News & Views

October 2005; 23rd Year
Issue 228

Hutt Valley Branch
of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

Evening Meeting	7.30pm 1st Thursday, February to December
Day Meeting:	9.30am, 3rd Thursday, February to November
Research Evening:	6.00pm, last Thursday each month. Library open
Venue:	Hutt Bridge Club, 1 Park Ave, Avalon, Lower Hutt
Postal Address:	PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt
Co-ordinator:	Sandra Greig
Secretary:	Deb Beban
Treasurer:	Janet Ketchell
Membership:	Dianne Fitzgerald
Editor:	Suzanne Sutton-Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

COMING EVENTS (subject to change and confirmation closer to the event)

06 Oct: David Lee Smith - Early American History
20 Oct: Rae Peiser - My Family History
27 Oct: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until 8:30pm for Members' Research

03 Nov: AGM and Sharon Fredriksson - Recording Family history on Video
17 Nov: Margaret Hurst - National Turnbull Libraries and Photographic Collection
24 Nov: Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until 8:30pm for Members' Research

1 Dec: Jan Gows - Computers and their use in Family Histories

EVENING MEETING - 06 OCT: DAVID LEE SMITH - EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

Please note the change of speaker. Unfortunately our advertised speaker is not able to make it and so we have David, who is an American red Indian, back for those who could not make it to the morning meeting in July.

MORNING MEETING -20 OCT: RAE PEISER - MY FAMILY HISTORY

Rae was born at Waterloo, Lower Hutt, and when she Married Bruce Peiser in 1953 she went to live in Upper Hutt. She has been interested in Genealogy for quite a few years.

Rae will mainly be talking about her Mother's side of her family. Her mother was Evelyn Lilian Johnson born in Udy Street, Petone. Her Father was Sydney Beresford Willis born in Wellington and when they were married her father in (!927) built a house next door to the general store on the Hutt Road. The Johnson Family arrived in New Zealand on the Ship 'Clifton' in February 1842 at Port Nicholson with 4 children and had 2 more children after arriving here. They lived in Wellington & worked on Lambton Quay, they were quite active in Wellington, and then Petone, as there was very little there at that time.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 3 NOV AT 7:30PM

- Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. All nominees and nominators must be NZSG members. The current committee are prepared to stay on - but we would welcome help to make our job easier. We do need an assistant librarian.
- Correspondence addressed to the AGM to be with the secretary no later than Wed 26th Oct.
- The AGM will be at 7.30pm and this will be followed immediately by the speaker.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Due after the AGM in November . They will be the same as they were last year with the discount for early payment if paid by 31 December 2005.

NZSG GENEALOGY COMPUTER GROUP ROAD SHOW IN FEILDING

29 October 2005 9am-5pm at St John's Church Hall, Camden Street, Feilding
Cost $5 Tea and coffee available. Bring your own lunch.

The Feilding branch will be hosting the members of the genealogy computer group (GCG) for their road show. Topics will include:

- photo restoration
- ship records
- legacy 5 deluxe
- internet searching
- computer short cuts making a family tree using a non-family tree programme

Programme: GSG members will be making presentations of each topics before lunch then the afternoon will be given over to an open day where you check out each topic in more detail

LEGACY 6.0 AND THE LEGACY USERS GROUP

The new version of Legacy 6.0 is now out. Go to http://www.;egacyfamilytree.com/ to download it. The basic version is free, however if you want the Deluxe version you will have to pay $US29.95. The programme has some very good features.

The next meeting being of the Kapiti, New Zealand Legact Users Grou will be held on

Saturday 29 October at the Masonic Hall in Tararua Street in Paraparaumu (on the east of the railway line).

The entry charge is $3.00. The hall will be open at 1.00 p.m. for a cup of tea or coffee to get the room set up and for informal chat. The day's programme will start at 2.00p.m.

The programme for the meeting is:

- Welcome and introductory comments.
- Questions and help with Legacy problems
- Entering Pictures into your Legacy file
- General Hints and Tips
- Tea / coffee /chat.

