

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists December 2016

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Next Meeting
6 December 2016
Tuesday 6.30pm
Please note early start.
 RSA Dinner
Cost \$25
 Wear something Christmasy

November Meeting 2016

Many members met in the lovely room at LDS, Where Sister and Elder Beckmann spoke on the Familysearch.org programme. Everyone received the instructions on their flash drives to study later. Several members availed themselves to register and do some searching of names on the computers. Sister emphasized that the computers are available at any time for us to search. – phone **02127721259** and they will open the rooms. A lovely supper concluded the meeting.

These projected events were discussed

- Bus trip to Dunedin at the end of school holidays – Late January – Archives, Hocken Library or wherever you wish to do research. This is a wonderful opportunity for hands on research.
- Bus trip to Tapanui in March to visit the museum
- Bus trip to visit St Johns in Eastern Cemetery - Invercargill

Elaine would love to hear your thoughts on these.



It is with deep regret that we accepted Helen Riedt's resignation who is going back up north. She held the important position of pasting the Southland Times newspaper deaths into scrapbooks. It is perfect, up to date and we now need someone to continue with this project which is so essential and very valuable.

**New Zealand records that can be viewed
at Ancestry.Com**

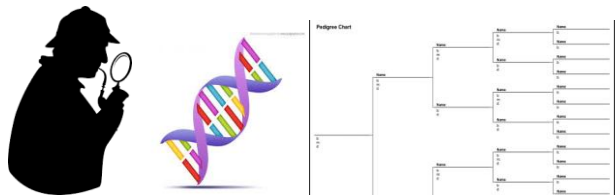
Remember your local library has a subscription to Ancestry.

New and Updated

Australia and New Zealand, Obituary Index, 2004-2015
 Web: Global, Gravestone Photograph Index, 1265-2014
 New Zealand, Cemetery Records, 1800-2007
 New Zealand, School Registers and Lists, 1850-1967
 Australia and New Zealand, Find A Grave Index, 1800s-Current
 New Zealand, Teacher and Civil Service Examinations and Licenses, 1880-1920
 New Zealand, Sheep Returns, Owners and Officers, 1879- 1889

New Zealand, Officiating Ministers, 1882-1920
 New Zealand, Bankruptcy Notices, 1893-1904
 New Zealand, Birth Index, 1840-1950
 New Zealand, Death Index, 1848-1964
 New Zealand, Who's Who in New Zealand and the Western Pacific, 1908, 1925, 1938
 New Zealand, World War II Ballot Lists, 1940-1945
 New Zealand, Roll of Honour, 1840-1903
 New Zealand Expeditionary Force Record of Personal Service, 1914-1918
 New Zealand, World War II Appointments, Promotions, Transfers and Resignations, 1939-1945
 New Zealand, Marriage Index, 1840-1934
 New Zealand, Early Wellington, 1839-1850
 New Zealand, Registers of Medical Practitioners and Nurses, 1873, 1882-1933
 New Zealand, City & Area Directories, 1866-1954
 Web: Australia and New Zealand, Rootsweb Death Index, 1813-2003
 New Zealand, Notices of Deceased Estates, 1880-1950
 Millennium File
 Web: Lower Hutt, New Zealand, Index to Cemeteries, 1948-2012
 New Zealand, White Wings, 1924, 1928 (Volumes 1 & 2)
 The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand, 1897-1906 (Volumes 1-6)
 New Zealand, Settlement of Otago, 1898
 Datus, A Chronology of New Zealand from the Time of the Moa, Early History of New Zealand, From Earliest Times To 1845
 New Zealand, Auckland, Chapman's Gazetteer, 1867
Thanks to Ashburton Family History Group

How to be your own DNA Detective



DNA. Those three magic letters holding the key to so much that makes us who we are. For the price of a few certificates you too can begin a journey of exploration. But where to begin?

Firstly - DON'T if you are not prepared to accept what you, and your family, may or may not learn (http://isogg.org/wiki/Before_You_Buy).

This new genealogy tool can show how the evidence it provides can be an essential addition to everyone's genealogy toolbox

Like all new ventures there's new terminology to be learnt - don't let it daunt you, keep reading, it will all make sense over time.

Recommended links and helpful blogs can be found on the ISOGG Wiki: (<http://isogg.org/wiki/>). Here are some of the links

Glossary of terms:

http://isogg.org/wiki/Genetics_Glossary and detailed comparison of tests and testing companies:

http://isogg.org/wiki/Portal:DNA_testing; **Autosomal DNA introduction:**

http://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA

The tests: <http://www.geniel.com.au/blog/58-which-dna-testing-company> has a good comparison between companies including pricing and postage from an Australian/NZ perspective.)

