

News & Views

February 2007; 25th Year

Issue 242



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
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)

01 Feb: Problem Ancestors (branch members)
15 Feb: Get to know the branch resources

01 Mar: Marlene Sayers - Elusive ancestors
15 Mar: Sherwood Young - Police records

05 Apr: Finished article (branch members)
19 Apr: Ali Carew - Eastbourne Historical Society

03 May: Lynly Yates - Fencible Ancestors

✓ 01 Feb: Problem Ancestors (branch members)

A branch discussion type evening with members presenting their problem ancestors and what research they have done trying to find the elusive one. This is an opportunity for Branch members to contribute ideas to finding the problem ancestor. Bring along names, dates and the research you have done to try to find an elusive ancestor. We will then take suggestions from the floor as to places you could research further. Bring those results back to the March evening meeting [1st March] when we will also have Marlene Sayers to talk on "Finding Your Elusive Ancestor."

✓ 15 Feb: Get to know the branch resources

Getting to know your branch resources in a fun way with prizes of chocolate fish for the best team!!

✓ 22 Feb 6.30pm - MEETING FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN FORMING A COMPUTER GROUP

The purpose of the meeting is to ascertain interest and formulate a programme and sub committee or facilitator.

Don't forget that the Bridge Club Rooms are open on the last Thursday of each month, January to November, for research from 5.30pm to about 8.30pm.

✓ Come early to both meetings for research and library - 6.30pm for evening meeting and 9.00am for the morning meeting on branch meeting days. Cuppa and cookie - available *before* the morning meeting - and *after* the evening meetings - gold coin donation please

✓ SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2007

The fees are the same as they were last year. Please also fill in the survey forms which were either emailed or posted with your subscription form. Many thanks to those who have already filled in the forms.

Single \$30.00

Household (Joint) \$40.00

'Newsletter Only' is \$15.00.

Genealogy Absolutely Positively

The 2007 AGM & Conference of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists inc.

1-4 June 2007 Wellington Girls Collage Pipitea Street Thorndon Wellington

Now is time to register for the Conference. Register by February 28th and save on registration fees. However if you don't plan to attend or are only interested in attending a few of the lectures, do consider when and how you can volunteer to help. Information and registration forms can be downloaded of the NZSG website. www.genealogy.org.nz

YOUR BRANCH NEEDS YOU!

Volunteers required for NZSG Conference. Queens Birthday weekend,

As co-hosts Hutt Valley committee have agreed with the Conference committee that Hutt members shall staff the Resource room for the duration of the conference. Therefore, volunteers are required to staff the room. The tasks required are the distribution and collection of micro fiche and CD's. IT volunteers will be on duty to assist with the CD problems.

At the next branch meeting MIKE GUEST will be present to take names of volunteers. However, if you cannot attend the meeting you can email Mike at mike@paradise.net.nz and arrange your participation.

TWO people are required at all times to attend the room for the following sessions:-

- ✓ Friday set up- 2 people 4.00- 5.00pm 1 hour duration
- ✓ Saturday desk- 2 people 8.30- 2.00pm 5½ hour duration
- ✓ Sunday desk- 2 people 8.30- 4.00pm 7½ hour duration
- ✓ Monday desk- 2 people 8.30- 12.30pm 4 hour duration
- ✓ Monday pack up- 2 people 3.30- 4.30pm 1 hour duration

Please note: To suit everyone the volunteer's duties can be split into smaller time slots as indicated below.

- ✓ 2 hour duties:- 8.30 to 10.30. 10.30 to 12.30. 12.30 to 2.30. 2.30 to 4.00
- ✓ 4 hour duties:- 8.30 to 12.30. 12.30 to 4.00.

WE ALSO REQUIRE "BUDDY" VOLUNTEERS! to assist staff at Archives NZ and/or the National Library on Friday all day and Saturday morning as well as people to assist with setting up at the college by arranging tables and chairs etc.

We look forward to your co-operation in making this a great conference.

SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP OF NZSG

www.scotgroup.tk/ Scottish Research at the Porirua Library, Porirua Corner Norrie & Parumoana Sts

- ✓ 1-4 pm Sunday 11th Feb 2007 Wee door charge \$2

We will have our own folder resources for Scottish family history research, and all the genealogical resources of the Porirua Library will be available. If you have some useful Scottish material to share with others, do bring this along. Do label with your name. *All welcome*

SCOTTISH INTEREST SUB-GROUP OF GREATER WELLINGTON Contact: Pen Brown,
penbrown@globe.net.nz

FAMILY HISTORY EXPO 2007

Kapiti Branch, New Zealand Society of Genealogists

✓ 17th & 18th March Kapiti Community Centre, Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu

STRATFORD BRANCH NZSG

You are invited to the Branch's 20th Birthday celebration!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Yes, it is 20 years since the Central Taranaki Branch of NZSG divided to become Stratford and Hawera Branches.

To celebrate the occasion, we are going to meet for a Birthday lunch Saturday 24 February 2007 at Metro Café, Pioneer Village at 1pm and we are inviting you to join us for the afternoon. The Metro Café menu will be available. Cost of your meal plus tea/coffee will be about \$15.00

RSVP to Carol Spragg c.spragg@xtra.co.nz

THE KAPITI NEW ZEALAND LEGACY USERS GROUP MEETINGS FOR 2007.

These dates (Feb to Oct) are all the last Saturday in the month.

- ✓ 24 February Publishing and Reports
- ✓ 28 April Adding Pictures
- ✓ 30 June Add on programmes, e.g. Charting Companion
- ✓ 25 August Tips and Tricks; Legacy Home page
- ✓ 27 October Calendar, Birthday reminders, Searching
- ✓ 1st and 2nd December Jan Gow weekend (Saturday and Sunday)

Place: Masonic Hall, Tararua Street, (off Hinemoa Street) Paraparaumu

Time: Doors open at 1 p.m.

Start: Meeting starts at 2 p.m.

Refreshments: Tea and coffee available before and after the meeting

Admission: \$3.00

The Kapiti group is an "informal" one. Anyone with an interest in the Legacy Family Tree programme can attend the meetings. We cater for any level of experience in using Legacy.

There is a small door charge, rather than subscriptions, to cover the cost of the hire of the hall, tea and coffee, etc. Any enquiries to Gerald Twiss E-mail geromisa@paradise.net.nz

MY OLD HOUSE - WHAT IS ITS HISTORY (course at Onslow College with Rachel Brown)

This course will explore the places to go and ways to uncover the history of your house. Includes 2 evenings and 2 day visits to archives and libraries in Wellington (at times to be agreed) to research your house. Starts Wed May 2, 7-9pm 2 classes + visits. For more info: Onslow College 477-1118.

HELP WANTED FOR 'STRAND' ANCESTORS

I am researching the family of William Strand born Wingham Kent England 1838 and was in Hutt on the 1881 census. I know that William died in 1920 in the Wellington district. Any help you can give me to continue this search would be appreciated. I have most of the census details of Kent England and would be happy to do "look ups" for any of your members. Maureen

If anyone is willing to help, please contact our secretary, Deb Beban.

1911 CENSUS TO BE RELEASED EARLY!

The 1911 Census for England & Wales was due for online release in January 2012 - but thanks to the sterling efforts of Guy Etchells and other campaigners the release date has been brought forward by 3 years, to 2009. For more details, links, and news updates visit <http://www.1911census.info>

Note: if you don't want to wait until 2009 you can request information from next month - provided you know the address, and are prepared to pay a research fee of £45 to the (UK) National Archives.

DO-IT-YOURSELF CENSUS

Your Family Tree has a [sample image](#) from the 1911 UK census. Let's hope our British ancestors had good penmanship.

Unlike the pages you'll see for the 1901 Census and before, these schedules were completed by the householders themselves, rather than the enumerators. One of the most exciting things, then, is that when you find a census page relating to an ancestor, you'll be able to see their actual signature at the bottom right if they were head of the household.

