



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
ComSIG 7:30pm, last Thursday of the month.
Venue: Hutt Bridge Club, 1 Park Ave, Avalon, Lower Hutt
Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt
Convenor: Janice Price
Secretary: Deb Beban HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz
Editor: Suzanne Sutton-Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

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

06 Sep: Rob Aspden - Probates
20 Sep: Joanna Newman - WCC Archives
27 Sep: ComSIG - Problems and Solutions
04 Oct: Rachel Brown – House Research
18 Oct: Branch members - 'Unusual places we have found family information'
25 Oct: Computer Special Interest Group - Paule Alpe, NZSG Index version 4 & it's use
01 Nov: Pam McKirdy – Death Records and AGM
15 Nov: TBA
29 Nov: ComSIG - Dawn Chambers - how to make you own website and why you need one
06 Dec: No speaker - Supper will be provided by the committee

THIS MONTH

06 Sep: Rob Aspden is a Rhodes Scholar and will be talking about the probate indexing project.
20 Sep: Joanna Newman will be talking about the Wellington City Council Archives.
27 Sep: Computer Special Interest Group. Problems and Solutions - Bring along your problems and get them solved

COME EARLY TO ALL MEETINGS FOR RESEARCH & LIBRARY - 6.30pm for evening meeting; 9.15am for the morning meeting on branch meeting days; 6pm on ComSIG night.
CUPPA AND COOKIE - available *before* the morning meeting - and *after* the evening meetings - gold coin donation please

VACANCIES – NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Starting December 2007 we need a newsletter editor. We also need a new treasurer and one or two others to help with administration. Deb has the necessary forms that need to be filled in by the end of October. PLEASE NOTE: NZSG members only may vote on the remits and only an NZSG member can be Treasurer as it is a requirement by NZSG that the 3 main office holders, i.e Convenor, Secretary & Treasurer **must** be members of NZSG + 2 others on the committee must be NZSG members. So all in, all a total of **5 committee members MUST be NZSG members** - a requirement by NZSG.

THE FOLLOWING REMITS ARE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE NOVEMBER 01 2007 AGM

Part 1: 'That the Hutt Valley Branch of the NZSG opts to go with the New Zealand Society of Genealogists in regards to the proposal regarding the Charities Commission ruling'

Part 2: 'The end of the financial year for the Hutt Valley Branch of the NZSG in accordance with the Charities Commission and Government requirement will be changed to 31 March and that the next AGM will be after 31 March 2009'

GREATER LONDON INTEREST GROUP, WELLINGTON SUB-GROUP

Saturday Sept 8th, 2pm St Lukes Church Hall, (Lower Hall) Cnr Pitt & Lennel Road, Wadestown

A COURSE TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR SCOTTISH FAMILY HISTORY

Saturday 29th Sept 07, 9.30am - 4.30pm. Hosted by the Kapiti Branch NZSG, Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Rd, Paraparaumu

Presenter: Margaret Pool – Librarian NZSG Scottish Interest Group and Family Research Centre [Auckland] Educator.

PROGRAMME

- 9.30am -12.30pm - Maps, gazetteers and The Statistical Accounts, Certificates & where to get them. Using the website Scotland's People. Old Parish Records, Irregular marriages and Churches in Scotland. Wills and poor law.
- 12.30 -1pm – Lunch - Tea/Coffee provided, bring your lunch, or alternatively there is a Café facility in the Library complex 300 metres walk.
- 1.00 - 4.30pm - Research facilities will be available and questions will be encouraged. Supervised help will be available for this session assisted by NZSG Scottish Interest Group, Wgtn Branch.

SCOTTISH COURSE ENROLMENT FORM Saturday 29 September, 2007

Name(s).....

Address.....

.....

NZSG Branch..... Leave blank if not a NZSG Branch member

Phone..... E-mail.....

Fee – \$25 per person (includes set of background notes). Enrolments close Saturday 22 September.

