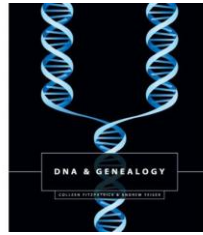


# Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists September 2017

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Next Meeting  
5 September 2016-  
Tuesday 7pm -  
Colleen Fitzpatrick's DVD on DNA

## Report of August Meeting

Nine members were transported by bus, courtesy of member Rhonda Wilson as the driver. We visited the Invercargill Public Library where Rebecca Smith gave us a conducted tour of the genealogy room which had many fascinating articles including the marriage register for Campbelltown (Bluff). The first hand experiences of four Southland soldiers who fought in WW1 are available on the website [www.sincerwritingyoulast.co.nz](http://www.sincerwritingyoulast.co.nz).

One floor down is where the art from Andersons Park is to be displayed. One floor below that is the stack with linear meters of several papers, photos including Southland Times, Queenstown etc. and unusual A delightful supper concluded the evening.

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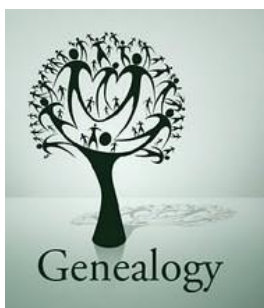
## Elders and Grandparents

They are the pillars of families, the bridges to the past and stepping-stones to the future.

If you are fortunate and still have grandparents, aunts uncles alive, do take time to talk to them, and record their stories. Birth, marriage and deaths dates can usually be found, but their stories are gone forever when they either lose their memory or die.

**PLEASE PLEASE DO IT NOW**

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**Genealogy**  
is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular  
hobby after gardening  
in UK.

## Websites

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/article/news-article-releasepresbyterian-church-records>

From 26 June 2017, more than 36,000 new Presbyterian Church records, covering the period 1744 to 1855, have been added to the Scotland's People website.

The 20,255 births and baptisms (1744–1855), 10,368 marriages and proclamations (1729–1855) and 5,422 death and burial records (1783–1855) may be especially helpful for anyone searching for a person who was born or baptized, married or died before the introduction of statutory registration in 1855.

*Thanks to Hutt Valley Branch*

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**Dusty Docs** has links to Free websites in the British Isles containing Parish records <http://dustydocs.com/> Gateway similar to Cindy's List

## Family History Microfilm Discontinuation

On September 1, 2017, FamilySearch discontinued its microfilm distribution services. The change is the result of significant progress made in FamilySearch's microfilm digitization efforts and the obsolescence of microfilm technology.

<https://www.lds.org/callings/temple-and-family-history/familysearch-microfilm-discontinuation?lang=eng&cid=facebook-shared>

This is the link to the whole article.

**Family Search** is ceasing the microfilm ordering service from the end of August. The YouTube video below explains how to find the digitised records on familysearch.org. [https://youtu.be/C2bUqCIg\\_iA](https://youtu.be/C2bUqCIg_iA)

## The Demise of CDs and DVDs

Dick Eastman · July 31, 2017 ·

Alas, poor CDs and DVDs, we hardly knew ye.



Have you purchased any software lately? How about digital images of an old genealogy

book? Did you obtain them on a CD or DVD disk? If so, keep that disk. It is already an antique and probably will be a collector's item before long.

Twenty years ago, we all purchased software on floppy disks. Perhaps ten years ago, software was usually delivered on CD-ROM disks. When was the last time you purchased software that was delivered on a CD or even a high-capacity DVD-ROM disk? Yes, there are a few companies that still deliver software that way, but the number of such companies is dwindling.

Most software these days is delivered electronically, usually by means of a file download. Even Microsoft is now delivering Windows 10 by software download.

I own an iMac desktop computer, a MacBook Pro laptop, a Windows 10 laptop, and a Chromebook laptop. None of them have internal CD-ROM or DVD-ROM disk drives. Of course, iPads, Android tablets and other handheld computers never had CD-ROM drives.

My situation is not unusual. Millions of new computers are sold every year without internal CD-ROM drives. In fact, industry experts tell us that CD-ROM drives will soon be as rare as floppy disk drives. To verify this, visit any local computer store and look at the computers being offered for sale. A few of the desktop systems might have CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drives, but most will not. Laptop computers rarely have internal CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drives.

Delivering software on a CD is useless for the few million people with similar computers without CD or DVD disk drives. As a result, most vendors have switched to electronic delivery. A few have not made the switch yet but probably will do so before long.