SPEAKER'S REVIEW - ALISON UNDERHILL - 19TH CENTURY CLOTHING

When trying to identify who the unknown people might be in photographs, one clue is to look at the clothing and hair. Analysing what they were wearing and knowing the fashions of the various eras, may help you narrow the possibilities of who is in that photo.

Alison collects and stores old clothing and makes period clothing for various occasions and anniversary celebrations. She has studied overseas and collects old photos showing people wearing the 'latest fashion' She knows a lot about clothing and Colonial and Victorian fashion.

When trying to date photographs, note should be taken of hairstyles, types of clothing worn by women (necklines, jewellery worn etc). With men its also hairstyles, beards, moustaches and sideburns as well as their clothing [collar type, tie knotted, height of waistcoat worn] all these details do help your research. Using public libraries for examples can help. She said she can't stress enough the importance of recording the information on the back of the photograph including the date and the relationship.. (in soft pencil, of course) ... so our descendants don't have to make educated guesses.

She does not claim to know every thing about early clothing and conditions that pioneers endured but after much research feels that she has an insight into pioneer clothing, how it was worn, how it was made and how it had to last. There were no 'Warehouse' on the corner or clothing made in China back then. Nothing in early New Zealand was wasted back then, not even the string that tied up the sugar bag.

As regards to laundering of garments in your care, its better for the garment to be washed when its going to be worn, or in the case of men's stiffened collars they get starch with rice water just before wearing, once worn and soiled they are washed and stored soft until the next wearing. The same process for christening robes. To store clothing, roll the article up [don't iron] place in a calico bag [flour bags are ideal] and keep in cool dark conditions. Plastic bags are not recommended as they sweat and are flammable.

FASHION (from Ancestors magazine Feb 07)

NB This is a British guide. New Zealand may have taken a few years to catch up.

Then, of course, there were always those who stuck to their 'old fashions' such as the likes of Charlie Chaplin who insisted on wearing spats for many years after they went out of fashion and Great Aunty Ev who wore hair nets right up until she died in 2002!

How Women's Looks Changed

Each new style represented a significant change to the female silhouette reflected in the shape of the clothing, and this, together with the accompanying trimmings and accessories, demonstrated a distinctive 'look' which can be assigned to a specific period.

Mid-1850s to late 1860s

The vast bell shaped crinoline frame was introduced in 1856. During the early 1860s the front became flattened with an expanse of material concentrated at the back. Hair was centrally-parted and drawn back into a chignon.

Late 1860s to early 1870s

The crinoline disappeared and there was growing emphasis on the back of the skirt, leading to the bustle, which was fashionable between 1869 and 1874. Dresses were very elaborate, decorated with frills and flounces. Hair was piled high on the head with ringlets, plaits or loose hair at the back.

Mid-1870s to early 1880s

The bustle deflated and a narrower silhouette emerged. Skirts were tight, trained at the back, and worn with the close-fitting cuirass bodice. This long, narrow line continued into the 1880s, when skirts formed a straight tube adorned in pleats and ruchings. Hair was dressed into a high chignon.

Mid-late 1880s

Around 1884 the bustle returned even more prominently, reaching maximum size about 1887, before disappearing by 1889. Bodices were still tightly-boned, with bodice and skirt often made in 2 pieces. The look was generally plain.

1890s

Bodice and skirt were still usually separate, and blouses became fashionable. The wide, puffed 'leg-o-mutton' sleeve emerged in the early 1890s, reaching its fullest width mid-decade, before deflating from about 1897. Hairstyles were softer, swept up over pads to frame the head.

1900 to 1908

the blouse and skirt continued, but now often worn with a jacket. Feminine, pastel-coloured dresses were also popular. The waist was narrow and skirts flared out, following the sweeping art nouveau line.

1909 to 1914

A new, high-wasted silhouette emerged. Dresses and skirts became slim-fitting, rising to ankle-length. Hats were broad and elaborately-trimmed

1915 to 1920

Hemlines rose further, to above the ankle, and suddenly became very full. After 1917 skirts narrowed again. Styles in general were loose and untailored, and for the first time hair was sometimes cut short.

