

Convenor's Comment

Remember to check our website <http://KapitiGen.org> for additional information on events, Branch, Interest & User Groups, and any late changes.

Greetings Kapiti Genealogists.

This is the last comment I will be writing as Convenor of the Branch. I have enjoyed having the contact with everyone but other projects have surfaced and I feel that it is time for someone else to fill the position. I am stepping aside as Convenor but will remain available for the committee.

In addition two other current committee members are stepping down, Kathy Callaghan and Frances Braddick. Both have done sterling service on the committee over a number of years and in particular, in organizing the programme. I thank them sincerely and wish them well with their continued research and contact with the Branch.

Our pleas for committee support have so far resulted in only one new nomination, so we are still looking for members to offer their services as Committee Members, and Denice would really appreciate someone offering to take over as Secretary. Your contribution will ensure that the branch continues to function and provide a vibrant programme that caters for all members.

New faces and ideas are welcome, so if you enjoy the facilities the branch supplies, please consider assisting on the committee.

I have had three rather exciting happenings as a result of my membership with Ancestry.com. The first concerns a member of my SPENCE family who found himself in Ayr Prison for two months for embezzlement when the 1891 census was taken.

He was recorded in the census as Innes Spence. A little bit of research in Family Search and Scotlands People and confirmation from the GRO in Edinburgh confirmed that it was indeed James Spence my 1st cousin 3 times removed.

Secondly a hint on Ancestry has confirmed for me the spouse's name for my g-g-grandmother's second husband. I had been looking for Henry DAVIS for many years and I can now confidently say that I have found his origin.

Thirdly I have only this day spoken with....wait for it - a half 3rd cousin 1 x removed. She is visiting her sister who lives in Paekakariki and lives in Bellevue, Washington State, USA. Her g-g-grandmother is my g-g-grandmother. We are descended from successive spouses. Needless to say my cousin Judith who is visiting from Hamilton and I will have much to talk about when we meet up with Suzanne and Jan before Suzanne returns home.

A report from John Glover on the progress being made with the Schools' Records Project is on page three in this Newsletter.

Look forward to seeing you at the AGM on April 28th.

Bill McKeich

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**This month's meeting is on
Tuesday April 28th
AGM at 7.30pm
followed by Lorna Henderson
'Focus on Family Search'**

April Branch Meeting

When: April 28th at 7-9pm

Where: Kapiti Community Centre

What: AGM at 7.30. See the agenda below.

This will be followed by our speaker **Lorna Henderson**,
“Focus on Family Search.”

This wonderful free search facility has so many more features
than many of us realise or use.

Don't miss the opportunity to pick up tips on making the most of a valuable research tool.

**AGM TO BE HELD
KAPITI COMMUNITY CENTRE,
15 NGAHINA STREET, PARAPARAUMU
28 APRIL 2015 AT 7.30 P.M.**

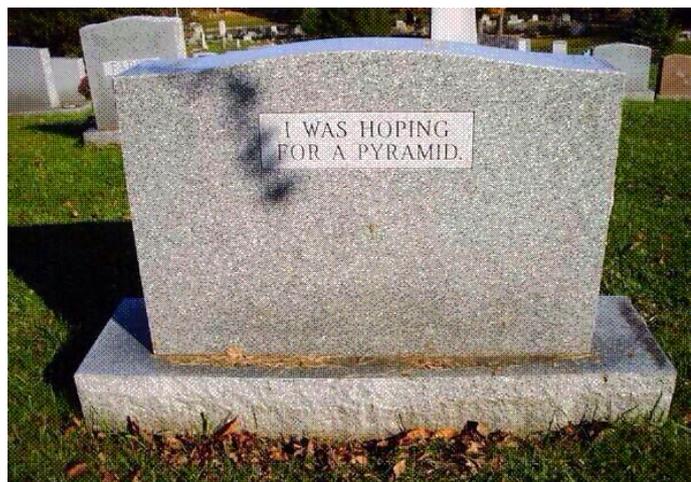
AGENDA:

1. APOLOGIES
2. CONFIRM 2014 AGM MINUTES
3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
4. ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2014 - 31 MARCH 2015
5. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2014 - 31 MARCH 2015
6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2015/16
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE *
8. GENERAL BUSINESS

* Nominations are called for a minimum of five Committee Members, including the positions of Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer.

