

Convenor's Comment

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

Kia ora everyone!

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, I have regrettably decided to step down as Convenor at the AGM. I have enjoyed the opportunities that being Convenor has given me, but alas, work and family commitments mean I need to take a break for a while. I intend to put myself forward for committee, and will support whoever is willing to take on the job in any way I can.

I urge you to please think about putting yourself forward – even if it's just for committee, because the job of running the branch only becomes onerous when it is left to the few. If being on a committee is not your thing, we also need more people who are willing to provide cover for the occasional task when committee members are away. The more helpers we have on standby, the easier it is to manage the workload.

We have been asking for help with publicity. What does this involve? Nothing much more than passing on information from the committee to various interested parties and local media. Time commitment? Maybe half an hour to an hour a month? Not a biggie in itself, but an easy job that could free up a committee member to do something else. The recent purchase of a certain NZ beach shows the extraordinary power of "Give a little" don't you think?

Great news on the School Admission Records project. John Glover reports that Bill McKeich has now obtained permission to transcribe the Admission Registers for Paraparaumu Beach School. Well done Bill. John also welcomes Esther Rudd to his team of checkers, which he says will be a big help.

If anyone would like to offer their help to John please let him know, he will be very pleased to talk to you about what is involved. The Committee would like to extend a big "thank you" to John and his team for the great work they are doing.

Looking forward, I expect that, like me, you are keen to hear Jan Bonnett talk at our March meeting. I couldn't help but think of her when I read the recent front page story in the Dominion about Jim Grant who died alone in his Wellington flat. It appears that Jim was a bit of a loner in his later life, and apart from a letter signed by an unknown woman, left no clues in his will as to any family he might have. I was very touched to read that the local Catholic community had rallied around to give him a dignified funeral and a loving send off. To round off the story, it turns out that Jim had a couple of cousins who got in touch with the funeral director the day after the article appeared. So, what would have happened if the story had not made it into the newspapers? I'm sure that Jan will be able to share some useful insights with us on this very topic.

See you there!

Hilary Cunningham

**This month's meeting is on
Tuesday March 22nd
7-9 pm**

**'Finding living people'
Jan Bonnett**

**How to: by Lorna
BDM District Keys/NZSG**

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March Branch Meeting

When: March 22nd at 7-9pm

Where: Kapiti Community centre

What: **Finding living people - speaker - Jan Bonnett**

Ancestors are all very well, but what about those elusive relations that are still alive? Jan Bonnett has a wealth of experience in finding long lost people and will share her knowledge and stories with us.

For an interesting insight into Jan's work visit

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/life/67466583/She-investigates-the-dead>

How to: **Lorna:** so Ancestry's Birth or death index doesn't show the place of the event? Or looks to have mis-indexed it? Have you tried the NZSG computerised District Keys index?

Branch News

The **Research Day** held on February 20th was attended by eight members. Thanks to Bev, Frances, Denice and Lindsay Olsen for helping with the research and Ian for his organisation. Judging by the heads-down concentration during the session, the assistance was much appreciated.

Workshop to explore using **RootsMagic** as your Family Tree Program - looking for an easy to use program? Considering switching programs? Want to learn about some of the more advanced features? Come to the Kapiti Community Centre on Saturday March 19th, 2-4pm. Open to all (from 1:30)- \$3 to cover expenses. This may develop into regular sessions if the demand exists.

Feel free to request specific topics be covered via the contact form on <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/rootsmagic/>

Brick walls. 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!! You'll learn heaps in the process. Many thanks to **Elizabeth Lynch** who is the first volunteer to offer assistance with 'brick walls'.

'How to' notes from the February meeting.

The Internet Archive's 'Wayback Machine'

<https://archive.org/web/>

The Wayback Machine gives you access to web pages that have 'disappeared' from the internet. It uses data harvested and archived from the internet by the Internet Archive, which is a US-based non-profit organisation. So next time you come across a dead link (displaying an 'Error 404' message) copy and paste the URL into the search box of the Wayback Machine and see what it can find.

A result is not guaranteed and the archived web pages will not necessarily have full functionality - for example there may be a tantalizing link to a PDF, but the PDF itself may not have been archived.

For the Wayback Machine to work you do, of course, need to have a web address (URL) at hand. You cannot perform simple text searches for content. However, a recent project by the UK Web Archive (<https://www.webarchive.org.uk/shine>) has been set up to do just that.

It has taken the UK-based data from the internet archive and created a searchable database of historical web content. Be warned though - the service is still in the prototype stage, but it is well worth putting it through its paces.

Ian Brooking

RootsTech

Those of us unable to travel to one of the larger conferences should check out the session list. Even reading just that can give you ideas! (<https://rootstech2016.smarteventscloud.com/connect/search.ww?searchType=session&showAllResults=true>)

Links for watching some of the sessions available at <https://www.rootstech.org/>

Some that caught my eye:

An article on FamilySearch blog about Joshua Taylor's "[Can I Undo That? 25 Tech Mistakes to Avoid](#)" Always good when someone reinforces something you believe in - don't restrict yourself to only one family tree program, no one program does it all. 😊

RT2792 - Using Technology to "See" Research More Clearly

RT2230 - Using the Genealogical Proof Standard for Success. This was also the subject of one of Judy Russell's talk at the Unlock The Past session at Kilbirnie earlier this month. Judy stepped us through a journey researching an ancestor who was frustratingly missing from the records. One of the key items to me is always "have you evaluated the alternatives"?

