

# News & Views

December 2004; 22<sup>nd</sup> Year

Issue 219



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

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Evening Meeting 7.30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, February to December  
Day Meeting: 9.30am, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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

02 Dec 2004 : Evening Meeting - Barbara Holt - Family Historian and then Christmas Party  
03 Feb 2005 : Evening Meeting - Jonathan Hunt MP Speaker of the House  
17 Feb 2005 : Morning Meeting - Basics Workshop led by Deb and Sandra.  
24 Feb 2005 : Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 9pm for Members' Research.  
03 Mar 2005 : Evening Meeting - Jonathan Hunt  
17 Mar 2005 : Morning Meeting - Workshops taken by Jan Walker and her gang.  
24 Mar 2005 : Research - The Library is open from 6.00pm until around 9pm for Members' Research.  
07 Apr 2005 : Evening Meeting - The Keowns - The Tin Trunk

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### ALL BRANCH LIBRARY BOOKS TO BE RETURNED BEFORE THE HOLIDAY BREAK PLEASE!

#### EVENING MEETING 2 DECEMBER - BARBARA HOLT

Barbara is a family historian (not historian) and has published two family histories so far (both in NZSG library). She is an experienced public speaker (and ex-teacher) having spoken at many meetings and conferences. She had planned to give three talks on her Irish history research to different NZSG branches in 2002 and even had dates fixed for two of them but had to cancel. So our talk on the Winders was the first one she has done, apart from the VUW one!

Auckland NZSG Irish Group have asked her to do one next year for them. Wellington NZSG is setting up an Irish Group now and she will probably give them a talk some time. But mainly she wants to try to finish her Irish family history writing first while she says she can still hit the right keys on her computer (most of the time).

What Barbara is thinking of doing is talking briefly about her early Orrs and their children (several of whom lived in the Hutt as adults), and finish with how well their grandchildren did. Two of them spent most of their lives in the Hutt, one dying in 1996 and the other still alive at 92 but living in Hawkes Bay.

Barbara has photos which she can make into overheads of Hutt houses where they lived and will copy the photo of the Wards to show as well.

**Party Time - Bring a Plate (with food on it).** Christmas raffle: tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2.

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## OFFICE HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 2005

Chair	Sandra Greig
Secretary	Deb Beban
Treasurer	Janet Ketchell
Library Assistant/Hospitality	Lynne Gentry
Membership	Dianne Fitzgerald
Speakers	Janice Price
Hall/Equipment	William Clark
Members' Interests/Library Liaison/Host/Computers	Carol-Ann Mason
Editor	Suzanne Sutton-Cummings
Library (ex officio)	Pauline Innes

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## OPENINGS AND CLOSURES OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Lower Hutt Library - Reduced hours between Christmas and New Year. Closed Public Holidays.

Upper Hutt Libraries - Tel. 527-2117 for opening hours.

Wellington Library - Reduced hours between Christmas and New Year. Closed Public Holidays.

Porirua Library - Phone 237-1533 for opening hours

The National Archives - Closes 1pm Fri 24th Dec. and reopens 5th Jan.

The National Library - will be closed between Christmas and New Year

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### Victoria University of Wellington Law Library

This library is situated in the grand old Government Building opposite parliament. It is well worth going in and having a quiet browse at the vast collection of books. Also a few interesting displays.

Normal hours:

Mon -Thurs: 8am - 9pm

Friday: 8am - 5pm

Sat: 9am - 1:30pm

Sun: 1pm - 5:30pm

Closed: 24 Dec - 4 Jan.

Also reduced hours during other public holidays.

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### Upper Hutt Family History Centre Christmas Closure

The FHC closes Saturday 27th November 2004 and will not reopen again until 2nd February 2005. Orders for films will be accepted up to date of closing, however, as usual, no guarantee of when they will arrive. Enquiry's to FHC on 526 4259.