Nominees, Nominators and Seconders must all be members of both the New Zealand Society of Genealogists and the Kapiti Branch. Nomination forms will be available at the meeting but can be obtained in advance from [our website](#).

While nominations will be received at the AGM, members are encouraged to submit these beforehand.
Denice McCarten
Secretary



Kapiti Branch School's Records Project.

Hi All

I thought it was high time I let you know the current status of the project, which is moving along very well.

Keying of the Paekakariki School is almost complete. There are just six years of data still to be digitized, but I have collected 24 completed years from volunteers.. A fantastic effort!

But there's more. We have begun keying in Raumati Beach School with nine years' data in volunteers' hands. It won't be very long before we have completed the data for this school too. So I am now seeking final permission from Waikanae School (preliminary permission has already been given) to begin copying their registers. Being an old school this one will take a while.

As soon as all the Paekakariki years are in my hands, I'll be printing the data and sending out the sheets for checking to those of you who are waiting to begin that part of the project.

Since we've only been going since the middle of January I think everyone involved has done a wonderful job.

My thanks go to you all.

John Glover

Round Robins

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](#).

This is a really good way of keeping up with the latest news and having access to interesting articles without having to subscribe to the magazines. Do check out which magazines are available. They all have a wealth of ideas and information.

The July 2014 Who Do You Think You Are

magazine (in the APFHC binders by the time you read this) contains, amongst other interesting items concentrating on First World War records and a Focus On Asylums, an article on "Buried treasure".

It includes information that you may find, if you dig a little deeper than the usual BDM and Census records such as exploring the Access to Archives catalogues for various repositories.

It does help to be there of course, but some resources mentioned are online.

Militia records (Ancestry for Dorset, Northamptonshire Records Society for 1777, TheGenealogist.co.uk for 58,000 names); Rate Books (FMP: Westminster, Manchester, Southwick, Plymouth and Devon; Ancestry: some London); Electoral registers (Ancestry and FMP); Return of Owners of Land 1873 (Ancestry: complete for England and Wales, UKGA.org/databases - free transcriptions for select counties); Criminal registers (Ancestry: 1791-1892; FMP: mostly 1855-1931; OldBaileyonline.org: 1674-1913); Council Minutes: Directories (Historicaldirectories.org - free collection

from Leicester University; but don't forget to check out Archive.org); Vaccination registers; Quarter Session Records (few online, but check out Ancestry and archive.org, and British-history.ac.uk); Muster rolls (National Archives Kew, fantastic amount of detail, best to know the regiment or ship before diving in. (so to speak!)

Think about the equivalents for other countries and explore, adding flesh to the bones of your ancestors and relations.

Another article is on 'The Fishing Fleet', the single women sent, well chaperoned, to India to net a husband.

The practice having started around 1640 by the Honourable East India Company. Or you could read the book by the article's author, Anne de Courcy, "The Fishing Fleet: Husband-Hunting in the Raj", published by Phoenix.

The Around Britain feature is on Essex.

APFHC News



Help instructions for the above program are now on our website under **Membership > Members only**.

Help Sessions

Bev is always glad to hear from anyone able to volunteer their services to help.

We are on the move!

Members who have attended our monthly meetings will have seen the impressive makeover at the Kapiti Community Centre which took place over Christmas. Now it is the turn of the library, and that will have some impact on us and the Alison Procter Family History Centre. This area is to be refurbished and redesigned into a digital based learning centre. This will mean relocating the APFHC downstairs.