Autosomal DNA is the test we can all take and gain matches within the last 4-6 generations to our ancestors on all our lines, male or female. Great for filling in those blank bits in your tree by collaborating with your closest matches. It can reach further back than that but how far, and whether that would be able to answer a specific problem you are trying to solve would be subject to the vagaries of inheritance of this sort of DNA,. You may need to recruit specific cousins descended from the lines concerned.

To make the most of your results it is best to also have known close relatives tested, ideally at least one parent/aunt/uncle or cousin from each "side" of your ancestry.

Remember to upload your result file to GEDMatch.com This is FamilyTreeDNA's FamilyFinder test, (\$79 US plus \$12.95 US. P&P to here, \$13NZ back) or the only tests offered by Ancestry (\$205 AUS fully post paid), and 23andme (\$149 US plus P&P)

yDNA for the men only, to investigate direct male line ancestry, reaches far further back in time than the above Autosomal. Ideally also find and test the most distant direct male line cousin you can find to validate the DNA signature of your common ancestor. The options of yDNA37, yDNA67, yDNA111 are levels of precision where more is better, but bear in mind the cost benefit.

If you want to test for all lines, combining yDNA37 with FamilyFinder at FamilyTreeDNA is a good budget way to start, and if you get addicted, the yDNA37 can be upgraded at a later date to the preferred yDNA67 (without re-testing). My personal preference after that isn't to go for yDNA111 (unless you turn out to be one of the really common haplogroups such as R1b and have close matches at yDNA67 needing to be differentiated), but to change tack and use SNP testing instead, preferably also contributing to science and the growth in our knowledge of the overall tree of mankind by biting the bullet and testing BigY - an investment that keeps on giving rather than requiring more testing as the tree changes.

mtDNA - your direct maternal line, can be tested by all of us, but bear in mind that mitochondrial DNA is only passed on by daughters, so check you are getting the right person's mtDNA for your objective. Also bear in mind that it changes so slowly that it is of little use in genealogical timeframes unless there's a specific problem to solve.

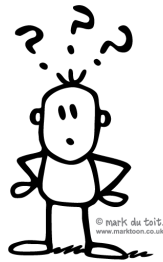
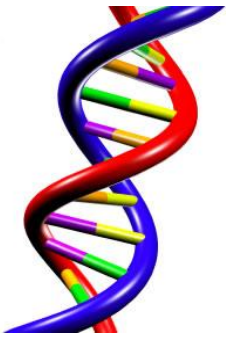
Summary: A good starting point is to test FamilyFinder at FamilyTreeDNA and upload the resulting file to GEDMatch.com to compare against those tested at other companies. Add in yDNA, at least 37, but preferably 67 markers, for a selected male of your surname of interest. If you get addicted and want to fish in another pond of matches, also test at Ancestry. Join in the fun, you never know what you'll learn, or who you'll be related to - and will never run out of research to do as the Murphy's Law of DNA testing is that your closest and/or your most interesting match will either be adopted or know nothing much about their ancestry. Thanks to Lorna Henderson Kapati Branch <http://LornaHen.com>

Ancestry.co.uk Electoral registers **Newcastle upon Tyne 1741-1974**

Surrey Electoral registers 1832- 1962

4 million Oxfordshire parish registers

Updates to Dorset parish records



Still on DNA

Some common misconceptions

There are many reasons that people give for not wanting to take a DNA test - here some of the most common together with my answers:

DNA testing only works for males, and I'm female

Until a few years ago you'd have been right - the only potentially useful DNA test you could have taken then was a Y-DNA test, and Y-DNA isn't carried by females. But now autosomal DNA tests have taken over - and both males and females inherit autosomal DNA and pass it on to their children.

My DNA is personal - I don't want to give it to anyone

The reality is that we're giving away samples of our DNA all the time - whenever we use a door handle or touch a steering wheel, or when we handle money, use cutlery, drink from a glass or mug, sneeze, discard a handkerchief or a myriad of other things. On average we shed about 400,000 skin cells each day!

I'm afraid of needles and I faint at the sight of blood

There are no needles involved, and certainly no blood. DNA tests for genealogical purposes require a sample of saliva, or a few skin cells scraped from the inside of your cheek using a plastic spatula - in other words, it's a completely painless process.

I don't want to know about diseases that I've inherited

The DNA tests I recommend won't give you any medical information except, perhaps, your chance of having blue eyes. There is a test sold by 23andMe which includes information believed to be relevant to a number of ailments, but it's much more expensive compared to genealogical tests.

