

Kapiti Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists
<http://KapitiGen.org>


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Registered charity no. CC33988



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Convenor's Comment

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

Happy New Year!

Hopefully you have had a pleasant Christmas time and holiday season. We had a lovely Christmas Day picnic lunch at Wai-iti Beach in Taranaki with my daughter's in-law family group. It was the perfect place for numerous children to run around and play, while we "oldies" sat in the shade cooing over babes in arms, the newest edition to the tree being just 3 weeks old. A week of such gatherings, in perfect weather conditions, made for one of the best holidays yet. It really is all about family.

At this time of year it would be madness not to get outside and enjoy it while it lasts, however this does not mean that our research doesn't get a look in!

It was about this time last year that we headed off to Feilding for a weekend to visit the grave of my husband's great grandparents. An additional discovery of the grave of his great grandfather's brother was a real bonus and we spent quite a pleasant afternoon tending to his once magnificent but neglected headstone and burial plot. As he had died without having children we assume it was his great grandfather that had arranged for such an impressive plot.

Talking of impressive headstones, one thing I would like to know more about is the part that the military played in paying for headstones.

My English gt.gt grandfather, who died a pauper in Devon, has a beautiful, fully inscribed headstone. Where did the money come from? Was it the Royal Navy that paid for it, as he was a veteran of the Battle of Trafalgar? Does anyone know how such a thing could be proven?

If you have a question such as this, why not send it to our editor? There may well be a member who can help you along, with a suggestion or two.

We are still accepting "brick-walls" but the committee would also appreciate more volunteers to take on a "brick-wall" as a research project. So if you feel like dipping your toe into someone else's tree for a bit, (excuse the mixed metaphors!) then please let us know. It really can be quite exciting! And if someone has taken the time to help you with your brick-wall, please take a moment, (or even two!) to express your gratitude to our volunteer. A sincere "Thank you" can go a long way.

Regards
Hilary

**This month's meeting is on
Tuesday January 26th
7-9 pm**

'Here is the news'

**How to: by Lorna
FamilyTreeMaker is finishing
DON'T PANIC**

Inside this issue:

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January Branch Meeting

When: January 26th at 7-9pm
Where: Kapiti Community centre
What: **“Here is the News”** This is your chance to share an interesting find from the newspaper archives. It does not necessarily have to be connected to your own family history. Get searching in the online newspapers (Papers Past, Trove, NZSG’s Gale Collection etc) and see what you can dig up.

NB. If you note the Newspaper name and publication date, we can show it on the screen while you talk.

How to: **Lorna** - So Ancestry has stopped selling FamilyTreeMaker - now what?
DON'T PANIC

Branch News

Research Day, Saturday February 20th

Give your research a good start in 2016 - **DON'T MISS OUT!**

Following on from last year’s successful Research Day in March, we are planning to run another on the 20th February 2016. This will be held in the Alison Procter Family History Centre at the Paraparaumu Library, giving you one-on-one help with a volunteer for up to 90 minutes.

There will be 3 sessions available (10.30 – 12, 12 – 1.30, and 1.30 – 3 pm) with 4 places per session.

To register your interest, please email [Programme “at” KapitiGen.org](mailto:Programme@KapitiGen.org)

For this to work, of course, we also need some branch members to serve as volunteers.

If you are available on that day and willing to act as a volunteer helper, please let us know (same email as above). Your help would be appreciated.

Plans are afoot for people to explore RootsMagic as an alternative to FamilyTreeMaker. Please see details on page 6 of planned workshop on Saturday March 19th, 2-4pm.

Brick walls. Please note in Hilary’s Convenors Comments, that we are still accepting requests for help with brick walls and also asking for volunteers to practice their researching skills by offering to help climb over some of the higher ones!!

Speakers for 2016. Ian has done a great job so far in arranging an interesting and varied programme for the first half of 2016. (See page 3) What would you, the members, like to hear or contribute for the second half? Who has a story to share? What would you like to see or hear about? Do bring your ideas to the attention of the Committee!

Message from Deborah Shuker

Online searches of BDM indexes for Victoria Australia are now FREE.

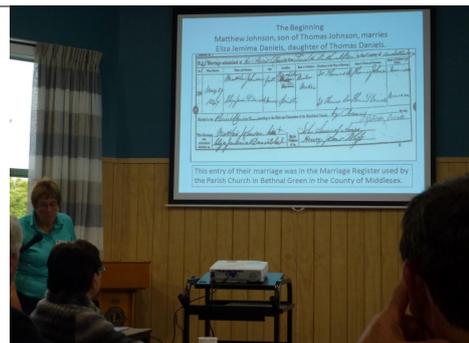
www.bdm.vic.gov.au

Historical indexes of births, baptisms, marriages, burials and deaths dating back to 1836.

Births to 1914, marriages to 1942 Deaths to 1988.

Historical certificates are available as instantly downloadable PDF images or mailed hard copy certificates. Cost \$NZ 24.

A very good service.