We welcome everyone interested in using the Legacy programme to record their family history, regardless of their level of expertise, and look forward to seeing you at the meeting. For further information contact; gero@ihug.co.nz

SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP OF NZSG - SUB-GROUP OF GREATER WELLINGTON

www.scotgroup.tk/

Sunday 6th November 2005, 1-4 pm Door charge $3

Scottish Research at the *Lounge, St Giles Church* Corner Vallance St & Kilbirnie Cres, Kilbirnie

A brief AGM at 1:30 pm and discussion on what you wish for next year. We will have a selection of Scottish family history magazines, some research material from the Scottish Interest Group in Auckland, and our own resources, for Scottish family history research.

If you have some useful Scottish material to share with others, do bring this along. Do label with your name. Photocopier and microfiche readers available.

All welcome Contact: Pen Brown penbrown@globe.net.nz

ARCHIVES NZ – ARCHWAY

Archway is a brilliant new initiative from Archives NZ. It is an on-line system for searching their holdings and was officially launched 31 August 2005. For example you can type in your family

surname and you will quickly get a list of all available documents and their reference numbers. Eventually you will be able to order documents on line. Go to www.archway.archives.govt.nz and explore the possibilities.

GOOD NEWS FROM LDS

Ever wonder what's inside those secured vaults, owned by the LDS Church, positioned high inside the granite walls of Little Cottonwood Canyon? The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is working toward allowing anyone with Internet access to learn more than they've ever known before about the information contained on 2 million-plus rolls of microfilm housed there. Currently, the church is compiling searchable indexes to that information and will eventually make it available for free through an automated database on the Internet.

The church excavated the vaults containing those records on property it purchased in the 1960s. Now church leaders seek to make the information more readily available to the world. "The goal is to create (Internet-accessible) indexes to all the films we have in the vault. That's a long-term process and that's a lot of films," according to Paul Nauta, manager of public affairs for church's FamilySearch.org Web site. "We've not announced when people will begin to start seeing" the indexes. Full story at http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,605153189,00.html

FOUND IN LEVIN ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLE SHOP

Lovely old Brown leather bible - one of 5 on sale recently. Price $600. From Lower Hutt family who didn't want the bible! The inside started with:

Weddings: Fred Williams married Elizabeth Firth 6 Feb 1877, Meath ??Wairarapa, James Hebb married Ameila Williams. 18 Dec 1901 Presbyterian church Pahiatua, Vic Lelieve?? married Ethel Williams, 8 Dec 1907 at fathers house. Walter Williams married Ann Cade 11 Sept 1912 Presbyterian Pahiatua

Deaths: Emily Marian Williams d 1861, Elizabeth Williams d 1877, Samuel Firth Williams died 1880, John Cliff Williams d 1886, Walter Val Williams died 1958 ?

Births: Elizabeth Williams 1877, Amelia Williams 1878, Samuel Bains Firth Williams 1880, Walter Val Williams 1882. Ethel May Williams 1885, John Cliff Williams 1886, Thomas Ferdanand Williams 1887 Abraham Firth Williams 1889, Sarah Ellen Williams 1891, Lawrence Thomas Williams 1895 Ida Kath Williams 1897, Vivian Oswald Williams 1899, Bill Williams 1905

THE NEW AND THE DONATED TO THE LIBRARY

- The Journey of a Life Time by Bill Beck 1992
- The Children's Friend Society by Geoff Blackburn
- Across the Years A History of the Gilberd Family by Edward Browse Gilberd
- The Last Laugh A Collection of Humorous and Quaint Epitaphs by Janet Reakes
- National Oral History Ass of New Zealand Oral History in New Zealand Vol 1 1988, A Directory of Collections 1992, Vol 5 1993, Vol 6 1994 and Volume 7 1995 In association with Oral History Centre Alexander Turnbull Library
- Wainuomata A Pictorial & Social History of a District and its people These Passing Years by J M & B M Kennedy
- My Dear Brother A Family history of Humphreys, Delves and Cleaver by Pauline Fitchett
- Camellia Quotes Women's Studies, Voices from the debate on the Women's Franchise, Victoria University Wlg 1993
- Suffrage Song Book Collected by Rosemarie Smith and Erin McGifford
- The Lambert Family in New Zealand by Nola Hales
- New Zealand Heritage The Making of a Nation part 18
- The Marjoribanks Family in New Zealand
- Info re Kaikoura
- Our Lesser Stars 12 New Zealand Family Biographies Women's History A short guide to Researching and Writing Women's History In New Zealand by Bronwyn Labrum
- The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames by Basil Cottle
- Wedding Fashions 1860-1980 by Avril Lansdell
- Stokes Valley through the Years