The plan is that we will be located in the north western corner of the library, with the computers along the western wall and the microfiche and microfiche cabinet along the northern wall. The library will be organising the move of all computers and microfiche on Thursday 7th May. Please keep this date in mind, and possibly the day after, as naturally the computers will be out of action during the move.

We would like to assure members that the Kapiti Genealogy computers will still be a "Members Only" access facility. However, when the books get moved downstairs they will be there as part of the library lending stock. For that reason we will be working to identify those books that require higher levels of protection and will be making alternative arrangements for them.

We have had the luxury of a lot of shelf space upstairs but

The Kapiti Genealogy Menu

Remember that you no longer have to load physical cds.

Simply click on the image of the cd beside the resource you want to view, then click on the title

If there isn't a cd image, just click on the title.

it looks like the time has come to have a "Spring" clean of some of the reference books and magazines that we have held onto for some time as our shelf space downstairs will be limited. We will be offering members the opportunity to give some of our material a "good home". The committee will organise a time slot – probably on a weekend in May or June, when members can come and select any publications that have been deemed recyclable.

We would appreciate your help and understanding during this time.

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.

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., supplies being available for purchase at a bargain price at the Wednesday morning sessions.

Computers

We ask for your consideration on Wednesday mornings. If you are researching and do not need the help of the volunteers, please consider coming at another time than the 10 to 12 timeslot when use of the computers is at a premium.

More research resources

Irish

<http://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/> has restored the indexes to Irish Civil Registrations that it withdrew last year, after a brief period when they were available. They have returned but with much the same age restrictions as our historical BDM indexes.

Ancestry has launched www.irishnewspapers.com, which according to Family Tree Magazine, has the same content as www.irishnewsarchive.com, but with an easier search interface.

Scotland

Those who use ScotlandsPeople will be pleased to see the taxation indexes for 1865 added to their website.

Kapiti Branch meeting for March

There was a smaller attendance than usual at our March meeting, possibly because of the cricket world cup match on TV!

Sue Green, the Branch's research officer, spoke on the procedures she used when gathering information for last year's YURU show on WWI soldiers. Her talk concentrated on the names of three soldiers who meant something to her, from the Paraparaumu Memorial Gates.

She collected information from the NZ WWI Service CD, which is available at the APFHC to obtain regimental numbers and other details; soldiers' papers from NZ Archives using on-line Archway; the Commonwealth Graves website and Auckland Museum's site; www.aucklandmuseum.com. She warned names may be spelt differently, as she found with her 'Cornwall/Cornwell' soldier.

Other sites she used were;

* www.digitainz.org, which searches across many sites, including newspapers, Archives and the National Library's photo collection. She suggested typing in the regiment as well as the soldier's name.

* www.nna.gov.au, Australia's National Archives. Soldiers' Records are not free; prices are on the website. Sue used a photo editing tool to scan and capture the information, rather than buy the records.

* Personal papers, including letters, may come with the soldier's records from both Australia and NZ.

NZ papers are free.

Unfortunately, there was a cull of soldiers' papers after WWI and before WW2.

Sue suggested several other sources that could help researchers find information about their military ancestors:

*The Australian digitized newspaper site - Throve

*British research - Sue advised using The Long Long Trail if you are a new researcher
www.1914-1918.net/index.html

*British Archives—only 30% of British military records have survived

* Every regiment had a diary so this may help with research of individual soldiers. Scottish military records are also housed at Kew. War diaries are being scanned.

*Use medical cards as most survived. The Long Long Trail site gives the meanings of abbreviations on medical cards.

* The Australian collection of diaries can be found on <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/>

* British Army War diaries can be found on <http://>

*New Zealand's First World War's Centenary 2014-1019, giving details of events over the next four years, can be found on <http://www.100.govt.nz/www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/war-diaries-ww1.htm>

* The Great War Forum is also a useful site <http://1914-1918.invisionnone.ca/forums/>. This forum can be used to find information from photos, prisoners of war, POW camps, insight into life in POW camps from prisoners' diaries.