Mavis Pokia, the Director of Upper Hutt FHC and the librarians would like to wish all the patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. - Mike Guest

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## KAPITI, NEW ZEALAND, LEGACY USERS GROUP LEGACY

[kapitlegacy@hotmail.com](mailto:kapitlegacy@hotmail.com)

JAN GOW - KAPITI LEGACY WEEKEND

4th and 5th DECEMBER

Masonic Hall, Tararua Street, Paraparaumu

Jan Gow is one of the most experienced genealogists in New Zealand and has been involved in almost every aspect of genealogy from writing newspaper/magazine columns, holding prominent positions in New Zealand genealogy societies and computer groups, to leading genealogy tours throughout America and Great Britain.

Three sessions on the Legacy Programme will be held over the weekend and among the topics will be: TAGGING, SOURCES, EVENTS and ADD-ON PROGRAMMES and, hopefully, time for questions, queries and problem solving. (It might be best to have your questions ready in printed form)

COST: \$8.00 per session or \$20 for all three sessions.

Everyone welcome regardless of experience. Jan's infectious enthusiasm will ensure a great weekend!

The Masonic Hall will be open at 9.00am on both Saturday and Sunday mornings, tea and coffee available.

### Session Times

Saturday Morning: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Lunch: 12.30pm - 2.00pm

Saturday Afternoon: 2.00pm - 4.30pm (all sessions with coffee/tea breaks)

Sunday Morning: 10.00am - 12.30pm finish

Bring your own lunch or you may like to go to 'Coastlands' where there is a variety of eateries and sandwich bars, etc. But please keep a close eye on the time. Each session will start promptly at the allotted time.

There will be LEGACY PRODUCTS available for order.

At the close of the Saturday PM session, if you would like to have dinner with Jan and other members of the Legacy Group, please let us know by Friday 19 November and we will endeavour to book the required number of seats. (Everyone pays for themselves).

Replies and queries to kapitilegacy@hotmail.com

Everyone Welcome

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### LADY TEVIOT WILL BE IN PALMERSTON NORTH

Saturday 19th February 2005

Kilwinning Lodge, Church Street, Palmerston North

10:00am to 4:00 pm

\$10.00 each

Lady Teviot has all new subjects.

- Baby Farming in the 18th and 19th centuries
- Vaccination in the 19th century in England
- Work House in the 18th and 19th Centuries
- Genealogical Geography

Tea and coffee provided. Bring your own lunch

Lady Teviot is conducting a brief tour of New Zealand and going to Bay of Islands, Thames, Whakatane, Gisborne, Napier and Masterton before touring the South Island.

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### THE PARACENSUS OF AUSTRALIA 1788-1828

James Hugh Donohoe BA, Dip. FHS, CMC, JP.

Email: jamesdonohoe@bigpond.com

Dear Secretary,

Since promoting my work "The Paracensus of Australia 1788-1828", the orders that I have received for it from New Zealand Libraries and Genealogical Societies have been tremendous. Thank you New Zealand, very much

More importantly is the feedback.

Bank fees. Several Societies and Libraries have informed me that the cost of a cheque payment in Australian currency is \$NZ25.00 which adds substantially to the purchase costs. I have arranged with

my Australian Bank for the acceptance of cheques issued in New Zealand currency on local New Zealand bank branches. Please send your local cheques when paying.

Access to biographical sources. The main biographical sources addressed in the "Paracensus", including the New South Wales Births, Deaths and Marriages and the Colonial Secretary's Records may be accessible on the Internet. Others sources are in books that are in print. Some of these, including the 1822 Muster, 1823-1825 Muster and 1828 are currently on sale on CD. The Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington may have some of the other works among their microfiche/microfilm collection. The works in print and the available CDs may be purchased through the Society of Australian Genealogists, "Richmond Vila", 120 Kent St., Sydney NSW Australia or through the Library of Australian History, 17 Mitchell Street, North Sydney 2060, NSW Australia. I am approaching the owners of the sources I have referenced seeking their co-operation to computerise all their records and put these records on the Internet. In due course I am hopeful that my "Paracensus" can be synchronised with the Internet entries so that researchers can link up directly with the information as sourced.

Opening files. The "Paracensus" is 2000 pages long. It has 1.5 million lines. Thus the work had to be divided into smaller files. I have supplied each CD with the work in two programs. One is in Microsoft Word and the other is in Rich Text Format. If the files wont open in Microsoft Word then the user can download in Rich Text Format that should then reopen in the program of their choice. Every effort is made to check each CD before dispatch but if it will not open quickly, then please let me know, advising me of your choice of word processing program so that I can send a new CD with the "Paracensus" in your program.