- Collecting Dead Relatives by Laverne Gateener-Moore
- Fashions a La Carte 1860-1900 by Avril Lansdell
- Discovering Surname Their Origins and Meanings by J W Freeman
- The Letters of Rachel Henning Letters from early New Zealand by Charlotte Godley 1850-1853
- These Outcast Women The Paramata Female Factory 1821-1848 by Annette Salt
- Growing up With Barnado's by Allan Moore
- The Rangiatea Story by Rev Canon Hohepa Taepa
- The Story of the Solomons by Charles E Fox
- More Bygone Days in Lower Hutt by George Kaye
- One-a-pecker, Two-a-peckers About the Otago Gold Rush 1883 by Ruth Park
- Adventures of a Surveyor in New Zealand by John Rochfort
- The Pendle Witches by Walter Bennett
- The Paramata Story by Barbara Heath & Helen Balham
- The "Inside Story" The Mercy Jenkins Salvation Army Boys Home, Eltham Dec 1909 – Jan – 1954 by A L (Scotty) McGrath & Harold Wilson
- The Evening Post Sat 30th Dec 1899
- History of Female Prostitution in Australia From W.I.S.E. Women's Issues and Social Empowerment 1994 by Raelene Francis
- Single and Free. Female migration to Australia 1833-1837 by Elizabeth Rushen
- NZ Genealogist Vol 36. No 294
- List of Names & Places from the book Upper Hutt the History compiled & donated by Janet Doyle
- The Manawatu Journal History 2005 Issue No 1 donated by Catherine Birth
- Hutt Valley Fiche x 2 HV Cemetery by Tuckett and Names

SPEAKERS' REVIEW – GRAHAM PRICE - CONVICT ANCESTORS

Graham confessed to having 6 convict ancestors. There was Mary Springham (1765-96), a first fleeter given 7 years for the theft of 30s 2d in coins and an iron Japan smithbox worth a penny; John Duncombe, a 3rd fleeter from London was convicted at the age of 16 for stealing cloth worth £10; Charles Moore (aka Charles Richardson) was convicted for grand larceny - stealing 4 rabbits worth 5 shillings and got 7 years transportation. Not much is known about Ann Gilbert (nee Carey) and Margaret Holmes. However a lot is known about Aaron Price who wrote dairies and has had his life and times studied by many of his descendants.

Aaron Price (1794-1882) was convicted of burglary in England when he was about 20 years of age. He was sentenced to death but had that sentence commuted to transportation to NSW. He was assigned to a farmer in NSW and in due course he escaped. He was recaptured only to escape again and go bush-ranging with "Jacobs Gang". They were sought by the police and later when some of the gang were shot and killed, Aaron surrendered. He was sentenced to death yet again and was actually on the scaffold with the other condemned prisoners when, because of a change of Governor in the territory, his sentence was commuted to life on Norfolk Island. He obviously decided to mend his ways and became a police runner working his way up to Principle Overseer. He also got married and raised a family. After 29 years on Norfolk he was given a pardon and he and his family moved to Tasmania where he worked as an overseer to a road gang until his retirement. He also received an English pension for "services rendered".

OTAGO WITNESS: AUGUST 23 1905

Jones: So you have succeeded in tracing back my ancestors. What is your fee?
Genealogist: £100 - for keeping quiet about them.

Contributed by Elaine Keown

SPEAKER'S REVIEW - BRENDA JOYCE

WRITING AND PUBLISHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY - A BRIEF OVERVIEW

I am assuming you have done as much research on your family history as possible. The following is not definitive. There are many books out there that will advise you about writing your family history. I am just saying what I did – what went well, what I would do differently when I write my next book.