RT2759 - Your Brick Wall is not as Tall as You Think

Videos from prior years are also available - I still remember one on Places, that highlighted one of the ways to overcome brick walls - don't be hindbound in your thinking about where your family was. A researcher was helping someone who was fully convinced that her family came from x (which happened to be near a State boundary) and just could not be convinced to look in the records for the neighbouring State.

Lorna

NZSG are running some interesting workshops this year, including one by Jan Gow as detailed below. The snag is that they are held in Auckland at the Family History Centre!

Details of other courses are on the website: <http://www.genealogy.org.nz>

So Let's! Let's Research Our Family History 16FRC002 \$20.00

Saturday 9th April, 10am-1.30pm Computer Workshop. Presenter ~ Jan Gow

Let's begin with good research techniques. Let's begin with good organisational techniques. Let's begin with good preservation techniques.

Just beginning? Or coping with 'paper chaos?' This workshop will give you ideas and suggestions to establish good seeking and searching and storing habits. Learn the importance of your Pedigree Charts and how to find and fill the gaps. Pedigree charts will be emailed prior to the course so you can fill in what you know and how you know this. Bring a flash drive if you would like a .pdf of the slides.

Schools project update

I had good news yesterday from Bill McKeich. He has visited Paraparaumu Beach School and obtained their approval to transcribe their Admission Registers.

So I'll be visiting the school as soon as I can and starting the photocopying of the original data. This means that in a week or so I'll be contacting all those entering data to see when it's convenient for me to pay a visit. I haven't forgotten that you all have the last-completed file from last year for me to pick up.

For those doing data checking, I have plenty of Waikanae School data to give you. I know there are two (at least) with checked data waiting for me to pick up. So I'll be contacting all checkers to see if it's convenient for me to bring you new data to check.

John Glover

FindMyPast continues to release new records at a great rate. Those with Western Australian research should check out the new BDM data. You may also be interested in this blogpost about some findings in the Irish records <https://blog.findmypast.co.uk/ie-1665569670.html> (I'm biased the writer is one of my cousins, on a different line I hasten to add, but one day when I figure out where my 18% Irish ancestry comes from I'm sure I'll find similar stories for mine! - Lorna)

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 and public needing assistance.

Research Assistance

Members needing assistance with their research, are welcome at the weekly public 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.

Relocation at the library

The APFHC is located on the ground floor of the Paraparaumu library. Turn right inside the door. The keys for the APFHC cupboard are now being held at the Welcome Desk opposite the entrance.

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

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

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.



Calling Clan McGregor

On Saturday 13 February Richard McGregor, Chairman of Clan McGregor Society, Scotland, spoke with Kim Hill on "Saturday Morning" about "The DNA of Clan Gregor".

This has been recorded and can now be listened to online via the website <rnz.co.nz> under National then Programmes then Saturday Morning and lasts 17 minutes. *(His talk in Karori was well attended and very interesting - Lorna)*

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.

March 22nd: Tuesday 7pm (KCC) Monthly meeting . Details on page 2.

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](#))

Saturday 19th March 2-4pm at Kapiti Community Centre. Explore Roots Magic - see below and page 2 - \$3

Thur. April 14h: Australian interest group (APFHC) 10 to 12 noon

Saturday April 9th. DNA interest group , 2-4pm at Lorna's. For all those interested in DNA for genealogy. Please note meetings held every other month.

Saturday April 30th: NZ Kapiti Legacy Users Group, 1-4pm at the Kapiti Community Centre.

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

If anyone attended the March Alexander Turnbull Library Monthly Lunchtime talk "Old Friends, New Friends", perhaps you could provide Sheila with a summary for next month's newsletter?

The New Friend being introduced is Tiaki, who will be helping researchers find and use their unpublished collections, which are undergoing changes with regard to description and requesting. She will be focusing on Family History techniques and interest areas, and how to give feedback.

The Old Friends section of the talk was to be devoted to the copy of the now removed site taken for the Library's collections harvester, ie what will be collected (and what won't be) and how this will be made available to researchers once the copy is complete.

Interest Groups

Australian

Second Thursday of every month from February to December - next session **Thursday April 14th** 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 Saturday **April 9th**, 2-4pm at Lorna's. (293 7771). How do you keep track of your Autosomal DNA results/matches?
Spreadsheets? GenomeMate Pro? DNAMatch4iPad?
Any/all questions welcome whether just thinking about testing, or already into the world of finding what DNA can add to your research.