Sue's talk was followed by the rest of the meeting including Lorna's explanation in the 'How to' session of obtaining a 'Real Me' id, ie registering with the Dept. of Internal Affairs in order to be able to access more recent certificates than those indexed in the historic BDM database.

Pat's Journey

Encouragement for beginners!

When Pat Edgington joined Kapiti Branch she had spent some time researching her family history in New Zealand but was really searching the dark, not knowing where to look for her ancestors or finding out how they came to NZ.

Pat continues her story.

"I eventually moved onto a UK family and. thanks to the help I received, learnt to explore using a computer.

"I attended meetings, took notes and asked for more help which was always there.

"Within the UK family, two went to Australia - one moving on to New Zealand. I joined the Australian Interest Group and once again, thanks to the assistance I received, was able to extend my research and discover how our family came to be here.

"This was all achieved with the help and resources of the Branch for which I am truly grateful. My message is short and well known - Use it or lose it"

Thanks for that, Pat, and for taking the trouble to write in.

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.

April 28th: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting. AGM plus Lorna Henderson - Tips on using Family Search.

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, and worldwide FindMyPast. Public and members welcome.

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

Sat. May 2nd: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group (KCC)

Thur. June 11th: Australian interest group (APFHC) 10 to 12 noon

Sunday June 14th: DNA interest group 2-4pm at Lorna's. For all those interested in using DNA for genealogy.

You may also be interested in:

May. Kapiti Branch guided tour of the national Archives NZ. **Date and details to be advised.** The Archives are a valuable source of information and anyone who has not paid it a visit would do well to take advantage of this tour. Take your queries with you.

Thursday May 14th. Overview of resources at APFRC, particularly BDM NZ and overseas, online records and microfiche.

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursdays - next session **Thursday June 11th** for help with any Australian research.

NB There will be no Australian Interest Group meeting in May.

Legacy

Next session **Saturday May 2nd.** Topic will be on our website when announced

Irish

For those with Irish interests the LNI Irish Group is joining with the Palmerston North Branch for a workshop on **June 6th** at Kilwinning Lodge, as part of the Group's 10 year celebration.

DNA

Two monthly, 2nd Sat or Sun of month, (alternates between Sat and Sun) - next session **Sunday June 14th** 2-4pm (phone Lorna 293 7771 for directions)

Last meeting we explored Britain's DNA test for the red-haired gene (and failed to find any meaningful project results despite it being offered for a couple of years). We also looked at the best value-for-money options for a male venturing into DNA testing - choosing Y-DNA37 plus Family Finder, ordering through a project to take advantage of discounts and waiting for an expected round of sales from DNA Day (April 25th when the double-helix structure was discovered.)

If you have tested autosomal DNA, remember to upload your DNA files to DEGMATCH.com to find more matches and make use of their wonderful tools.

Best sites for railway workers

From one of our RoundRobins: Who Do You Think You Are Aug 2014's feature on Best Websites for Railway Workers: Railwaysarchive.co.uk; Warwickshirerailways.com; Railway Staff Database from the Cheshire archives (archives.cheshire.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=70); National Railway Museum (nrm.org.uk/ResearchAndArchive.aspx); Railway ancestors (railwayancestors.org.uk)

The same issue contains a useful guide to merchant navy records and how they were rescued by a last minute intervention, but scattered over assorted archives.

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday 28th April 2015

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start.

Supper roster: A-E

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 Silvey BISHOP, Joan BREACH, Rosemary WELLS, Earl HALL and Kathy HUTCHISON.

