



Convenor's Comment

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

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Tis the season for Genealogy!

With colder days and early darkness, now is the perfect time to do a little genealogy housekeeping.

I managed to get rid of lots of those scraps of paper recently by just taking a few hours to go through each of them and check that I had made a proper record of the information. And what I thought would be a tedious job actually became a bit of a victory dance when I realised how well I had been keeping my database up to date.

Give it a go and see just how far you have come with your records.

Our speaker this month, Emerson Vandy, is going to give us tips and tricks for getting more from Papers Past. I love Papers Past and can easily spend hours just following a path of interest.

One of my favourite snippets, in the Manawatu Standard, 5 June 1886, still makes me smile. A chap named Michael Desmond,

who was being sued for maintenance by his wife, told the Sydney Police Court that he had been sentenced to death, which had then been commuted to imprisonment for life. After serving 13 years he was released.

He argued that "having been sentenced to death he was dead to the world and had no wife."

Unfortunately for him, the magistrate "declined" to regard him as a dead man as "sentence of death" had not been carried out, and ordered him to pay up!

Keep warm and stay safe.

Hilary

P.S. Don't forget to bring your Papers Past queries for Emerson along to the meeting next Tuesday.

**This month's meeting is on
Tuesday June 23rd, 7-9 pm**

**Speaker: Emerson Vandy
National Library Digital Services
Manager**

**Bring your questions on Papers Past for
a problem solving "How to"**

June Branch Meeting

When: June 23rd at 7-9pm

Where: Kapiti Community Centre

**What: Papers Past. Our speaker is Emerson Vandy,
National Library Digital Services Manager.**

Emerson says he will be covering the following about **Papers Past**

- 1 - look at some good basic search/research practices around newspapers
- 2 - talk about content - what we have, and what's coming up
- 3 - take a look at the next-generation version of the Papers Past site that we're working on

He adds: "Your group will be some of the very first people to see the development we're doing on the future of Papers Past, so I hope this is of interest to your members."

Our "**How to**" this month will be a problem solving session for anyone having difficulties using Papers Past. So, bring along any questions, queries or thorny issues to the meeting.

Help to make this session as interactive as possible to get the most out of it.

Don't miss the opportunity to ask Emerson questions and get expert advice!!

Branch news

May Branch meeting.

Our speakers in May were Nancy Swarbrick and Kerryn Pollock, who gave an overview of the Te Ara Encyclopaedia of New Zealand website including its development and on-going maintenance. Apart from the core of useful articles the site has the old dictionary of New Zealand Biography and the 1966 Encyclopaedia of New Zealand in all its glory - all useful resources for genealogists.

Bev gave an amusing account of how she found 'Fred' from a photo on a postcard. It was a useful lesson on how to combine information in military records, electoral rolls, bdms and other sources to flesh out the life story of someone who was not even a relative.

Reminders!

Tour of Archives NZ

Another tour of Archives NZ has been arranged for Thursday July 2nd at 10.30am. Details are in attached flyer. Every tour is different so it is worth doing the tour even if you have been before. Read the flyer attached to this newsletter to find out more.

Please contact Kathy Callaghan at kathycallaghan 'at' gmail.com or ph 297 0733 by **Monday June 29th**.

Branch Mid-winter lunch - July 4th Due to a smaller number of bookings than anticipated we have decided to change the venue for our luncheon. We will now be going to the Waterfront Bar at Raumati Beach at 12 o'clock. There is no fixed price and you can choose your own food. If this appeals to you more than the Kapiti Club option and you would like to come along, then please forward your name to me on hilaryc@paradise.net.nz

Thank you. Hilary

Visit our facebook page!

Kapiti Genealogy facebook page:

Please visit the Kapiti Branch facebook page and 'like'.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kapiti-Genealogy/213647508785715?fref=ts>

We need more promotion and this comes by more people visiting the page.

Also try joining these facebook pages. These are 'closed groups', which means they have to check that you are genuine genealogist (to prevent spam etc.). So make sure you have in your facebook profile that you are interested in Family History.

Scottish Surnames <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheScottishSurnameRegistry/>

English Surnames <https://www.facebook.com/groups/englishsurnameregistry/>

Irish Surnames <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheIrishSurnameRegistry/>

NZ History and Genealogy <https://www.facebook.com/groups/674657529315896/>

NZ Genealogy and beyond <https://www.facebook.com/groups/146742562016637/>

Round Robins

If you wish to subscribe to any of our Round Robin magazines, contact Meryl Opie ([RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RoundRobin@KapitiGen.org)) to get your name added to the list.

Further details on our website under [Resources > Round Robins](#).

The new subscription year for both the "Family Tree", and the "Who Do You Think You Are" magazines starts this and next month respectively.

For those already subscribed, but not yet paid up, your subs are therefore due, and for those thinking about joining in, now is a great time to do so. \$15 each for the year.

Payments may be made by direct credit as per your normal subscription bank account, but please place your name and RRobin in the payee/reference fields so we can identify who the money has come from.