Cheques made out to 'Kapiti Genealogy' & sent to: Secretary, Kapiti Branch NZSG, PO Box 703, Paraparaumu, mark envelope "Scottish Course"

CONDITIONS FOR THE COURSE

Numbers are limited and early application is desired. Applications will be recorded in sequence as received and must be accompanied by the fees outlined. NZSG Branch members have propriety over members of the public. If applications exceed places available you will be advised and your cheque returned. If applicants cancel up to 7 days before the Course, a full refund will be given less \$5 Admin Fee, but within 7 days - no refund. The organisers reserve the right to cancel the course for any reason and would then give full refunds.

ENQUIRIES

kapiti@genealogy.org.nz Website: <http://rootsweb.com/~nzlsgkb> ALL WELCOME

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

- ✓ Check out the CDs in the library for the latest additions
-

SPEAKER'S REVIEW – PART 2 - JUDY KIRBY – NZSG'S PEDIGREE COLLECTION

SUBMITTING YOUR PEDIGREE

For the purposes of the NZSG Collection, a pedigree shows a person plus 3 preceding generations recorded by name and including date and place of birth, death events and marriage. Wider family, siblings, won't appear unless on another pedigree.

The Society produces a form, printed on archival paper for entering information and there is also an instruction sheet to help you.

The NZSG Pedigree database allows for 36 names per member so you can submit 2 forms – your own pedigree and one for your partner or fill out one for each of your parents. Your name appears as the submitter. Two related pedigrees total 30 names so 36 allows for different spellings, any alias and extra marriages. You don't have to fill in every detail but can resubmit an update at a later date.

Please don't record and forward 12 generations or the pedigree for each of your grandparents' 16 children. There is no room on the database or in the filing cabinets to store all this for each member, and what's good for one is good for all!

HINTS TO MAKE JUDY'S JOB EASIER

- ✓ Always quote your NZSG membership number in correspondence (very important)
- ✓ Forward information on the forms provided by the NZSG only. Odd shaped forms get lost.
- ✓ When entering names, put forenames first, then the surname in capitals
- ✓ Use maiden names for women
- ✓ Write dates in the form dd:MMM:yyy
- ✓ For Place use Chapman's standard codes as abbreviations include the town; county/province, country
- ✓ Don't use twink, sellotape or staples which can destroy paper over time, go rusty and/or disintegrate (within the files)
- ✓ If you make a major mistake write for another form, you won't be the first.
- ✓ Don't forget to sign the consent form. (You need the permission of anyone listed on the form who is still alive.)
- ✓ Keep a photocopy so that you know what you have submitted and what to update if there are gaps.

HOW TO OBTAIN ONE OF THOSE PEDIGREE FORMS TO FILL IN

Email: pedigree@genealogy.org.nz (N.B. the email address in the last newsletter was wrong)

Snail mail: (remember an ssae - stamped self addressed envelope): Judy Kirby, 25a Elliott Street, Johnsonville, Wellington 6037. Thank you Judy for your notes.

3rd – 13th September 1752

These days never happened as England adopted the Gregorian Calendar
People rioted thinking the government had stolen 11 days of their lives!

SPEAKER'S REVIEW – DEREK GRIFFIS - NZ ILLEGITIMACIES

The Police Gazettes can be found at the National Archives Wellington. The illegitimacy could appear in the Police record from the months before the child is born up to when the child is 15 years old when the father defaults in paying maintenance. If the father makes a private arrangement and does not default on payments, his name will, most likely, not appear in the Police Gazette

Amongst the records in these gazettes are records you may not find anywhere else – i.e. the name of the alleged father of an illegitimate child. These are indexed in the gazettes, but as Derek noticed, the names of the mothers and children are not indexed - and so he started to put together an index of his own which included other names mentioned.

The problem could not be solved with a DNA test like it can be done now so one still needs to treat this information with caution – not to mention the fact that children and grand children of these people are still alive today and may not know, or want to know, their back ground. There were 3 types of cases:

1. Hit and Run - A woman could find herself literally 'holding the baby' after her male friend suddenly finds he has made her pregnant. He gets cold feet and decides to leave town, usually to make himself scarce in the big city or even by leaving the country. Some did return to face the music.
2. Any and Every - There were those who did not know who the father was and having a choice of who to accuse, chose the 'nicest' of them and the most likely to take responsibility. Therefore in this case, one cannot assume that the man who accepts the responsibility for fathering the child is, in fact, the father.
3. De facto - People living quietly together as if they were married, when in fact they were not, very commonplace nowadays, but less so in the past. Often the underlying reason was that either their religion prohibited divorce, or that they simply never got round to thinking of marriage until it was really too late to bother.

