

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists March 2018

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Next Meeting
7pm
7 March 2018
I Site Centre
DNA based research

Report of February meeting

This was an amazing meeting with so many different research projects books, photograph books and scrapbook pages being displayed and explained. Congratulations to everyone who came and participated.

Liz O'Connell had a fabulous programme on her Apple computer, and Bruce Cavanagh had a program 'The Next Generation TNG which works with Legacy and can be put on I Pads, tablets, or I phones which are the IT many members carry when visiting relations in NZ or traveling overseas. We all learnt so much, especially when the subject moved onto DNA. Many members have results back from their company tests, which use different terminoly and can be difficult for others to understand.



Gore Genealogy members 6 February 2018



PROGRAMME 2017-2018
April - Return to Monte Casino Video
May - AGM

The programme is listed on our website

Keeping Alive Our Family Heritage

You want to find out more about your family – but where do you start?

This workshop aims to assist in making full use of online tools such as Ancestry.com to access their family heritage. Gore District Council's Heritage Research Officer, Bruce Cavanagh, will lead this hands on workshop.

Anybody interested in delving further into their family history is invited to come along and get some tips on the best places to start searching.

Registrations essential.

Tues 13th March, 2018

7 - 8.30pm | Gore Library

Free Admission



The History of Your House Seminar

You spend a lot of your time there – but how much do you know about the history of your house?

This popular favourite is coming to Gore in 2018, with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Dunedin Manager Jonathan Howard and staff running the fun and informative event.

Registrations essential.

Sat 17th March, 2018

1 - 5pm | James Cumming Wing

\$10pp, door sales only - registration essential



Not all burials have headstones, maybe because lack of funds. Look for a death notice and report in the local paper if it was an accident.. In early days burials outside the church walls in Catholic and English cemeteries may indicate suicide or illegitimacy



Thoughts for next years programme

Housing- your first house? how long has it been in your family? how many houses have you lived in?

Schooling-

Did you stay at 1 school? did you go to several schools around the country Is your school still operating? Where do you find school records?

Transport-

Did you use Shank's pony? travel by Bus, Train or Tram maybe even horse and cart, or private Car? Have you worked in the transport industry?

Did you know?

Many US newspapers can be accessed for free through the Library of Congress

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Passenger list for the Matilda Wattenbach is available in the Albertland Gazette and Ocean Chronicle. on Jun 14 1862 via Papers Past.

There is a list of 1521 NZ newspapers from 234 places and where they are held at:-

<https://nznewspapers.appspot.com>. This website is an attempt to list every newspaper ever published in New Zealand. It's a work in progress. Some are digitised on Papers Past.

Findmypast.

In addition, more than 3,000 Metropolitan Police and Home Office records revealing the authorities' surveillance of the suffragette movement are available on the website in a new collection. The suffragette collection will be free until 8 March – International Women's Day. 6 To view them, users will have to register for a Findmypast account but will not be charged.



The suffragette collection, consisting of digitised files from The National Archives (TNA), includes a police watch list of 1,300 known suffragettes, as well as highly detailed material about a small number of individuals involved in illegal protests

including arson, smashing windows and vandalising paintings.

There are also details of court cases and the suffragettes' prison sentences, during which many were force-fed, as well as visual material including photographs and fingerprints

Findmypast Suffragette Collection Update
3,000 records have been added to our recently released Suffragette Collection . The new additions consist of fully indexed newspaper reports from *The Suffragette* (later *The Britannia*) – Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU)

The collection holds newspapers from 1912 until 1918, reporting on the efforts made by the WSPU towards achieving women's suffrage and detailing their support for the Allies during the Great War.

From the Magazines and Websites:

The first national database of burial sites in England and Wales will be created thanks to a £586,700 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Over 105,000 **Wiltshire wills** released online: A new collection of thousands of historic wills and probate records from the West Country is now on **Ancestry**.

The records are held at Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre (WSHC) and come from the historic diocese of Sarum (an archaic name for Salisbury), (*have you read the book Sarum by Edward Rutherfurd?*) which covered modern-day Wiltshire and Berkshire, together with parts of Dorset and the parish of Uffculme in Devon

MyHeritage allows users to contact DNA matches for free: MyHeritage DNA test users are now allowed to contact matches without subscribing to the website.

The Contacting DNA matches feature, which lets potential relatives message each other, remains free for users who uploaded DNA data to the website and is now free for those who don't have a subscription plan.

New data sets on **Ancestry** include

- Australia and New Zealand, Obituary Index, 2004-2017
- Australia and New Zealand, Find A Grave Index, 1800s-Current
- Australia, WWI Service Records, 1914-1920

Thanks to Papakura Branch

Hot off the press

MyHeritage have finally become a major player in the DNA-for-genealogy stakes. This week they not only fixed their extremely odd match reporting, but also gave us many more matches, AND a chromosome browser.

If only Ancestry would follow suit on the latter!

With the phenomenal growth reported by MyHeritage DNA testing over the last year, they will be giving Ancestry a run for their money. Read all about the changes at

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2018/01/major-updates-and-improvements-to-myheritage-dna-matching/> What many don't realise is that it is completely free to transfer between FamilyTreeDNA's FamilyFinder and MyHeritage. So get the best of both worlds. Test at FamilyTreeDNA to get your sample on file and able to be upgraded to the other more specialised tests available there, and fish in the match pond at MyHeritage for free. Not forgetting to upload your file to GEDMatch.com to fish over there for those from Ancestry.