Planning

This is the foundation of your book. Do this thoroughly before you start writing and it will save you time, heart ache and frustration in the long run

- Decide on the subject e.g. the biography of one person, the family's experiences in NZ, one family line as far back as you can go. Choose a subject for which you have plenty of material and which grabs your interest. Are there plenty of family members who prize books, are interested in their family history and can afford to buy your product?
- Write an outline of each chapter. Content and resources. This will show you if you have enough material to write your family history. You will never have done all the research possible so it's a case of reaching a happy medium. You will certainly want to publish your book before your most elderly relatives are no more.
- Write a realistic time-line. Mark deadline dates on your wall calendar and diary.
- Consider your book's format e.g. A4 or A5, perfect binding, coil or wire bound. How much colour. Paper quality.
- Decide on styles and set up the computer - columns, margins, font and font sizes, headings and sub-headings, ragged or justified right edge of text.
- Commit yourself by sending an eye-catching flyer to all relevant relatives asking for expressions of interest and personal contributions.
- Find a good printer. Look at their previous productions. Near your home. Word of mouth recommendations. Congenial staff. Take their advice about best computer software to use. Get a firm quote in writing once you have decided exactly what you want them to do..
- Set up a working file. Sections could include: time plan, correspondence, copyright applications, detailed bibliography of books used, primary sources used, printer's contract, computer styles, research to be checked.

Financial implications

You won't make your fortune writing a family history but with careful planning you can break even. Consider:

- How many sales can you count on?
- Quality v Cost
- Free copies e.g. to people who have helped you, review copies, legal deposits
- New equipment – e.g. saving, scanning, CD burner
- Computer Training – will you need this in order to work with a large document?
- Proof reader
- Postage and packing. .
- Printing bills
- Miscellaneous and unexpected expenses

Work out a realistic budget to find out the unit cost. If your book is going to cost $150.00 you will need to re-work your finances as few people can afford such a cost. All the above expenses must be paid before you receive any income from sales.

Legal Implications

- Copyright - You will be bound to want to use copyright material e.g. census images, illustrations from published works. Be sure to apply for copyright permission and file the replies.
- Privacy Laws - These basically apply to living people. Always ask if it is OK to include details about them. Ideally get them to write their own story. Alternatively you write it and then ask them to check it out.
- ISBN - If you publish you are legally obliged to apply for an ISBN number and provide 1 or 2 copies, free of charge, to Legal Deposits. The advantages of doing this are:

1. A copy of your book will be kept in the National Library and will always be accessible to everyone in times to come.
2. Your book will be recorded on the data base that all librarians consult. This could result in many sales

Writing

Follow the outline you have written. Talk to your audience. Have a photo of a typical person who will read your book in front of you. Start writing and just go – ignore grammar, syntax, spelling in the first draft. Leave this for a week or so and then go back and edit.

Consider:

- Sensitivity - Never write anything that could upset your family e.g. the marriage was less than 9 months before the birth of the first child.- leave out the date of the marriage
- Honesty - If you have no proof of the truth of a family story, tell the story but say you have not been able to prove it.
- Proof - For every fact you state you should give proof in the footnotes or endnotes.
- Background - Your family did not live in a vacuum. Read widely and explain the social and political situations that impinged on their lives e.g. general poverty among English Ag Labs in the 1830's, reasons for emigrating, the causes of the Land Wars and how these would have affected your family.
- Non-Judgemental - LP Hartley wrote words to the effect "The past is a foreign country. They did things differently then". It is hard to see things through their eyes but they were as constrained as we are in how they lived their lives. Just record the facts and if possible explain logical reasons for their actions.
- Illustrations - Maps to show the country in which they lived. Photographs of their village. Ordnance survey maps will even show the actual building they inhabited. Contemporary illustrations of life at the time. And of course photographs of family members.

Last Bits

- Write the introduction – include names of people to be thanked. The introduction must be written last as you cannot introduce a book that you have not yet written.
- Write a full bibliography of books consulted and primary sources used
- Construct an index
- Proof read - This is a vital and time consuming process and best done by other than the author. Check: pagination, index, contents, consistency of styles, typos, foot or end notes, dates. If you employ someone to do this job they will deserve a generous fee.
- You will surely find more information as soon as you go to print. Consider including an addenda slip in the final edition of your book.