RECORD SOURCES

1. Maintenance Order Books (often known as Guard Books) – 60 year embargo - These books hold copies of Orders settled upon married men who have deserted their wives and/or children, but with a few others required to support parents, siblings, grandparents, children in industrial schools, etc. About 1 in 6 Orders relate to illegitimacies. All are quite detailed.
2. Criminal Record Books – 100 year embargo - Formal written approval also has to be obtained from the controlling court to access. Chronologically, these come before the guard books, as they record the putative father being charged, and the sequence of events leading up to his being adjudged the father. Many entries do not progress to finality, but useful supplementary information may be revealed. Because of the difficulty of access, it is recommended that these not be sought, other than as a last resort.
3. Maintenance Payment Registers – 60 year embargo - These registers are not very common, and are simply an accounting record of maintenance payments received and paid out. They are useful though in that they may reveal the movements of either party around NZ, and on occasion may quote the name of the child when nothing else does. They may also be annotated with the new name of the mother should she subsequently marry, or the death of any of the parties (father, mother, or child).
4. Police Gazettes – 100 year embargo - These contain much useful information on the father who has run away from his responsibilities. It is the father who is being sought, and so the focus is on him. The name of the mother is only quoted in passing, and the child(ren) virtually never rate a mention by name. As the father is a Wanted Man, there is a detailed physical description of him, of the way he dresses and behaves, his line of work, and of the sort of places he might frequent.

SEE ALSO

- Griffis, Derek. "Left Holding the Baby or Some New Zealand illegitimacies 1877-1925" *The New Zealand Genealogist*, Sep/Oct 1996, vol 27, no.241, pp.296-7. (copy on notice board)
- Hansen, Donald. "Finding Fathers The Truth behind some illegitimate births" *GRINZ (Genealogical Research Institute of New Zealand) Year Book* 1998. (copy on notice board)

ENQUIRIES: Sensitivity needs to be exercised, as some of the children will still be alive and may be unaware of their birth status. Enquiries (with full name of child, full name of known parent, date & place of birth) to Derek Griffis, 94 Ngaio Rd, Waikanae (include SSAE), or griffisnz@ihug.co.nz

THE MYTH OF PANDORA'S BOX

The Greek Myth is not unlike the story of Adam and Eve with the main characters Epimetheus and Pandora, living in paradise and their god, Olympus Zeus. Hades, another god, gathered all sorts of nasties and put them into a very attractive box and left them with Epimetheus and Pandora for safe keeping telling them they must not open the box.

Curiosity got the better of Pandora and she finally opened the box after putting her ear up against it and hearing voices begging to be let out. They were both bitten and stung by the hateful creatures that escaped.

While Pandora was lamenting her mistake and nursing her wounds, she heard another voice in the box asking to be released but was hesitant, afraid it was another nasty. Finally she let 'hope' out the box which healed the pain and made everything better again.

So what should we expect to find in the NZSG Pandora's box? Something nasty? Hopefully, something nice!

NZSG COLLECTIONS - PANDORA'S BOX – by Dawn Chambers

The family history "As the Branches Spread" written and compiled by Keith J. Wood (1982) was the founding source for Pandora's Box. It is the story of my 4x great-grandparents John and Eliza Wood who emigrated from Harrogate, Yorkshire in 1851 on the 'Duke of Portland'. John died just days before arrival. Eliza and seven children lived initially at Lowry Bay then moved to Wainuiomata in the mid to late 1850s.