Frances Braddick reveals the results of her work on a brick wall

Future meetings

The programme of meetings for the year is coming together well, with a mix of local and outside speakers. We still have a couple of gaps to fill, so if you have a story to tell or a topic to talk on for about 40 minutes, please contact Ian at [Programme "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Programme@KapitiGen.org) He would love to hear from you. Our branch is all about helping each other, and this is a good opportunity for you to do just that.

Upcoming meetings

February Branch meeting (23rd February)

DigitalNZ for family historians: Thomasin Sleigh, Community Manager for DigitalNZ, will introduce DigitalNZ and give a taster of the materials of interest to family historians. She will also give a live demonstration of tips and tricks for refining your searches, and show how genealogists are using 'sets' to collect, curate, and share material.

March Branch meeting (22nd March)

Finding living people: Digging up ancestors is all very well, but how do we set about finding currently living people? Jan Bonnett will share her wealth of experience at finding these elusive people.

April Branch meeting (26th April)

A.G.M., followed by a talk from Kay Carter on writing *your* family history for your grandchildren. We spend a lot of time investigating the lives of our forebears, but do we spend enough time recording our own lives for the benefit of future generations?

May Branch meeting (24th May)

Mike Guest, community consultant at the Upper Hutt LDS Family History Centre will talk on what the FHC has to offer.

HELP!

Now that you are all re-energized after a relaxing break! We are repeating our urgent request for some help with publicity!

Any assistance you can give with the publicity and marketing of the Branch will be gratefully received.

You do not have to be a member of the Committee, it should not take up too much of your time and is not too arduous.

If you have a couple of hours and some energy to spare, please consider offering your services to the Society.

Contact any Committee member today!



Lower North Island NZSG Regional meetings for 2016

Kapiti is represented at the NZSG Regional meetings during the year.

If you have any NZSG related items you wish us to discuss with other branches, let a committee member know prior to: **February 20th May 14th July 2nd** and a yet to be advised date in October/November.

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 is located on the ground floor of the Paraparaumu library. Turn right inside the door.

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

The keys for the APFHC cupboard are now being held at the Welcome Desk, more or less exactly where the old Information Desk used to be, but is somewhat smaller!

Our computers now have covers to try and protect them from external abuse. Please could you replace the cover when you have finished your research session and lock the keyboard in the cupboard.

Please remember that any matters relating to the Genealogy Society 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 the library Welcome desk. We also request that you sign the blue sign-in book found 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.

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

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 a time other than the 10 to 12 timeslot when use of the computers is at a premium.



Can anyone help with this request?

Our Secretary had a call recently from a lady who did quite a bit of genealogical research in the 1980s and early 90s but has been unable to put it together in a suitable form for giving to others or extended family members. She is in her 80s and wants to pass what she has to her brother who is nearly 90 in an understandable format (and before it is too late !!)

No one in her immediate family is able to assist her, except a grand daughter in her 30s who is too busy at this stage of her life but is very anxious to preserve the information that her grandmother has amassed. None of the information is in a genealogy programme at present.

If anyone is able to assist this lady, please contact Denise McCarten for details. Tel: 905 8266 or email [Secretary "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:Secretary@KapitiGen.org)

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.

January 26th: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting . Details on page 2.

Every Wednesday: 10 a.m. to noon from January 27th. 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)

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

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

Saturday February 27th: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group, 1-4pm at the Kapiti Community Centre.

Saturday February 20th: Research Day for members. One-on-one help with your research. See page two for details and book your time slot.

Please send details of anything else of interest to Sheila Jolley [editor "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:editor@KapitiGen.org)

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursday of every month from February to December - next session **Thursday February 11th** for help with any Australian research. 10-12am at the APFHC.

DNA

Informal (free) 2-monthly group for anyone interested in adding DNA testing to the genealogy toolkit. Our next meeting is **February (14th)**, 2-4pm at Lorna's. (293 7771).

Legacy Users

Our meetings are the last Saturday of every second month from February to October. Everyone is welcome. Next meeting **February 27th**. Cost \$3, pay at the door. Tea and coffee available. Contact Gerald Twiss [Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](mailto:Gero@ihug.co.nz) for more details.

News: FamilyTreeMaker

As at the end of December 2015, Ancestry stopped sales of FamilyTreeMaker (FTM). Official support from Ancestry will cease 1 Jan 2017. Although there is no reason whatsoever not to continue using FTM as your desktop software until your desktop will no longer run it, you may care to start exploring alternatives, particularly if you use FTM

to synchronise with your tree on Ancestry.

With Ancestry support ceasing at the end of the year combined with the fact that they regularly change their website, I (Lorna) would expect that the synchronise function may cease functioning rather sooner than your desktop ceasing to run FTM in standalone mode. If you wish your new program to interact with Ancestry - why not add your voice to those wanting this ability to continue.

Contact Ancestry and ask when they will be providing an ability for other genealogy packages to connect to their family trees. With such an interface in place, programs like RootsMagic and Legacy can provide links, as they already do for FamilySearch and MyHeritage.

