



Family History Group News

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The Group meets at the WAIKANAЕ CHARTERED CLUB, 8 Elizabeth Street Waikanae, just over the Railway Crossing, 9.30am to 12 -12.30pm, on the Fourth Thursday of the month –January to November. See the dates in the body of the newsletter.

The Waikanae Family History Group is a corporate member of the Waikanae Chartered Club

NO ONE STOPPED THE CLOCK

So since then I have passed the three score and eighteen, but I only feel four dozen, and next week is Easter! Have you ever considered what families get up to at Easter – we all know about Christmas, but where did that Easter bunny come from? And of course much of what we enjoy is so commercialised, at our local supermarket there were chocolate eggs and bunnies galore and a fellow customer remarked “...so expensive!” On the other side of life what about those religious observances that Catholics get up to for example? Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter vigil and the lighting of the fire? A portable BBQ usually is used to provide the initial fire to light that large Pascal Candle –one local PP dared to use that BBQ inside, and fortunately a retired NZ Fire Chief was present and quickly brought that dangerous practise to a halt

OUR LAST MEETING

Despite seven apologies we still had 12 attendees and in our second session the discussion centred on all those Family History programmes which are spawned by the LDS Church, that is right the Latter Day Saints or Mormons as we know them under the guise of Ancestry.Com. With their headquarters in Utah USA, and all that free data they get on births deaths and marriages, and all that stuff people down loaded to them of their family trees, and of course we have to pay to retrieve it. Famously, some of their information is loaded with errors, so we should all need to be aware that we must check, and check again. Now I also pointed out that I still use Family Tree Maker 2006, version 15/16 which is very simple to use, has all the simple outputs/reports that I need for reproducing the data in the form I need it for my family histories. I have only produced three fairly comprehensive family histories in hard copy form, each made up of photos, data reports (outline descendants) and text. So I say to members don't be sucked into buying upgrades especially if you are using FTM 2006 version 15/16, because you are wasting your money, you are buying headaches on how to use them – your time is more profitably spent doing research than floundering around trying to manipulate the new version!

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

These situations arise all the time so we were quick to remind members about Derek Griffis' 25,000 plus database of names, assembled by Derek from Police records, has proved valuable, proved a surprise to many, proved there were family members we did not know about and some we may never find. Having been with Derek when he showcased his database in recent years it has been fascinating to see the reaction of some members when his data revealed a new find, an exciting find – one female member at one meeting performed a new dance, she was so excited about her find. Derek can be contacted here at Waikanae on griffisnz@ihug.co.nz or you can look him up in the phone book. All births of this nature were reported to police and included the fact that unwilling males were called upon to pay maintenance of “7/6 pence a week” for example.

OUR NEXT MEETINGS: Research day 16th April, -members meeting 23rd April.

SCHOOL RECORDS

I should acknowledge here that several of our group members are assisting Kapiti Branch NZSG in transcribing admission records of schools here on the Kapiti Coast and I wish to thank them for their sterling efforts – it does mean that all the schools including Paekakariki will have their records preserved. Safe against fire or other catastrophe. The fire at Paraparaumu school was a wake-up call for the region.

We should all be aware of this with our own family history stuff because none of us want to experience a house fire, but we should not be complacent.

Way back in 1949 my family experienced a machinery shed fire on Christmas Eve, where normally there were two families at home, on this occasion there was only myself and my Aunt and Uncle. This building had a thatched roof with a galvanised iron roof beneath. It was my uncles engineering workshop. My vivid memory, of days later, rummaging through the ash – old glass jars used for storing small spare parts were just a molten mass of glass and brass, or other metal. But the lesson I learned was that unlike any other disaster, fire is so final, so final. This was also a huge inferno that did not start a bush fire even though there was tinder dry grass all around. The local bushfire brigades could only stand and watch, they could not waste precious water on the inferno – and imagine the two fellows who rolled a 44 gallon drum of petrol down the paddock away from the fire only to find it had a loose bung which trickled a line of petrol along their escape path!