The challenge in Sesquicentennial year was to enter the Wood family data and other genealogies into an Acorn Electron computer. John Hand of Kilbirnie provided useful advice and at about the same time produced a microfiche called "Gentree for Genealogists". This was a single alphabetical listing of 1908 schoolteachers from the Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives (AJHR) and NZSG branch member's interests. John generously allowed me to add his dataset (~7,200 entries) to mine (~5,000 entries) and thus began Pandora's Box. He also provided assistance with databases and gave me a text editor called SPFPC. This enabled the use of function keys for entering text strings. So instead of typing 'Alexander' or 'Elizabeth' F10 and F4 did it for me.

Linda Cocks introduced me to the world of Official Publications (NZ Gazette & AJHRs) and in 1990 provided a list of "Officers ceased to be in Government Service since 30 June 1865" (AJHR 1867 Section D3). In November 1991 the index was known as "The Family History Network". A change of name was needed due to the genealogy data being swamped by diverse lists. Although recollection of who used the term "Pandora's Box" first is hazy, it was the result of a conversation with Linda in February 1992.

After that indexing projects were inspired by Ken Scadden for Shipwreck Inquiries, Masters, Mates and Engineers; Bob Sykes for Trademark Applications and Registrations and Rollo Arnold for monthly lists of fires in the Australasian Insurance and Banking Record. Denis Hampton's article "From the Appendices Part Eleven - Land" (NZ Genealogist Mar/Apr 1994) resulted in the indexing of all references cited.

In January 1997 it became clear that cancer would curtail future activities. The Hutt Branch agreed to allow a talk about Pandora's Box and I was able to bring John Hand along as a means of thanking him for his contribution. An announcement was also made regarding the donation of Pandora's Box to the NZSG. Paul Alpe collected the computer files in April or May then undertook the unenviable task of conversion into the NZSG Index format. By mutual agreement some large indexes were omitted for a variety of reasons.

Pandora's Box over time: Mar 1990 (12,000); late 1990 (17,000); Sep 1991 (35,000); Feb 1993 (153,000); Jul 1993 (195,000); Apr 1994 (289,000); end of 1996 (470,000) In the end 380,000 entries were included in the NZSG Index. A webpage has been created to provide further information where entries have proved to be problematic for one reason or another and is updated as and when needed. <http://homepages.paradise.net.nz/~dchamber/pandorakey.htm>

WEBSITES

- ✓ This is wonderful listing for anyone with missing folk in London area <http://www.missing-ancestors.com/miscellaneous%20institutions%20with%20census%20attached.htm>
- ✓ 101 sites Family Tree Magazine for 2007 Top of the www <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/101sites/2007/> including mega data sites
- ✓ Papers Past - old NZ newspaper images online - <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/browse.html>
- ✓ NZ Mailing list Archives - browse or search <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~nzbound/hints.htm#MailingLists>
- ✓ RootsWeb mailing list search engine - search all the Rootsweb mailing lists at once <http://archiver.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/search>
- ✓ Gavin's 'Immigrant Ships to NZ 1835 to 1910' to obtain the arrival port and date <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz/shipstonz.html>
- ✓ Peter's site - passenger lists to NZ and more <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ourstuff/>
- ✓ NZ newspapers <http://www.stuff.co.nz/> I can check read the Timaru Herald
- ✓ Get Trademe to email you when that rare book you want comes up or regularly browse the genealogy section. <http://www.trademe.co.nz/>
- ✓ Wayback machine <http://web.archive.org/collections/web.html>
- ✓ World Connect <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/>
- ✓ Ancestors onboard, a commercial site. Passenger lists leaving UK 1890-1929. Updated regularly <http://www.findmypast.com/passengerListPersonSearchStart.action>
- ✓ Auckland City Art Gallery & Library site - Databases on photographers, images of WW1 soldiers <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/>
- ✓ NZ Electronic text center - great NZ books online. <http://www.nzetc.org/>
- ✓ Archways - NZ Archives site <http://archway.archives.govt.nz/CallItemAdvancedSearch.do>
- ✓ South Canterbury with a link to Timaru Cemetery site and photographs of the headstones. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~nzbound/> and <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/>
- ✓ The Ryerson Index for Australian deaths now has a new address, www.ryersonindex.org, With over 1.5 million entries, and now including 131 newspapers throughout Australia, Ryerson continues to grow into the most comprehensive free web database of recent deaths in Australia. A website (the Ryerson Index) for Australian deaths
- ✓ <http://shadowsoftime.kiwiwebhost.biz/index.html>

GERMANS ON THE TRAIL OF THEIR ANCESTORS (from the genealogue site)

A new television program in Germany invites celebrities to trace their family histories. The first episode demonstrated why some Germans are reluctant to delve into their pasts.