RootsMagic

We've decided to run at least one workshop for those using, or thinking of using, RootsMagic. Come along on **Saturday March 19th** at the Kapiti Community Centre from **2 to 4pm**.

Open to all - \$3 to cover expenses. This may develop into regular sessions if the demand exists.

Feel free to request specific topics be covered prior to the session by emailing [RootsMagic "at" KapitiGen.org](mailto:RootsMagic@KapitiGen.org) NB Both RootsMagic and Legacy have put out some recent updates to improve their import of data from FTM.

A smile for the New year

The following may amuse fellow genealogists: (Thanks for this, Lindsay. *Ed.*)

At the Cemetery

Three Irishmen - Paddy, Sean and Seamus - were stumbling home from the pub late one night and found themselves on the road which led past the old graveyard.

"Come and have a look over here," says Paddy. "It's Michael O'Grady's grave, God bless his soul. He lived to the right old age of 87."

"That's nothing," says Sean. "Here's one named Patrick O'Toole. It says here he was 95 when he died". Just then, Seamus yells out, "Good God, here's a fella that got to be 145!"

"What was his name?" asks Paddy.

Seamus stumbles around a bit, awkwardly lights a match to see what else is written on the stone marker, and exclaims, "Miles, from Dublin."

Lindsay Olsen



November Branch Meeting

The final meeting of the year was held on 24th November, and took the form of a social get-together with the discussion theme of "How it all began".

Members were encouraged to mingle and enjoy the yummy supper put together by Frances and Sheila. Drinks and utensils were organised by Ian and Dianne, and Hilary organised the final raffle of the year.

The evening started off with drinks and a "Who do you think this is?" photo quiz. Frances provided the "talking" part of the evening by clearly summarising the work she had done going from the known to the unknown in Joan Breach's brickwall, involving many Thomas Johnsons. Well done Frances!

The surprise part of the evening was left until last – the presentation of very well-deserved Life Memberships to our dedicated librarian and Wednesday morning research leader, Bev Chappell, and Lorna Henderson, Treasurer and membership secretary extraordinaire. Lorna does so many jobs behind the scenes, is always willing to produce a useful 'How to' and is often a reference point. Thanks to you both.

Thanks also go to the committee members for making the night a success, as well as the various branch members who pitched in to help on the night.



'Who do you think this is' quiz!

Bev expresses surprise and thanks



Lorna shows her Life Membership certificate

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday January 26th 2015

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting starts.

Supper roster: K - N

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

Welcome to Graham COE.

We're always pleased to welcome new members to the Society. Please make yourselves known to other members at the monthly meetings. It's your opportunity to find out where you can get help with your story and enjoy sharing experiences. We hope you'll enjoy our facilities and get great benefit from your membership.

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))

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 are finished for this year. Watch this space for talks in 2016.

The National Library Family History Monthly talks are usually held in Tiakiwai on the Ground Floor unless the room is unavailable in which case alternative arrangements will be advised.

Publicity and marketing

You will see an advert on page 3 for some one who would be interested in taking on this role for the Committee. It is not too onerous and involves mainly contacting newspapers with coming events and organising the distribution of flyers. If you can help, please contact a Committee member.

You are needed!

John Weston

It is with regret that we note the death of long-time member John Weston. (In 1994 he was mentioned in our newsletter as returning from several months overseas researching and meeting family.) He was often to be found at the APFHC, only resigning last year because of ill health.

The Society gratefully acknowledges receipt of donations given at John's funeral and would like to thank the Weston family for it's generosity.

Round Robins

If you wish to subscribe to either 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](#).

Subs \$15 per year starting Jul/Aug) to either Family Tree magazine or Who Do You Think You Are.

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.

A highlight from the Feb 2015 Who Do You Think You Are (in the binders at the APFHC) is a round up of which Parish Registers (England) are online, at which sites.

Given how fast digitization progresses these days, such a list is probably already outdated but welcome nonetheless.

Scotland gets a passing mention, but only under FamilySearch, FreeReg and ScotlandsPeople



Branch meetings: 4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

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

Venue: Kapiti Community Centre,

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.

Membership

Subscriptions are due end of March and remain at \$25. To spread the renewal load for the 2016/17 year, please be kind to the Treasurer and send your subs in ASAP. New members from the January meeting get 2 months free as they are considered to have paid for the 2016/17 year.

Please refer to the website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/2015/01/membership-renewals-2/>) for joining and payment instructions.

Branch Committee

Convener: Hilary Cunningham 04 971 7986
(may need to dial the 04) 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: Ian Brooking
programme "at" KapitiGen.org

Librarian: Beverley Chappell

Meeting registrar: Dianne Sleeman

Minute Secretary: Frances Braddick

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

Computer Liaison: Frances Braddick

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Webmasters: Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Magazine Round Robins: Meryl Opie
RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Sound System: , back-up Ian Brooking

Equipment Support: Lindsay Olsen backup up Lorna

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Catering: Judy Olsen

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.

Next meeting

February 23rd 2016

DigitalNZ for Genealogists
By Thomasin Sleigh