New Zealand Visit. I hope to visit New Zealand in early March on a ten day long lecturing tour in early March. The tour is being organized in conjunction with the Dargaville Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. I will be giving about six lectures while touring the North and South Islands. Arrangements are underway for a talk in Auckland too and I am hoping that I can give a similar talk in Dunedin. I am very much looking forward to the tour.

Book. I have received enquires about providing the "Paracensus" in book form. At 2000 pages, the printing of each book, supplied in three volumes, cannot be delivered under \$NZ330.00. Low demand would not justify mass production at a cheaper cost. Accordingly, I would not mind if a Society, which owns a copy of the "Paracensus", prints one hard copy from their disk on their own printer for their member's/reader's use. This would be the most economical means of acquiring the "Paracensus" in book format. Alternatively, I will have a copy printed for you, at cost.

Microfiche Edition. It is available. It was not originally intended to produce the "Paracensus" in microform because I was advised that microfiche is no longer popular. However, many orders were received for the "Paracensus" on microfiche regardless of "popularity". The cost of printing the 17 masters required was frightening but I did it. So now a number microfiche sets are I available. I now apologise to those Societies who ordered the microfiche but were not supplied. I can now supply them if they still wish.

British Army Personnel in New Zealand. I published my work "The British Army in Australia 1788-1870, Index of Personnel" some years ago. Those who served in New Zealand were not omitted but I did not include personnel in that work who were in units that only served in New Zealand. I have now started to prepare a new edition which will include these personnel. I am hopeful that it will be ready in time for my New Zealand visit.

The "Paracensus" took twenty years to prepare. I am so very grateful for the support I have received from my fellow Genealogists in New Zealand. I cannot speak for New Zealand history but I believe that the History of Australia is yet to be written correctly. I believe that the true facts will not be found pursuing the activities of Governors and Government Policies. People with a great spirit who moved mountains, so to speak, without Government help and much guidance built New Zealand and Australia. They got on with their lives regardless of challenges. Many surmounted great hardships. Both New Zealand and Australia are the greatest models in the world for what quality of life can be earned. The true history of our countries can be found in what and how our great pioneer ancestors did and achieved for themselves, for their families and for their communities.

Sincerely  
James Donohoe

## SPEAKERS REVIEW

### Evening Meeting 4 November - Barbara Holt - Family Historian

#### George Winder

Our guest speaker for November, Jonathan Hunt, was unable to make our meeting due to Parliament going into urgency. Sandra managed to wave her magic wand and persuaded her relative, Barbara Holt to come to our rescue. Barbara is also be our December speaker. For November's speech, she spoke about George Winder, a member of her wider family tree. George was an interesting character, a protestant Irishman, who was elected to the Wellington City Council and featured in several interesting and humorous newspaper articles. George's ironmonger shop was on the spot now known as James Smith Corner. For those interested in following up on George, he may be found in the Wellington section of the Cyclopedia of New Zealand.

One interesting part of Barbara's speech dealt with George's daughter Jessie. In her twenties she had accompanied her parents on a world trip. In later life she was committed to Porirua Asylum because of her paranoid schizophrenia. Barbara, interested in finding out about early treatment of such cases, was able to locate her file. Jessie lived into her eighties.

If Barbara is able to enthral us when she has rushed to put together a speech, I'm sure we will enjoy having a chance to hear her fully prepared.

Bobbie Amyes

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## SPEAKERS REVIEW

### Morning Meeting 18 November - William Clark - How I Do Research!

Committee and life HVNZSG member William Clark was the morning guest speaker for our November meeting.

William looks after the Hall and Equipment portfolio of our Hutt Valley NZSG committee and has (bar time off for health reasons) held the job for many years. He is the person we thank sincerely for building our wonderful library cupboards, now holding around 3000 books, fiche and CDs.

William offered his services as a speaker to our group to tell them about his means of researching his family history.