1920s

The silhouette remained long and shapeless. Hemlines rose during 1921/22, dropped to ankle length again the following year then rose rapidly once more. By 1925 they ended at the knee, where they remained. The look was slender and boyish, with bobbed hair and neat cloche hats dominating headwear.

1930s

Dress became more feminine and graceful. Skirts fell to calf-length for daytime and were more shaped. Belted dresses and jackets were popular, set off by neat clutch bags, hats and gloves. Hair was short, but softly waved.

How Men's Styles Changed

The male wardrobe was far more uniform during the 19th and 20th centuries, comprising fewer garment types and incorporating relatively few decorative elements. Styles were slower to change, being characterised by subtle shifts in tailoring and small details such as the type of neckwear, or the style of facial hair worn. Hence male dress offers a slightly broader date-range, typically of around 10 years

Early to mid-1850s

A dark-coloured, knee-length, close fitting frock or a looser, sloping morning coat, was worn with matching waistcoat. Trousers might be striped or checked and were quite narrow. Beards and moustaches became popular from the mid-1850s. Hair was loosely waved and smoothed down.

Late 1850s to mid-1860s

Clothing became looser and squarer, with full, peg-top sleeves and trousers. As a more comfortable alternative to the formal coat, the 'lounge' jacket had short lapels and fasted high to the neck. Shirt collars were quite low and worn with small neckties.

Late 1860s to 1880s

Clothing became more uniform and sombre, losing most decoration. The cut narrowed, changing little over this period. The easy-fitting lounge suit became more popular, while morning coats and frocks were worn for formal occasions, accompanied by a top hat. To give a crisp look, collars and cuffs were heavily starched. Varied neckwear included cravats, bow ties and, occasionally, the long knotted tie.

1890s

The lounge suit, typically in tweed, worsted, serge or flannel, was now the most popular suit, worn with a bowler hat. The longer, slender, black morning coat was still accompanied by hat and gloves. Trousers acquired centre front and back creases and turned-up hems. Starched shirt collars were worn very high. Many men still sported beards, but some just a moustache. Hair was side parted and shorter than before.

1900 to 1920

Fashions changed little until after WW1. The formal morning suite still existed but the lounge suit was now standard. Trousers became very narrow and the general style was neat and stark. Beards disappeared after 1900, moustaches (if worn) were small and toothbrush-like, although many men went clean-shaven. Hair was short, neatly trimmed and smoothed with oil.

1920s

After the War dress became more relaxed. A dark, double-breasted lounge suit was acceptable for work, often worn with a black bowler hat. A tweed lounge suit or the new combination of sports jacket and flannel trousers were popular for casual wear. By 1925 young men were adopting the wide trousers known as Oxford Bags, and later in the decade the clothes became looser, jackets being cut shorter with square shoulders.

1930s

Suits could be 2-piece, without a waistcoat, or with a pullover instead. Boldly-checked fabric became popular. Jackets had well-padded shoulders and trousers continued to be wide. The trilby was the favourite hat for everyday wear, and the modern knotted tie became standard wear.

CORSET, BUT NO CORPSE (from <http://feedblitz.com>)

From The Monessen (Pa.) Daily Independent of May 17, 1948:

READING, Pa. (UP)--Genealogists delving into the history of Reading and Berks County, Pa., for their bicentennial anniversary this year, have been puzzling over a curious epitaph recorded here.

The inscription reads: "Here lies the clothing of the living Anne B----," and has researchers bewildered to explain why anyone would want to bury the clothes of a living person. With an eye to current styles in women's fashions, one genealogist hazarded the unscientific opinion that Annie B's husband may have taken the drastic step to express his displeasure with 18th century female dress.

WEBSITES

- ✓ <http://www.doktrin.dk> - Genealogy in Denmark Assistance in genealogical investigations in Denmark.
 - ✓ <http://homepages.paradise.net.nz/mlynn/> - list of over 500 cemeteries in NZ and which districts they are located in. While there are well over 500 cemeteries listed, there are many missing. Most of the information has come from the council web sites which often only list active (or "popular") council cemeteries and so many old and private cemeteries are missing, particularly in the more remote regions. Click on "New Zealand" and "Cemeteries".
 - ✓ http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/familyhistory/get_started/wdytya - Who Do You Think you Are? Summary of the 3 series shown so far and gallery of the 24 celebs that have been on the show.
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Any family tree produces some lemons, some nuts and a few bad apples

HELPFUL HINTS

Archiving - store your documents flat - never folded - so there is no bending and unbending of the document which reduces its life.