I'm worried that my results might end up in the hands of the police

This would require a court order - and, as you'll have seen from the answers above, there are far easier ways for someone to get hold of your DNA.

In any case the DNA tests that the police use are very different, because they usually have to work with degraded samples - they look at different parts of the genome. Genealogical DNA tests are optimized for family trees, not crime-solving.

What if I discover that one of my ancestors was illegitimate, or that they were adopted?

Taking a DNA test won't change the facts - but you may well discover that some of the things you thought you knew are untrue. I know they say that "ignorance is bliss", but surely you wouldn't have become a family historian if you didn't want to know the truth?

I prefer to do my research the traditional way

We all feel more confident about things that we're familiar with, which is why there are still some family historians who don't use the Internet, or even own a computer.



Recently the [General Register Office](#) launched new online indexes of births and deaths for England & Wales which not only make ordering

of certificates easier, they provide additional information that will make it easier than ever before for family historians to find the right entries.

We can now reveal that we have been involved in beta-testing the new indexes since 13th October, and when I tell you that during that those 3 weeks I've ordered more certificates than in the previous 3 years you might get some sense of how significant this development is.

The key features of the new indexes are:

Constructed from scratch

Rather than digitising their existing indexes - which we are all familiar with from sites like FreeBMD, Ancestry, and Findmypast - the GRO have based the indexes on transcriptions of their registers made during the aborted DoVE (Digitisation of Vital Events project).

This means that errors and omissions made in the construction of the original indexes, or when handwritten indexes were recast as typeset indexes, are likely to have been avoided. We are not suggesting that the new indexes are error-free (they aren't) but it's likely that the errors will be different errors. It's important to remember that whilst we can search the existing indexes at several different websites, they've all based their transcriptions on the same source.

- **Limited range**
The new indexes include births from 1837 to 1915 (ie more than 100 years old), and deaths from 1837 to 1957.
- **Extra information - mother's maiden name**
The mother's maiden name was only added to the original indexes with effect from July 1911, which means that finding births prior to that date has often been problematic - this was highlighted 8 years ago when the 1911 Census went online and we could see, for the first time, that children had been born to our ancestors who didn't live long enough to appear on any census. Even if the surname was fairly rare, without knowing when they were born, what their forenames were, or even their gender it was difficult to find the entries. The mother's maiden name is now shown from 1837 onwards, which also helps us to identify illegitimate births.
- **Extra information - age at death**
The age at death only appears in the original indexes from 1866 onwards, which means that ordering the death certificates for ancestors who died between the introduction of Civil Registration in July 1837 and December 1865 has been very difficult. The age at death is now shown from 1837 onward.

Please note that the existing indexes will continue to be available online at the usual sites. To view the GRO indexes you'll need to log-in at their site, and you may be required to verify your email address.

<http://www.archives.presbyterian.org.nz/synodregionmarriages.htm> Covers North Otago Presbytery : Dunedin Presbytery Central Otago Presbytery : Clutha Presbytery : Maitai Presbytery Southland Presbytery : lists of the parishes concerned are under each heading. Well with a look

Whats Happening at Ancestry.com

New records
New South Wales, Australia, Land Records, 1811-1870
Victoria, Australia, Selected Trial Brief and Correspondence Registers and Other Images, 1837-1993
New South Wales, Australia, Convict Registers of Conditional and Absolute Pardons, 1788-1870
New South Wales, Australia, Government Gazettes, 1853-1899
New South Wales, Census and Population Books, 1811-1825
England & Scotland, Select Cemetery Registers, 1800-2014
New South Wales, Australia, Index to Deceased Estate Files, 1859-1958
New South Wales, Australia, Land Grants, 1788-1963

Irish Famine Eviction Project 1840s

It is intended to gather evidence by landowners, documenting names of the landowners and tenants, and where and how many people were evicted and how it affected communities and experiences of people involved. 400 sites have so far been identified plotted on a map <https://irishfamineeviction.com/com/eviction-map/>. Researchers who wish to contribute can contact www.irishnewsarchive.com

Ancestry.co.uk –Irish Catholic covert rolls, will registers, marriage licence bonds, valuation Office books, merchant navy crew lists added to www.nationalarchives.ie .
10,000 new Irish birth entries www.irishancestors.ie
www.southlochnessheritage.co.uk Third Statistical Account Highlands Scotland:

Relax and enjoy Christmas time with your family. If possible to talk the older members and collect memories of their early Christmas and traditions. Drive safely – you are all precious to your family



Merry
Christmas

24myfamily.com