Marketing

Having got your book written and printed you will need to make sales. You want people to reads your book, not to have piles of copies moldering away in the garage.

- Design a flyer. Include name of the book, content covered, ISBN number, relevant, high quality photographs, price including P & P (state currencies you can accept), an order form and your contact details. Send to all relevant relatives, libraries and family history groups.
- Ask relevant Family History societies if they would be prepared to publish a review of your book. They will expect a free copy if they agree.
- Keep accurate records of orders received, payments and date books posted.

Finally

Having packed and mailed all the books so just sit back and rest on your laurels. Enjoy all the cheques rolling in, further orders for your book and all those letters and emails of congratulation. ☺ You might even have to go for a re-print! Writing and publishing your family history is a challenge. You will surely suffer blood, sweat and tears. However, there is nothing to compare with the sense of achievement when you have finally done it. Accept the challenge and go for it.

THE REAL REASON THE CHESTERFIELD CHURCH SPIRE IS CROOKED - Barbara Weeks

The lovely picture of Chesterfield church spire in Derbyshire brought back a memory from around 1936/9 when I lived in Sheffield and we had relatives in North Staffordshire and used to visit, travelling in Uncle Tom's car via Chesterfield. My uncle Tom was a businessman, had no children, and took his driving very seriously. My mother and aunty Hilda were in the back seat, and I was in the front seat next to uncle, which was unusual. I was under 7 years old and began to sing, and this must have been a distraction for him.

As Chesterfield Cathedral's crooked spire came in view he said, "Now look what you've done with your singing, you've bent the church spire". I believed him of course and each time we passed it I looked guiltily at it hoping no-one would say anything, which of course they didn't. So you see, it wasn't warped wood that caused the spire to be crooked, it was my singing!

A RECENT DISCOVERY OF A NEW COUSIN - Deb Beban

Nearly 30 years ago in the era of ‘closed adoptions’ my husband and I adopted a beautiful baby boy who became our son and grew happily and securely into our family. The adoption agency had provided us with just enough information to not disclose who were his birth parents. He grew up knowing he was adopted but never expressed a desire to search for his birth parents.

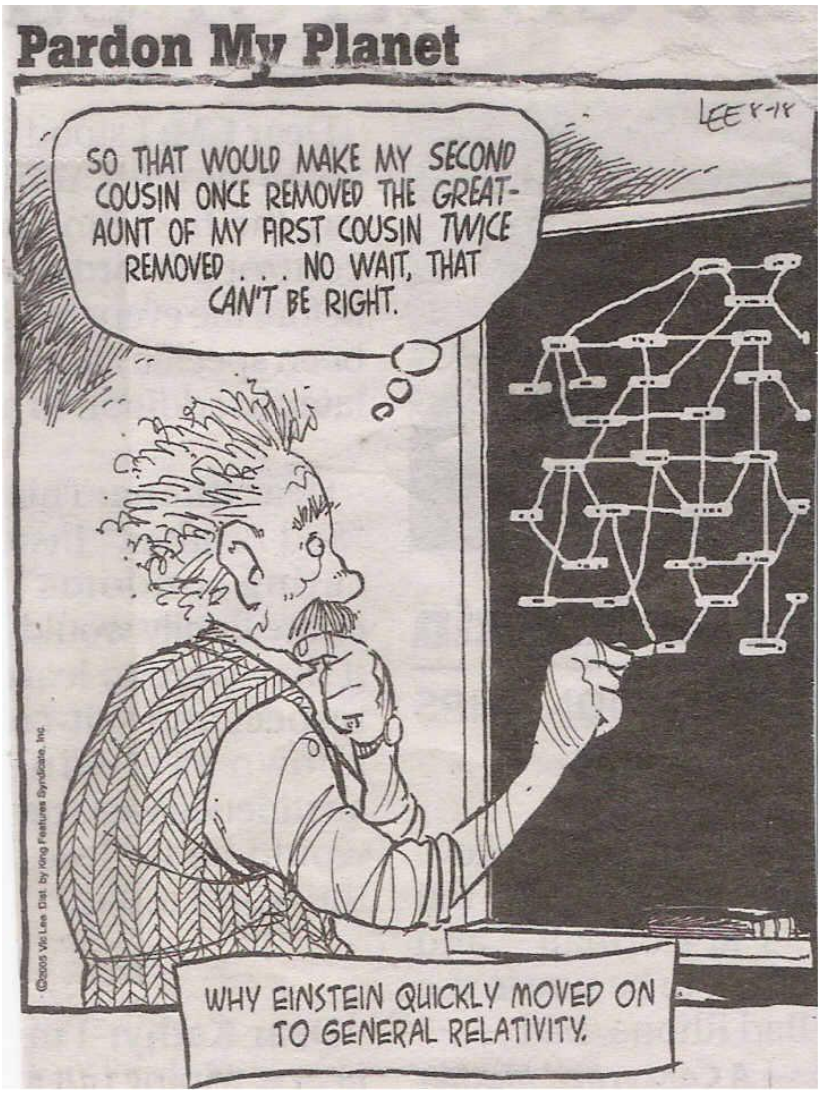
Some 8-9 years ago our son traced his birth mother and he and I had an enjoyable reunion with her and one of her sons and daughter in laws. My son told me he was happy that at last he had come face to face with somebody who physically he resembled but that he still felt he belonged to us. Later that year he also had a reunion with his Aunt, his birth mother’s sister and that once again was a successful meeting.