Legacy Users

Our meetings are the last Saturday of every second

month from February to October. Everyone is welcome. Next meeting **April 30th**. At the Kapiti Community Centre. Cost \$3, pay at the door. Tea and coffee available. Bring a laptop if you have one.
Contact Gerald Twiss [Gero "at" ihug.co.nz](mailto:Gero@ihug.co.nz) for more details.

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**. Door opens 1:30

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 via the contact form on <http://www.kapitigen.org/programme/interest-groups/rootsmagic/>

NZSG Revised Rules - postal ballot

NZSG members will receive a document relating to the postal ballot for a revised set of rules with their April issue of *The New Zealand Genealogist* magazine.

This documentation will comprise a covering letter from the President and the revised rules. In addition there will be a Question and Answer document on the Society's website, along with copies of the President's letter and the rules themselves.

Our existing rules have been widely acknowledged as being no longer fit for purpose. Legal advice also points to inconsistencies between the rules and the by-laws and recommends amalgamation. Applications for funding and sponsorship are becoming more dependent upon evidence that the Society is operating in a business-like manner, in surplus, and within rules that are appropriate for purpose. We cannot continue to operate as we have in the past, and revised rules are part of the necessary change.

It is appreciated that a large proportion of the Society's members just wish to get on with their research and that rules may be of little interest to them, and I understand that. However, please do read the documents and then cast your vote. It is vital that all NZSG members take the opportunity to participate in this postal ballot as a two-thirds majority of valid votes cast (existing Rule 9.1) is needed for the new rules to be adopted.

Voting papers are due back to the Returning Officers by **4pm, Friday 20 May 2016**.

Thank you.

Peter Gibson

NZSG Councillor & Facilitator, Rules Review Working Group

Genie Software

I do find the Genie Software field fascinating

It can change so fast and thus be rather hard to keep up. You can be excused for deciding it is all too hard, and just keep on using the program you are used to. But what if you want to see what others offer? Ancestry's string of announcements about FamilyTreeMaker (FTM) have sent other developers scurrying for the business.

FamilyHistorian has released v 6.1.4 which you can read about <http://www.family-historian.co.uk/features/whats-new/whats-new-in-version-6-1>, which includes a section on imports from FTM, or from Ancestry via GEDCom. See also <http://www.family-historian.co.uk/ftm> - now if only they'd provide a version that runs on Mac without a virtual machine!

Legacy - continues to improve their FTM import and provides further info on what it can do for you at <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/FTM.asp>

RootsMagic blog (<http://blog.rootsmagic.com/?p=2668>) announces they can now directly import any FamilyTreeMaker file, old or new (apart from the latest MacKiev update in the process of being released by the company who has bought the software from Ancestry)

If you are considering transferring programs, take plenty of backups, be prepared for a heap of clean up of your data, where you store images/attached documents etc. Try the import several times to get a good feel of what ends up where. Always a great time to review bits of your database that haven't seen the light of day for years and are well overdue for a revision in light of either new information now available, or better source citations!

In general, direct imports from a native file format carry more data across more accurately than any export/import of gedcoms, but any conversion will have its challenges.

Lorna

From the Committee

This month's meeting:

Tuesday March 22nd 2016

7:00pm: supper

7:30pm: meeting starts.

Supper roster: U - 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 to new members:

Patsi SULLIVAN, Brian COLLETT, Manu PARATA and Pam VINNELL.

Welcome to the Branch. 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 share experiences. We hope you'll enjoy our facilities and 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.

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".

Publicity and marketing

We still need someone 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!

NB. Please note:

Hilary has indicated that she will be stepping down as Convenor at the AGM in April. So please put on your thinking caps (or even raise a hand to volunteer) and come forward with suggestions for committee members and/or someone willing to take on the role of Convenor.

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.

Tit bit!

Ever wondered what those abbreviated 4 or 5 letter registration places in Victoria (Australia) might be?

There's a handy set of techniques for figuring them out at

<http://zades.com.au/gandd/index.php/thisthat/vicbdmind>



Branch meetings:

4th Tuesday, Jan - Nov

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

Branch Committee

Convener: Hilary Cunningham

Phone: 04 971 7986

Convenor "at" KapitiGen.org

Secretary: Denice McCarten

Phone: 905 8266

secretary "at" KapitiGen.org

Treasurer and Membership:

Lorna Henderson

Phone: 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

Webmasters:

Lorna Henderson & Ian Brooking

Ex-officio members

Trip organiser: Kathy Callaghan

Magazine Round Robins:

Meryl Opie

RoundRobin "at" KapitiGen.org

Membership

Subscriptions are due end of March and remain at \$25. New members are considered to have paid for the 2016/17 year.

Please refer to the website (<http://www.kapitigen.org/2016/01/membership-renewals-201617/>) for joining and payment instructions.

Sound System: Ian Brooking

Equipment Support:

Lindsay Olsen backup up Lorna

Research Officer: Sue Greene

Catering: Judy Olsen

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 Henderson

(04) 293 7771

Email links throughout the newsletter are clickable, remove the "a" and insert the @ symbol before sending.

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

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

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.

Next meeting

April 26th 2016

AGM

"How to write stories for
your grandchildren"