The actress Mariele Millowitsch, 51, was the first guest on Auf der Spur meiner Ahnen (On the Trail of My Ancestors). Cameras filmed her as, for the first time, she watched footage of her actor father Willy performing comic routines for an audience of Nazi officers.

Miss Millowitsch appeared uncomfortable, protesting that her father must have been doing his best to earn a living, rather than performing out of any ideological conviction.

Old genealogists don't die, they just get filed away

HOW THE ENGLISH EVOLVED (from www.geneologue.com)

While researching his new book, *A Farewell to Alms*, Gregory Clark wondered if the descendants of English people who survived disasters like the Black Death gained, through natural selection, a greater resistance to disease. This greater immunity, he supposed, might help explain how the Industrial Revolution came about.

In support of the disease-resistance idea, cities like London were so filthy and disease ridden that a third of their populations died off every generation, and the losses were restored by immigrants from the countryside. That suggested to Dr. Clark that the surviving population of England might be the descendants of peasants.

A way to test the idea, he realized, was through analysis of ancient wills, which might reveal a connection between wealth and the number of progeny. The wills did that, but in quite the opposite direction to what he had expected.

Generation after generation, the rich had more surviving children than the poor, his research showed. That meant there must have been constant downward social mobility as the poor failed to reproduce themselves and the progeny of the rich took over their occupations. "The modern population of the English is largely descended from the economic upper classes of the Middle Ages," he concluded. [As the wealthy dropped in social status, says Clark, they passed down \(culturally, or perhaps genetically\) their capitalist values to the workforce that drove the Industrial Revolution.](#)

HOW LITTLE WE HAVE GROWN IN 1,000 YEARS

<http://www.feedblitz.com/t.asp?/104644/2032339/http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>

Despite what you may have heard, our medieval ancestors were not dwarves. After examining 3,000 old skeletons, scientists have concluded that people have not grown substantially in the past millennium.

From the 10th century through to the 19th, the average height of adult men was 5ft 7in or 170cm - just 2 inches below today's average. Women were an average of 5ft 2in or 158cm - just over an inch shorter than today.

But what about all those low door frames in medieval buildings, and the tiny suits of armour cluttering museums? Sebastian Payne, chief scientist for English Heritage, explains: ["The reason why you get small pieces of armour, is they are the ones made for rich small kids, which didn't get heavily used and so survived."](#) ["Small doorways are more to do with heating efficiency than anything else."](#)



INTERESTING DETAILS DISCOVERED DURING THE PROCESS OF INDEXING THE BRITISH 1881 CENSUS. (Found in the Ensign magazine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, March 1996, p. 58.)

- The wife, mother, and daughter of James Christmas were all named Mary Christmas
 - Frank Guest was listed as a visitor
 - Harriet Goodhand was listed as a domestic servant
 - The families of William Lovegrove, Henry Dearlove, and William Darling all lived on the same block in Oxfordshire
 - A woman named Rose married Robert Garden
 - Emma Boatwright married a seaman
 - Mr. Thorn lived in Rose Cottage
 - Robert Speed, a bus driver and post runner
 - Robert Robb, a detective officer
 - Phoebe Brain, a scholar
 - One woman's birthplace was listed as "in stage coach between Nottingham and Derby"
 - John Pounder, a blacksmith
 - William Scales, a piano maker
 - Herman Hamberger, born in Greece
 - Curious occupations: dirt refiner, hoveller, moleskin saver, piano puncher, sparable cutter, spittle maker, tingle maker, and whim driver
 - Twin 4-year-olds named Peter the Great and William the Conqueror
 - Brothers named Seaman and Landsman
 - The occupation of 3 daughters was entered as "They toil not, neither do they spin"
-