From the Feb 2015 issue of Family Tree Magazine - a wonderful article, "Measuring matters" by Chris Paton on weights and measures.

Did you know that the Scottish mile was longer than that in England? It was based on the length of the Royal Mile in Edinburgh - 320 fells or 5920 Scots feet.

How many of you measure in ells?

Although many of us would have once been familiar enough with acres roods and perches, these gave way after assorted attempts at standardisation in the UK to poles, yards and fells. Did we ever use the latter in NZ?

He provides a useful site for converting old forms of measurement in England and Wales

<http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/units/weight.htm> and suggests Wikipedia for several handy articles.

For north of the border, he suggests the Scottish Archive Network's Research tools at

www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools.

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. Thanks to those of you who have offered to help. More volunteers are always welcome and appreciated by members needing assistance.

Relocation at the library

The APFHC has now been relocated on the ground floor of the Paraparaumu library.

To reach our space, turn right as you go through the main door and straight ahead to the west wall corner.

The desk layout does not allow as much space for notes etc. so have your research well organised to make the most of your time.

The electoral roles have been moved to shelves downstairs, but some books and magazines are still upstairs in our book cabinets.

Library staff have been very accommodating and your patience with any inconvenience is appreciated. Please remember Hilary's request that any issues should be taken up with a committee member, **not** library staff.

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.

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.

Remember that if you cannot print, you can usually save your search results to a USB stick, supplies being available for purchase at a bargain price at the Wednesday morning sessions.

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.

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.

Historical Films in Otaki

The Otaki Community Patrol is holding a fundraising film screening on **Friday July 3rd**

of two local documentaries about the history of Edhouses in Otaki, and the Hyde Park Museum in Te Horo.

There are two screenings, one at 2pm and the other at 7.30pm. Free nibbles provided. Tickets only \$15 pp.

Please contact Vyvien Starbuck-Maffey on [starbuck39 "at" xtra.co.nz](mailto:starbuck39@xtra.co.nz) or mobile 0275 737 563

Resources to explore

Thanks to Denice McCarten for the following contribution. Ed.

This extract came from 'Website News' in the March 2015 issue of 'Metropolitan' - the journal of the London, Westminster and Middlesex Family History Society to which you can subscribe on a round-robin basis through the NZSG GLIG. (Greater London Interst Group)

Will and Probate Indexes

British Wills and Probates are available online and this is the only way to search wills proved from 1858 to date.

There are three sections to search under: 1858 to 1996; 1996 to present and Soldier's Wills.

You have to enter a surname and also a year of death. If you do not know the exact date of death, enter the approximate year and use the 'previous' and 'next' links to search the years before and after. An 'advanced search' option lets you narrow down the results which could be useful for common names. Searches for records from 1858-1996 will guide you to a copy of the calendar book for that year and for the name you have entered (there are no wills available for 1996 under this heading). If a record exists, you can order it. The year mentioned in the index is the year of probate and not the year of death.

When you search 1996 to present day, or for a soldier's will, you will be provided with a list of possible matches which you can then proceed to order.

The fee for each copy request is £10 to download (a charge required by law). You can pay online using a debit or credit card to get an email saying your copy of the grant of representation and will, if there is one, is ready to download within 10 working days. You can download a form if you would rather pay by cheque but this service takes about 4 weeks.

Access this service at: <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk>

NZSG will do this process for members at a cost of \$24.

NZ Historical BDM via DIA (Dept of Internal Affairs)

You can get the exact date of the event by refining the search from/to dates. It's easiest to check a date already found via eg [amemory tree](#) or cemetery. fiche or papers past etc as appropriate - they can differ. Check the help pages for what certificates contain - marriages pre-1880 contain very little information; Maori not registered until early 1900s etc; Ancestry now contains many of the historical indexes. Remember the District Keys are also on NZSG website under Research collections - best to check the ancestry index place (if given) by using the folio number against the district keys.

British Columbia BDM index/images

<http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy/BasicSearch>

Tip - make sure you put in an end year if restricting by year, otherwise it only searches start year; right click image and select save image as to get a copy onto your computer.

Australia. Use pc7 (APFHC) for CDs which do have some small snippets not in the online indexes on ancestry and FMP

Cemetery fiche. NZ now on ancestry, and easier to read both burials and headstones. Remember a general web search will often find council maintained cemetery indexes, sometimes with photos.

FindAGrave, BillionGraves, Deceasedonline and several volunteer sites worldwide.

NZSG library has many MI booklets able to be borrowed search the catalogue you may be surprised.

Dates for Your Diary

Kapiti Genealogy

Venues

APFHC: Alison Procter Family History Centre, Ground Floor, North West Corner 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.

June 23rd: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting - **Papers Past** by Emerson Vandy. See page 2 for details

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.

Tour of Archives NZ

Another tour of Archives NZ has been arranged for **Thursday July 2nd at 10.30am**. Details are in attached flyer. Every tour is different so it is worth doing the tour even if you have been before.

