenor "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Secretary: Denice McCarten Tel: 905 8266 [secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Treasurer / Membership:

Lorna Henderson Tel: 293 7771 [treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Programmes & Activities: Kathy Callaghan & Frances Braddick

[programme "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Library Manager: Hilary Cunningham

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Dianne Sleeman

Branch Officers

Newsletter Editor: Lorna

[editor "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Yuru Co-ordinator: Clive Palmer

Communications Assistant: Derek Griffis

Webmasters: Lorna Henderson & Barry Thomson

Magazine Round Robin Manager: Meryl Opie

[RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Meeting Registrars: Mary Braddock & Margaret Burley

Sound System: Kerry Lee

Equipment Support: Lindsay Olsen, Kerry Lee (Asst)

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker

[OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Legacy: Gerald Twiss

[Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](#)

Family Tree Maker: Hanley & Lorna

[FTM "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

DNA: Lorna (04) 293 7771

Portfolio descriptions and current holders are listed on our web site - in the Who Does What section of the "About" menu.

Newsletter content deadline: Saturday after 1st Wednesday

Send copy to: [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](#)

Photos welcomed for illustration - resolution of 300dpi or higher NB: To ensure publication, submissions **must** be received by deadline

Email links throughout the newsletter are clickable, remove one of the @ symbols before sending.

April Branch Meeting

Our April meeting was the AGM followed by Bill McKeich's talk about "Bill Swan's War".

The AGM went smoothly. It was a privilege to see Clive Palmer receive his Life Membership.

Bill's presentation on Bill Swan (his father-in-law) was very interesting.

Supported by a number of objects from WWI and information gleaned from Bill Swan's War Record, his personal diary, letters and photos, a very realistic picture was painted of the huge challenges Bill faced daily.

Surviving Gallipoli and The Somme was a feat in itself, but to be battling dysentery and other

health issues almost continuously makes the story of this young man all the more remarkable.

His illness eventuated in his being declared 'unfit for service' and he was stationed in the Field PO.

Bill Swan spent time in the UK after the war (wooing a young lady by the sounds of it!) and did not return to NZ until 1919.

This meant he missed the influenza epidemic in NZ and it is very possible this saved his life!

Next Meeting
Tuesday June 24th
NZSG Conference Report