Welcome back to Greg BLACKBURN

School records transcription project

If you are willing to take part in this project please contact the coordinator, John Glover ([pamandjohn "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:pamandjohn@paradise.net.nz)) **See page three for update.**

30 year history

To include your stories in the 30 Year History of Kapiti Genealogy that Clive is compiling on our behalf, please contact **Clive on 04 293 7631** or drop us a message through the Secretary ([Secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Secretary@KapitiGen.org)). If you are prepared to write a story he would be delighted!

Late breaking news and events that we find out about between newsletters are added to [our website](#) and

remember that by logging into the website you may post events of relevance and interesting links yourself - and update your own contact details.

New committee members

As mentioned in last month's Convenor's Comment, several committee members are stepping down this year, so **before the April, AGM** we would very much appreciate an indication of interest from those able to take their places.

Never been on a committee before? Don't be scared, we don't bite! We even have quite a lot of fun at committee meetings - and choccie biscuits :)

Committee members must be members of NZSG

National Library Talks

Once again, if you were interested in the National Library talk from Joan McCracken on the Cenotaph Database I'm afraid you will have missed it. It was followed by a Conservation Clinic on how to preserve valuable family treasures by the National Preservation Office Field Conservator , Vicki-Anne Heikell.

The next talk is on **Friday 22nd May, 12.10-1pm** when Margaret Hurst will be speaking on 'Church and school records'.

The next conservation clinic will follow the talk on **June 7th, 1.00-1.30pm** at the same venue.

From the editor

Greetings!

As a very new member of the NZSG (only 10 days old) and recently co-opted onto the Kapiti Genealogy Committee, I attended their Lower North Island Branch meeting in Levin to see what it was all about, and admit I found it rewarding.

On the official side, it was interesting to meet again Gill Knox (who spoke at our February meeting) in a different context, as well as Peter Gibson, another local member of NZSG Council. The other branch reps. were all friendly and I felt immediately at home, being offered help and information from all sides.

I have yet to take advantage of the facilities that the Society has to offer, but as a "learner" was particularly

interested in the range of workshops being run at the Family Research Centre in Auckland on everything from an introductory session, researching Celtic roots, and scrap-booking to graphics and documenting resources.

I was also interested to meet Jenny Martin, who convenes the Irish Interest Group in the Lower North Island. The meetings are in the form of workshops, so really useful if you have Irish ancestors. You can contact Jenny on [jenmartin "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:jenmartin@paradise.net.nz) for details.

Getting back to this Newsletter, don't miss the changes that are taking place at the library, on the APFHC page, and if anyone has any stories to liven up these pages, please send them to me.

Sheila Jolley



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, 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 [convener "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:convener@KapitiGen.org)
Secretary: Denice McCarten Tel: 905 8266 [secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:secretary@KapitiGen.org)
Treasurer / Membership:
Lorna Henderson Tel: 293 7771 [treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:treasurer@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: Sheila Jolley [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:editor@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](mailto:OzSIG@KapitiGen.org)

Legacy: Gerald Twiss [Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](mailto:Gero@ihug.co.nz)

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](mailto:editor@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.

Subscriptions

Thank you to those of you who have already paid their subscriptions. You should have received your new blue membership card by now (unless you paid very recently). Those who have not yet renewed are reminded that we are now into our new financial year and subscriptions are now overdue.

Payment of your \$25 may be made by:

- cash or cheque (made out to Kapiti Genealogy) and handed to a committee member at any meeting, or posted to the Membership Secretary, P O Box 703, Paraparaumu, 5254
- or by internet banking
Westpac 03 0732 0263025 00
Please remember to include your surname and

membership number in the payee and reference fields for identification purposes, preferably also emailing the [Treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Treasurer@KapitiGen.org) to advise that payment has been made.

If also a member of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, please enter your NZSG number in one of the payee/reference fields.

Please allow up to a fortnight for processing and delivery of your new card. We look forward to your continuing membership and participation in our activities.

Next Monthly Meeting
Tuesday May 26th at 7pm
Speaker: Nancy Swarbrick
Te Ara
Encyclopedia of NZ