So, no it is not going to happen to you! But that is no reason why you should not put your computer backup with one of your families, put a hard copy of your family history with it.

Hard copy

One good reason to at least produce two copies of your family history on paper NOW. One copy given to one of your families for safe keeping is also good insurance. So that is one good reason to promote doing a hard copy, but distributing hard copies to key members of your family is also important for many other reasons, paramount is the fact that you want someone to carry on where you left off, and you will be acknowledged for all your good work. And hard slog! It is so frustrating in rounding up stray family members who should be in your data sometimes. Why are we offering prizes at the end of the year – to encourage you of course, someone has to reward you.

Women's Institute in Britain during WW2

Were any of your relatives from Hawkinge in east Kent? The summer of 1940 was a bountiful one in Britain and the Women's Institutes around UK produced 1,000 tonnes of jam, over 1 million kilos of jam, the drive was to improve the nation's diet and raise its spirits. A book was written by Julie Summers called the Jambusters: The story of the Womens Institute in the Second World War. Reported in the Economist March 2013.

FUTURE MEETINGS

April 16th

Research Day 9.30am

April 23rd regular monthly members meeting (AGM) 9.30am to 12.30pm

May 12th (Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am

May 28th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

June 9th (Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am

June 18th

Research Day 9.30am

June 25th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

July 14th (Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am

July 23rd regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

August 11th (Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am

August 20th

Research Day 9.30am

August 27th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

September 8th (Now Tuesday) Committee meeting 9.45am

September 24th regular monthly members meeting 9.30am to 12.30pm

Cobcroft Reunion

On behalf of the **Cobcroft Family Organising Committee**, we'd like to request your organisation's assistance to help spread the word about a **COBCROFT FAMILY 'Reunion/Celebration'** event that's being held in June this year. This event will commemorate/celebrate the 225th Anniversary of the arrival of **John Cobcroft** & future wife **Sarah Smith** in Australia.

Would you be able to put the attached flyer in your organisation's newsletter? Our event will be held in Wilberforce NSW, on the weekend of 27th/28th June: EXACTLY 225 years after John & Sarah arrived in NSW on the Scarborough & Neptune ships respectively!

We have a facebook group called **Descendants of John Cobcroft & Sarah Smith**. The link for our facebook is:- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/131206405531/>

Many thanks in anticipation of your assistance. Kind regards, **Anne Cobcroft & Warren Luxford**,
Phone: **0423 954 880 / 0408 468 148**

Our Advert in AFTC Magazine

The notice re this reunion comes as a result of our advert in the Australian Family Tree Connections Magazine. It pays to advertise.

Lost Cousins

Have you signed up to LostCousins yet, it is free:

Welcome to LostCousins

Are you serious about researching your family tree? If so, you've come to the right place, because LostCousins is the ONLY family history website able to match you with others researching the same ancestors

AUTOMATICALLY, ACCURATELY & CONFIDENTIALLY

Simply enter the relatives on your family tree who were recorded in selected US, Canadian, British, or Irish Censuses - then click the **Search** button.

Your information stays hidden

100% accurate automated matching means that nobody else needs to see your information - yet when you do find a 'lost cousin', you can be certain you're related!

Naturally, achieving such results requires a little effort on your part - but once you've entered your data the rest is automatic, so overall you'll find that the unique LostCousins approach SAVES you a lot of time and effort compared to other, less accurate, sites.

Find living relatives and discover more

When you find a 'lost cousin' it's a great opportunity to share family photos and stories that have been passed down the generations - things you'll never find in public records offices and archives. You might even decide to co-operate on future research.

The best genealogy newsletter - and it's FREE!

As a LostCousins member you will be entitled to receive our newsletter, which is full of useful tips and articles to help you knock down 'brick walls' and take your research to a new level.

Visit <http://www.lostcousins.com> to log-in.

Author- Peter Calver

WHERE TO NEXT?