## CD-ROM disks containing PDF files

Thousands of genealogy CDs have been sold over the years that contain various books digitized in PDF format. If you are fortunate enough to have both the disk and a CD-ROM drive, **I would suggest copying the CD immediately to a hard drive or to a flash drive or to a dedicated file space in the cloud, such as Dropbox. (I would do all three! You can never have too many backup copies.)**

If you no longer own a computer with an internal CD-ROM drive, see if a friend who still owns a CD-equipped computer will copy it to a flash drive for you. If unsuccessful, you can still purchase external CD-ROM drives that plug into a computer's USB connector. See Amazon, eBay, and other retailers for a selection of drives to choose from.

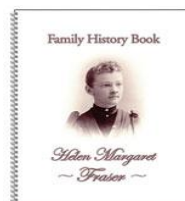
## Summation

So what am I going to do with all my old Family Tree Maker data CDs? I am going to store them right next to my buggy whip collection!

As for your other future "collector's items," I suggest you copy your data CDs NOW!

## CD's may not store data permanently

(Additional note from [Robert](#)) When CD writers first became available I thought "Great, here's an easy cheap backup medium" and I created backups and archives of my key files. About 5 years later I wanted to find an old file that I knew was on my archive CD – and I found that the CD was unreadable!!! It turns out that CD's that you create aren't necessarily very stable, and over time will deteriorate. This doesn't apply to commercially-produced CD's, which are produced by a different process, but be warned that if you have created a CD or have received a CD copy from a friend: it may no longer be readable.



**If you have a Family History Book on a CD, back it up on your hard disc or flash drive NOW**



## **PASSENGER LISTS: WHERE DID MY ANCESTOR COME FROM?**

When we start out researching our family tree, one of the first things we want to know is how did our first New Zealand ancestors get to this country? For many of us, that means looking for passenger lists of the 19th or early 20th centuries. The problem for the new researcher (and sometimes the more experienced with a brick wall) is that there is no one-stop shop for this information - it is scattered amongst a range of sources, some on the Internet and some not; some in NZ and some overseas; some in published hard copy, but most not. Knowing where to look, and what to look for, is quite a task. So today I want to discuss some of the best resources that I know of as a librarian, in the hopes that they may help someone make that new discovery or breakthrough.

Firstly, a little history about immigration to NZ. There were different immigration schemes that operated at different times and places, and the kinds of records that they left behind vary greatly. Schemes were run by private immigration (land) companies, by provincial governments, by central government and by private groups based on religious or ethnic affiliation. (And of course, some people paid their own passage here, seeking their fortune on the land, in business or on the goldfields.)

A list of sources on this complex situation, can be found amongst the research guides available on the website of [Archives New Zealand](http://Archives New Zealand). On a first look-through, the list of possible sources seems a bit overwhelming, particularly if you only have a vague idea of when and where your family first showed up in New Zealand. So, the key is to work on that question of "when and where" till you have as accurate an idea as you can of the answer. Look at electoral rolls, post office directories, and records of birth, death and marriage, to establish a timeline and location. Once you know that, check to see what resources exist for the nearest port, in the time period they first appear. As a rule of thumb, it is best to assume that people settled somewhere in the vicinity of their port of first entrance to NZ. This of course was not always the case, but it happened

"NZ Free Lance" 19 May 1943 (If requesting a scan, please give name & date of publication)

AMOORE R s/o P G AMOORE, Tauranga  
BAKER D s/o W T BAKER Invercargill  
CARSON S A s/o W D CARSON, Wanganui  
CHAPMAN H J s/o P J CHAPMAN, Christchurch  
CHAPMAN L H s/o E A CHAPMAN,  
Waipukurau  
CHILDS A G s/o H E CHILDS, Wellington  
CLEVERDON R J s/o R CLEVERDON, Takapuna  
COLLINS S A h/o Mrs M G COLLINS,  
Otahuhu  
DALTON R G h/o Mrs M DALTON, Auckland  
DANIEL N B s/o A DANIEL, Christchurch  
DUGLEBY L W s/o Mrs M J DUGLEBY, Napier  
EDDIE G T s/o Mrs D EDDIE, Pahiatua  
FLETCHER L F s/o Mrs S I FLETCHER,  
Palmerston North  
FRANKLIN J I h/o Mrs D E FRANKLIN,  
Auckland  
GILL R E s/o R O GILL, Christchurch  
HOWARD W J s/o J HOWARD, Kohukohu  
JONES Ralph L s/o W S JONES, Christchurch  
KING J F h/o Mrs D B KING Otahuhu  
LAWSON J H s/o H LAWSON Featherston  
LITTIN I A s/o Mrs K E LITTIN, Wellsford  
MacCORMICK K  
PARKINSON G B  
PERRY E A s/o E PERRY, Blenheim  
QUIRKE W M s/o Mrs V QUIRKE, Port Ahuriri  
WEIR N W McD  
WHYBORN E B s/o J R WHYBORN, Dunedin  
WILKIN R s/o Mrs A WILKIN, Wellington

Thanks to Carol Spragg, 55c Broadway Nth,  
Stratford 4332 [c.spragg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:c.spragg@xtra.co.nz)

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**Wordle:** Wordle is a toy for generating "word clouds" from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text. You can tweak your clouds with different fonts, layouts, and colour schemes. The images you create with Wordle are yours to use however you like. You can print them out, or save them to your own desktop to use as you wish.