Computer Search Engine Tip - use + and - to narrow down your search. E.g. a search for Rose Carpenter will turn up 12 million sites. Restrict your search to: *Rose +born +England -flower -wood* and you can reduce this to 230,000 sites! Continue to refine your search by swapping a county name for a country name or excluding unhelpful keywords. Repeat trying a sibling or parents names; or without a Christian name. - from Gore Newsletter July 06

COPIES OF ACTUAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE FAMILY HISTORY DEPARTMENT.

1. Our 2nd great grandfather was found dead crossing the plains in the library. He was married 3 times in the endowment house and has 21 children.
 2. He and his daughter are listed as not being born.
 3. I would like to find out if I have any living relatives or dead relatives or ancestors in my family.
 4. Will you send me a list of all the Dripps in your library?
 5. My Grandfather died at the age of 3.
 6. We are sending you 5 children in a separate envelope.
 7. Documentation: Family Bible in possession of Aunt Merle until the tornado hit Topeka, Kansas. Now only the Good Lord knows where it is.
 8. The wife of #22 could not be found. Somebody suggested that she might have been stillborn - what do you think?
 9. I am mailing you my aunt and uncle and 3 of their children.
 10. Enclosed please find my Grandmother. I have worked on her for 30 years without success. Now see what you can do!
 11. I have a hard time finding myself in London. If I were there I was very small and cannot be found.
 12. This family had 7 nephews that I am unable to find. If you know who they are, please add them to the list.
 13. We lost our Grandmother, will you please send us a copy?
 14. Will you please send me the name of my first wife? I have forgotten her name.
 15. A 14-year-old boy wrote: "I do not want you to do my research for me. Will you please send me all of the material on the Welch line, in the US, England and Scotland countries? I will do the research."
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MUCH DEPENDS UPON THOSE PENS

Philip Devonald—town clerk at St. Neots, Cambridgeshire—blames the precariousness of gravestones in his town on stonemasons and their flimsy writing utensils.

"A lot of the falls we've had have been down to the stonemason, and they should be responsible for repairing the problem. Modern workmanship is a lot worse than in times gone by."

He added: "Stonemasons are supposed to put a metal spike into the grave to stop it falling over but sometimes we've found Biro pens being used instead of the metal rods."

'That British love of decency will work miracles. The poverty which reduces an Irish girl to rags is impotent to rob the English girl of the neat wardrobe necessary to her self respect.' - *Shirley* by Charlotte Brontë

(also an excellent book to read for those who have Yorkshire ancestors)

[HOW MANY WAYS CAN 'MACKENZIE' BE MISSPELLED?](#)

[BabyCenter.com](#) has the [top baby names of 2006](#), and the [top baby name trends](#). Earning a notable mention is Mackenzie—27th most popular name for girls, and the name with the most spelling variations at 45.

Mackenzie	Makenzy	Mckynzie	Makynzye
Mckenzie	Makensie	Mckinzee	Makynzi
Mackenzi	Mackynzi	Mckenzye	Makinzy
Mackenzie	Mackinze	Mckenzy	Makinzie
Mackinzie	Mackenziee	Mckenzey	Makinzi
Mackensie	Mackanzie	Mckenze	Makenzee
Mackenzie	Macinzee	Mckenize	Makinze
Mackinzy	Machkenzie	Makenzie	Makinsy
Mackinsey	Macenzie	Makenzi	Mykenzie
Mackenzy	Mckinzie	Makynzie	
Mackenzey	Mckenzee	Makynze	
Machenzie	Mckenzi	Makenize	

The name's high ranking is undoubtedly due to the continued popularity of 1970s teen actress [Mackenzie Phillips](#).

HAPPY NEW YEAR