Members of his family tree shown on the over head gave us a good lead in to the people we were to meet during the talk. Williams sister, who doesn't look at all like William, no beard and has lovely curls, is also interested in the family tree which helps him chase the elusive ones.

Keeping a workbook full of people and folios already traced is the best means of eliminating family. NEVER does William have to repeat searches as he always double checks his workbook. William learnt that keeping folio numbers besides names also helps eliminate others with common names.

William does not use the internet nor computer for his studies....He spends many a day at the Lower Hutt Library, in the local studies i.e. genealogy rooms.

The 50 person audience were interested to learn about another members family tree and take some hints forward for their own research.

You never know when names are being dropped if you too can attach your tree to someone else's.

Sandra Greig

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## COMMITTEE MEMBERS' PROFILES

### Deb Beban

I was born and raised in Palmerston North and introduced at an early age to family history and genealogy by my maternal grandfather who was the youngest of 10 children.

Came to Wellington to train and work and family history was pushed to one side for many years while exploring and enjoying the hedonistic life style of the late 60's and early 70's.

After tiring of this, marriage and a family steered my interest back to genealogy by which time it was too late to ask my grandfather questions as he had died as had his bachelor brother and spinster sister, the only 3 of the BAIRSTOW siblings I had the privileged to know.

My North Island maternal side has been a relatively easy task as most of the families were from the Carterton & Greytown areas of the Wairapapa where many of my cousins still live today especially those descended from Thomas the eldest son of William DEW. Thomas and his wife Elizabeth STOODLEY had 12 children, who in their own time married and also had many children! The ROBINSON family, another of my maternal lines lived in the same area but they are somewhat harder to unearth but I am starting to flesh them out a little with lots of persistent prodding of my mother's memories.

My South Island, paternal families, ALLEN, GODSO, PATERSON and FREEMAN of Christchurch and Dunedin I knew very little about when I started researching them but with a lot of hard work and some good fortune have slowly been unearthing information and new cousins and making many new friendships with the very kind and helpful people in the South Island I have had contact with in the quest of those families.

Well, that's me and my family.

To branch members have a great festive season and Happy family hunting for you all in 2005.

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### Janet Ketchell

I had always had an interest in family research because I grew up knowing very little of my family background. My parents, because of their religious beliefs, chose to cut themselves off from their families. As an adult the desire to know my family background was strong but commitments to my own young family and the fact that I lived in Whangarei, not the easiest of places to do research from in the pre computer era, meant that my ambitions in this area remained of the 'something I will do some day' variety. When I discovered that I would have to shift from Whangarei to Wellington for my husband's work I was very sad to be leaving and thought what would I ever in Wellington, but quickly realised that Wellington was where all sorts of records were kept, so decided that when we got settled, starting some family research would be just the thing to take my mind off all the wonderful friends I was leaving behind. As it happened I had hardly got the chance to start any research of my own, when a distant cousin, whom I didn't even know existed, contacted me. This was wonderful as he lived in Blenheim and not easily able to search Wellington records, but he was a reasonably experienced researcher, so I was able to do the 'leg work' for him under his guidance. Then as my computer skills grew he fed me the information he had put together and I was able to compile it into book form. Then he was able to introduce me to other family members. This, I think has been the greatest joy, that of being able to be rejoined with family members after so many years and collaborating with them and getting to know them as friends.

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### WORCESTER SAUSE

1 lb Treacle	1/2 oz Cayenne Pepper
1 oz Pepper	1/2 oz Pealed Garlic
1/2 oz Powdered Mace	8 oz's Shallots
1/2 oz Bruised Cloves	2 quarts Vinegar

Put the liqueur into a spice jar over the shallots. Let it stand two weeks closely covered, stir daily. Boil 20 minutes, strain through a cloth and then put into bottles. You will see this is only a small amount. You can use double the quantities if you like.

I found this recipe in an old hints book in my Grandmother's writing. She died long before I was born.

Pat Long

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If you don't know [your family's] history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree. --Michael Chrichton

submitted by Carol Ann Mason

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**He walks as if balancing the family tree on his nose!**

## THIS FUNNY THING HAPPENED...

### From Tales of Old New Plymouth. By Murray Morehead

Anyone who has ever glanced through a copy of Punch, or any other publication of Victorian humour must be justified in accepting that our 19th century ancestors really were as prim and stodgy as they are habitually painted, and that Queen Victoria's stuffy proclamation the 'we are not amused' really did set the standards for her era.