Please contact Kathy Callaghan at [kathycallaghan 'at' gmail.com](mailto:kathycallaghan@gmail.com) or ph 297 0733 by **Monday June 29th**.

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

Thursday July 9th: Australian interest group (APFHC) 10 to 12 noon

Saturday August 8th: DNA interest group 2-4pm at Lorna's. For all those interested in DNA for genealogy.

Sat. June 27th: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group (KCC)

Saturday July 4th Kapiti Branch mid-winter lunch at the Waterfront, Raumati Beach at 12 o'clock. See page 2 for details.

Watch this space for events in August—Family History month

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursdays - next session **Thursday July 9th** for help with any Australian research.

DNA

Two monthly, 2nd Sat or Sun of month, (alternates between Sat and Sun) - next session **Saturday August 8th** 2-4pm (phone Lorna 293 7771 for directions)

Informal group for anyone interested in adding DNA testing to the genealogy toolkit.

You never know what, or who, you'll find or learn, and have the added bonus of potentially validating uncertain or missing paper trails.

If you have tested autosomal DNA, remember to upload your DNA files to GEDMatch.com to find more matches and make use of their wonderful tools and be able to compare with those tested with other companies.

Legacy Users

Next session **Saturday June 27th, 2-4pm**. Topic will be on our website when announced.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings. Cost \$3, pay at the door. Tea and coffee available.

Irish

Irish Interest Group, Lower North Island. Contact Jenny Martin to join [jenmartin "at" paradise.net.nz](mailto:jenmartin@paradise.net.nz)

As my husband is Irish, I attended the Irish Interest Groups AGM and workshop in Johnsonville and found it very rewarding. A film on old Irish traditions was entertaining and informative. Did you know that up until 1860 most marriages took place in the bride's home so did not appear in church records? Anita West gave an interesting talk that included a couple of useful resources, including the irishgenealogy.ie site asks you to sign in but will accept any name and password!! Ed.

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday 23rd June 2015

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting start.

Supper roster:K-O

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

How to??

The Committee would like to know what topics you would like covered in our meeting "How to" session. It is an opportunity to find out how to work round any little quirk in a programme you're using or how to make the most of the extensive facilities we have available. Nothing is too simple or odd. Please give us your ideas. It's your Society!

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))

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.

National Library Talks

The next National Library talk will be on **July 21st** by **Trish Beamsley** on Te Reo Maori resources.

Remember that every other month the talk is followed by a conservation clinic where the National Preservation Office Field Conservator, Vikki-Anne Heikell, gives hints on how to preserve your family photos, documents etc. The clinic runs from 1.00-1.30 and as numbers are limited you are advised to book - [preservation "at" dia.govt.nz](#).

WWI commemoration

KCDC WWI commemoration to involve Branch

The Branch has been invited to include its 2014 YURU exhibition "Soldiers' Tales from The Trenches", in an upcoming WWI100 activity sponsored by the Kapiti Coast District Council.



The event on **Saturday August 22** will focus on Gallipoli and Chunuk Bair with involvement of local RSA, NZ Army, Coaster's Musical Theatre, Steam Incorporated, KCDC and Kapiti Genealogy. The 'piece de resistance' will be a return train journey from Paekakariki to Otaki pulled by Steam Incorporated's recently renovated Ab608 engine "**Passchendaele**". On board will be the Wellington Territorial Army Band and actors from Coasters Musical Theatre.

Otaki Railway Station will be the centre for displays and presentations throughout the day, including the Branch YURU display. There will be other activities around the Otaki Township. This will also be an opportunity to promote the Branch and our national body. Our involvement will be managed by Sue Greene and Clive Palmer

Tickets for the train excursion go on sale shortly. Full details will be announced through local media outlets so watch that space.

**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. 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: Hilary Cunningham 04 971 7986

(may need to dial the 04) convener "at" KapitiGen.org

Deputy Convener: Bill McKeich Tel: 905 6952

Secretary: Denice McCarten Tel: 905 8266
secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer/ Membership: Lorna Henderson
Tel: 293 7771 treasurer "at" KapitiGen.org

Programmes & Activities: Ian Brooking & Bill McKeich
programme "at" KapitiGen.org

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Meeting registrar: Dianne Sleeman

Newsletter Editor: Sheila Jolley editor "at" KapitiGen.org

Branch Officers

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Webmasters: Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Magazine Round Robin Manager: Meryl Opie
RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Sound System: Bill McKeich, backup Ian Brooking

Equipment Support: Lindsay Olsen backup up Lorna

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Interest Group Facilitators:

Australian: Deborah Shuker OzSIG "at" KapitiGen.org

Legacy Users: Gerald Twiss Gero "at" 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. Email links throughout the newsletter are clickable, remove one of the @ symbols before sending.

Membership

Interested in learning how to uncover your family history?

Check out our membership details at

<http://www.kapitigen.org/membership/>

Next Monthly Meeting
Tuesday July 28th at 7pm

Speaker: Glen Reddiex

War Postcards