Here's a test to see whether we have any lost cousins here in NZ. Have recently visited Bev Crabb in Matamata, she is a member of the NZSG Branch in her region, she is a sister of the late Doris Vivienne Looney, who was the wife of the late Robert Martin Bartle. Mary Troy (married Robert Morris) was Robert's grandmother, she in turn was Doreen Hoffmann's grandfather Timothy Troy's sister. In Mary's descendants we have Bartle, Watts, Breach, Grover, Morris – these were all from Taranaki (Opunake). Do you have any family connections with any of those names? If you do then I will want to talk to you. This is one line of Doreen's Troy History which has been a bit neglected until we visited Bev, and now it is action stations again. Editor hdhoffmann@paradise.net.nz

TODAY'S COMMITTEE MEETING

Our ordinary meetings are not dominated by guest speakers talking about subjects you are not interested in, or that you think are of no relevance. So we are looking at using time in the second session of the morning's meetings of having mini talks on subjects such as Trove, Papers Past, Shipping lists, funeral director's and their wealth of family history, FamNet, Australian research and photo restoration. Now if you know of any other subjects or members you consider are expert on a particular subject then tell us please. One thing we will always do is maintain the first session of the day as has always been the focus of sharing in the round table discourse, to maintain every members input and interest in learning where to go, how to do it, and where to find those family history bits.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PURCHASING CD'S

We are always on the search for useful Data CD's which could improve our library holdings, we are just a phone call or an email away.

ARCHIVES

We want to know whether you are interested in a visit to Archives in Wellington so we will have a clipboard going around at the next meeting, so come armed with the knowledge of your preferred day for taking a tour.

OUR NEXT MEETINGS: Research day 16th April, -members meeting 23rd April.

Just repeating these two dates in case you missed it in Page 1.

FOOD – LUNCH – SUNDAY ROAST

Just in case you have forgotten lunch is available in the restaurant of the Chartered Club after our meetings – so escape the drudgery of getting a hot meal on the Thursday when our meetings are on. You can get lunch on other days, but some of us make a point of getting together over lunch – and many times the subject has continued on the Family History theme.

SUNDAY ROAST is available from the Sunday 19th April and every Sunday now (12 noon to 2pm), only \$14 for the main, and you will be offered white board choices for other courses. So why cook dinner, get some friends or family together, you must book 293 5915, press three. At the Club you must be signed in, see the bar staff – it is a licensed premises and you can have your favourite drink with your Sunday dinner. However it is close to home and convenient, with plenty of parking.

Australian Interest Group

Are you a member of the group led by Deborah Shuker at the Paraparaumu Library on the second Thursday of the month, 10 am to 12 noon? We have engaged her to do the second session of our July 23rd meeting on TROVE!

THIS SPACE

could be

yours with

an amazing

short story!

Like my grandfather was illegitimate, he was born in 1877, his mother did not marry until 1884. The person I thought was my great grandfather did not arrive in South Australia until 1880, so who was the birth father?

Think of a german surname – my cousin jokes about this every time I see her.

And of course some cheeky genealogists say that there must have been more illegitimate births in that seven year period (seeing that my great grandmother seemed happy to sleep around). Now some of her descendants say there was another child in 1880 but we cannot find any record of her! Yep it is true.

Hanley/Editor

[Waikanae Family History Group Committee](#)

Secretary (Vacancy: New Secretary required) *One may be coming up!*

Rodney Foster, Treasurer, Deputy Librarian, Acting Vice President, rodfos@gmail.com

Russell Tether, Team Leader, Auditor, tether@xtra.co.nz

Gerald Twiss, Team Leader (off Committee)

Aileen Wood, Team leader (off committee)

Jo Sinclair, Meeting Registrar

Beryl Stevenson, Hospitality

Linda Schager, Committee, CD Librarian, 902 0497

Helen Kidd, Committee

[Research Officer](#), ask the committee

Hanley Hoffmann, President, Editor

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