Wordle is created of the most frequently occurring surnames in your family tree. <http://www.wordle.net> You need to be running Java for this to work. Some internet browsers will not allow this to work, Internet Explorer certainly does. (Not Edge, click on start and find Internet Explorer in the Apps List

frequently, so start with that assumption till proven otherwise.

Many libraries or museums around NZ have worked to develop indexes of passenger arrivals based on their local port. For many, the records available for the purpose were mostly the passenger lists published regularly in the local paper as ships arrived in the port, supplemented with any official sources they have been able to access. Some of these indexes are now available online.

Examples of these are [AUCKLAND](#), [TARANAKI](#), [WELLINGTON](#), [CHRISTCHURCH](#), and [NELSON](#).

**WARNING.** It is always tempting to just jump in when searching a newly-found database, but you are not helping your research efforts at all if you don't also read about what it contains (or doesn't!) and how it is arranged. You may be missing some vital piece of information and not getting a hit on your search because you didn't know some fact that was explained in the introduction to that database which you skipped in your excitement. **BE SMART AND READ THE NOTES.**

Many official passenger lists are held by the government department, [Archives New Zealand](#). Previously only accessible through (Wellington-based) card indexes, these are now being digitised in a joint project with the Latter Day Saints' [FamilySearch.org](#). This is an ongoing project so you may need to keep checking for your family names till you get a hit, but when you do, you will be able to obtain (without charge) an image of the original passenger list. You can also look at Find My Past, available free to use at any of our 55 Auckland City Libraries on our [digital library](#).

Not all websites offering passenger lists are run by government departments or institutions. There are also many individuals out there who run free websites where they offer transcriptions of passenger lists as a goodwill contribution to the family history research community. There are too many to give an exhaustive list here, but a few of my favourites are [Denise and Peter's Our Stuff](#) ; [New Zealand Yesteryears](#) and [New Zealand Bound](#).

And one last word. If you still can't find that elusive record, do not despair. More and more material is being made available on the Internet as time goes by. That breakthrough may be just around the corner [www.famnet.org.nz/](http://www.famnet.org.nz/)

## **DNA news from Wellington Open Day**

### ***Lorna Henderson's report.***

Two thoughts to ponder on that really caught my attention as a timely reminder: Michelle asked how often we researched: every day/week/month/6 months/year - and pointed out to us that we are hardly the typical DNA tester (especially on Ancestry). So don't get frustrated if you don't get an instant response - the majority only log in or research once a year! (*It seems many of those who test on Ancestry, lured by the ads about swapping your lederhosen for a kilt etc, are completely disappointed with the immediately obvious results, such as ethnicity regions that don't reflect what they think they know, and don't know about the wealth of additional information that can be gleaned. So they give up and never come back. Lorna*) Also, think about your target audience when formatting your contact message. The vast majority are young and using mobile devices - phones/ small screen tablets. They will not answer long messages with many questions in them. Keep it short and simple, one question per contact!

*Thanks to Kapiti Branch & Lorna*

Patterns of people migration back in archaeological time, can be determined by branches of the yDNA tree. yDNA - the direct father's line testing needs a direct male line descendant of the family of interest, and tends to be much further back in timeframes. This test is only offered by FamilyTreeDNA.

[https://isogg.org/wiki/Portal:Y-chromosome\\_DNA\\_for\\_further\\_reading/links](https://isogg.org/wiki/Portal:Y-chromosome_DNA_for_further_reading/links).

**Autosomal DNA results** - this being the test able to be taken by anyone, male or female, that provides matches to your "cousins" up to 4-6 generations back with some certainty, but often further. This is FamilyTreeDNA's FamilyFinder test, or the only test offered by Ancestry and MyHeritage (or 23andme, if you're interested in health aspects as well as genealogy).

[https://isogg.org/wiki/Portal:Autosomal\\_DNA\\_for\\_further\\_reading/links](https://isogg.org/wiki/Portal:Autosomal_DNA_for_further_reading/links).

Upload your results to GEDMatch.com (for free) where you can access a pool of results from companies other than the one who tested you, along with other tools. If you have used Ancestry or MyHeritage to test it allows you to access the next level of detail down, which FamilyTreeDNA and 23andme already provide, to see exactly which bits of which chromosome you match. This enables you to check that any family tree hint about the match actually reflects what the DNA match tells you