Not long after this my son discovered genealogy and dragged me, not unwillingly I might say, into the web of this fascinating hobby and I haven’t stopped researching. My tree has grown beyond my wildest imagination and I can never see an end to research and discovery of ancestors and new family members. Little did I know just what this all encompassing activity would lead me to discover.

Several weeks ago a friend who lived in another town emailed me and suggested I purchase a book that had been published in 1989 for a family reunion as it contained names of my lines that had married into the families involved in the reunion. My friend had come across several copies of the book, purchased them and asked me if I would like to buy one from her. I duly sent her my $45, the book arrived several days later and at first glance I was a little disappointed in what I had received. My primary thought was what a waste of $45. At initial perusal the layout I found difficult to grasp and put it aside for several days while I did other research. Picking up the book again I started to follow some of the lines and slowly came to understand the way the book was written. Glancing down the list of names in the different family groups I came across those of my line who had married into the families of the book and checked the information with what I already had and as luck would have it most of it matched with mine with a few extra bits I didn’t have thrown in for good measure.

Suddenly, while following one of my lines, I came across 2 names that jumped off the page at me. I retraced that line several more times, meticulously checked it with the information I had in my family history programme and could not believe what I was looking at. Here in the book was my adopted son’s maternal line, which lead back to a shared ancestor I didn’t want to become too excited over the discovery until I checked with my son who as luck would have it was in London on his big ‘O.E’!! Because of the time difference many hours dragged by before I could contact my son for clarification of the names of his birth mother and her sister and when he confirmed them, to say ‘all hell broke loose’ would be a gross understatement and neither my son nor I have stopped smiling and laughing about the wonderful discovery I had made.

My son and I have a common ancestor, our 3 x great grandfather who came to Petone, 1841 with his wife and 7 children. I am descended from my 3 x great grandfather’s eldest son and my adopted son is descended through his birth mother from his youngest son, (a 12-year age gap between the 2 brothers) which makes my son and I 4th cousins. I often thought the adoption agency had made a good match because we both have the same wacky sense of humour; a love of books, music, and theatre and to think all this time it was not coincidence but most probably genetic. Now I am my son’s ‘cuzzie mum’ and he is ours not only by the legal process of adoption but also by a mutual bloodline. WOW, how wonderful is that? Thank you genealogy!


Pardon My Planet
LEE 8-18
SO THAT WOULD MAKE MY SECOND COUSIN ONCE REMOVED THE GREAT-AUNT OF MY FIRST COUSIN TWICE REMOVED . . . NO WAIT, THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
WHY EINSTEIN QUICKLY MOVED ON TO GENERAL RELATIVITY.
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