Certainly, what was able to tickle the 19th century funny bone would not even raise a modern eyebrow, let alone a smile, and it really does seem to confirm the dullness of the Victorian outlook that cartoon captions of the day needed to help explain the job rather than leave it to the reader's own sense of humour to work out.

However, peculiar though their sense of humour may have been to modern eyes, the Victorians did at least have one, and there are records of some moments of mirth from New Plymouth's past to show that laughter is certainly not a 20th century phenomenon.

New Plymouth's original surveyors set up the settlement's first big laugh. One day in early August 1841, Rogan and his group reported having discovered a Maori oven beside the Te Henui River. Most alarming was the revelation that the oven contained human bones of not particularly ancient origin.

The news threw the William Bryan migrants (as yet the only arrivals) into a right panic, even though it was already widely known that cannibalism had taken place at Ngamotu during and after the siege of Oraka Pa as recently as less than a decade earlier. But upset it did, especially after some wise men had been finally persuaded to make the short journey up that now fearsome river to confirm the discovery.

The laugh was on the wise men - and loud laughter it was too, tempered as it must have been by a feeling of tremendous relief - when a man with more practical experience than his compatriots gave a second opinion on the bones and revealed that the whole thing had been an elaborate hoax. The bones were those of a pig.

Two other early laughs were associated with the migrants themselves.

Till the day he died, Thomas King never lived down the most embarrassing two hours of his life which occurred during the journey to New Zealand on the William Bryan.

One Sunday in January 1841, Mr King entered the little 'outside loo' structure on the main passenger deck, only to find that no sooner had he seated himself than the ship's surgeon Henry Weekes, who was doubling on the voyage as guardian of the passengers' souls, had set up his pulpit and called the passengers to worship.

Victorian clothing being what it was, poor King was unable to rearrange himself and escape from his castle before Weekes' sermon began. There was therefore nothing for it but to sit it out. And King was able to testify for ever after to the marathon nature of Weekes' sessions at the pulpit!

The big laugh came when, during a moment of quiet which King took to signify that the congregation has dispersed, he opened the door and stuck his head out, only to find the entire passenger body still arrayed in front of him, heads bowed in prayer. The reaction, Weekes wrote afterwards, 'destroyed any little impression that my sermon may have left'.

Then there was the joke perpetrated by a jocular Amelia Thompson passenger, a one-legged man named Jack Shepherd.

During the voyage to Taranaki the ship paused in a bay near Port Underwood to take on ballast. shepherd was among the passengers able to get ashore for a while. But on the beach he managed to get his wooden leg caught between two rocks and as he fell the leg was snapped off.

He was assisted into the boat and rowed quickly back to the ship's side. An urgent message was sent up to the two doctors on board that a man had broken his leg. The surgeons, with the retinue of assistants carrying surgical kits, splints, bandages, brandy and all manner of other medical needs hastened down to the boat.

The blanket covering the 'casualty' was lifted back and there lay Jack Shepherd with a broad grin all over his face. Fortunately both surgeons had a sense of humour and joined in the fun as Shepherd was hauled up to the deck and dumped without ceremony at the doorway of the carpenter complete with a prescription form calling for him to have his fracture attended to by someone much better qualified.

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#### FINAL NOTE

Any contributions to the newsletters for February need to be received by the editor by the third Thursday in January, the 20th of January 2005.

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#### TWELVE DAYS OF A GENEALOGY CHRISTMAS

*From New Hampshire Society of Genealogist newsletter:*

On the twelfth day of Christmas  
My true love gave to me,  
Twelve census searches,  
Eleven printer ribbons,  
Ten e-mail contacts,  
Nine headstone rubbings,  
Eight birth and death dates,  
Seven town clerks sighing,  
Six second cousins,  
Five coats of arms,  
Four GEDCOM files,  
Three old wills,  
Two CD-ROMS,  
And a branch in my family tree.

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**HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**

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