Thanks to Kapati Branch

ScotlandsPeople



ScotlandsPeople's annual upgrade

In January each year

ScotlandsPeople add 12 months'

worth of births, marriages, and deaths to their collection of historic registers - in 2018 the new releases are births for 1917, marriages for 1942, and deaths for 1967.

This year Scotlandspeople have also upgraded their Name Variants search to include variants of around 100 forenames, used in nearly half a million entries. In particular, updating over 470,000 database entries for the forenames that occur most often in indexed historic records, including parish registers and census returns.

Approximately one hundred forename entries now include known variant forms.

This should be especially helpful for returning results that include abbreviated versions of common names, such as Thos for Thomas or Agn for Agnes, since these types of abbreviations would not necessarily appear in the results for searches run using other options like 'Fuzzy Matching' or 'Phonetic Matching'.

Understanding your Direct Maternal Mitochondrial Results

by Gail Riddell (a popular and renowned DNA presenter in New Zealand) on the subject of DNA testing for genealogy purposes.

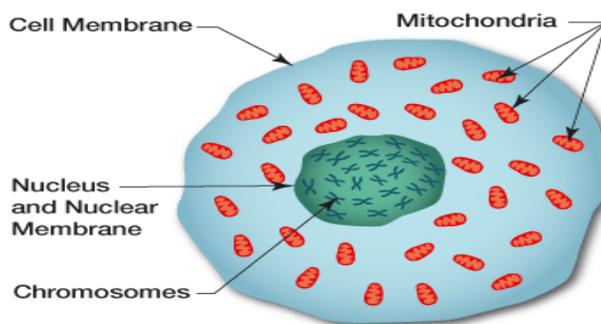
riddellDNA@gmail.com

mtDNA considers ONLY the direct maternal line. This is your mother, her mother, her mother's mother and so on back through thousands of years.

Women pass their mtDNA on to all their children, but although males receive it, they cannot pass it on.

The mtDNA is not the X chromosome – it is a totally different area of your cell and bears no relationship to your chromosomes nor is it reported on via any of those other tests you might choose. In fact, physically, it is found in the outer part of your cells whereas all the chromosomes are found in the nucleus (1-22 plus the gender chromosomes – two Xs for female and one X and one Y for males).

A large article is available on this subject at



www.famnet.org.nz or <http://www.FamNet.net.nz>



Mother's names to be on marriage English and Welsh certificates?



It's some years since David Cameron, the then Prime Minister, promised to put mothers' names on marriage certificates in England & Wales (they've always been on Scottish certificates), but it finally seems as if the legislation might make it through parliament. At present, marriage registers include only the name of the couple's fathers. The Bishop of St Albans, Alan Smith, described this as "a clear and historic injustice" and "an archaic practice and unchanged since Victorian times, when children were seen as a father's property and little consideration was given to a mother's role in raising them."

Who do your friends think their ancestors were?

Back in 2004 there was a big increase in people researching their family tree, the reality is that the first series of *Who Do You Think You Are?* provided the real impetus.

Now it's DNA testing that gets all the attention - people who know little or nothing about their family tree seem to be intrigued by the idea that a simple test could provide them with answers.

But as we all know, **DNA testing is of little value unless it is backed up with 'proper' research** - and somehow we have to get that message across, otherwise the disappointment could turn them off family history for life.



The Bethnal Green Tube Disaster of 1943

On March 3rd 1943, 173 people, including 62 children died in tragic circumstances and over 90 were injured in a crush on a staircase, making this the site of the highest number of civilian casualties in one place in the war.



The tube station at Bethnal Green

started to be built as part of an extension to the Central Line in the 1930s. In 1940, the unfinished station and its underground tunnels were requisitioned as air-raid shelters. Some Londoners took cover underground on tube platforms during the war, as they were considered to be safe as they were so far below ground. There could be hundreds of people in one station during an air raid – there might be no other official shelters around and not everybody could have their own shelter at home.

Although it was thought the disaster at Bethnal Green was caused by a bomb attack, it was actually a tragic accident. Bethnal Green tube station is down a flight of stairs and Tube stations were blacked-out during air raids so that German bombers could not use their lights as targets.

The stairs had no handrails on the sides of the staircase, no central dividing rail and only one small blue light to show people where to go.

When the air-raid sirens over London went off at 8.15pm, hundreds of local people started to head towards the station and down the staircase to take shelter.

A woman and a child fell over near the bottom of the 19 steps staircase, but the crowd was so large and unstoppable that people fell on top of them and then on top of each other.

Around 300 people ended up in the crowd at the bottom of the staircase in less than 20 seconds; over half of them died from crush injuries or asphyxiation. The people at the top and middle of the stairs did not realise what was happening immediately and kept walking down, putting added pressure on the bottleneck trapped below. Bethnal Green disaster reports were censored by the government to avoid the Germans using it as propaganda.



Victims names on memorial f 19 steps



Old Maps Online

National Library of Scotland – ordinance maps.
Historic Map Works www.historicmapworks.com
Has 1.6 million individual maps and related images from around the world. These can be searched by keyword or family names on a map if you are searching in USA.

Ancestry.com free services



FamilySearch.org Hampshire bishops transcripts 1680-1892. More Irish civil registration records. Births 1864-1913, marriages 1845-1870, deaths 1864-1870.

FamilySearch now requires registration to access its full range of features. Access remains fully free but users need to provide their name, a username, password, email OR mobile number. Registered users have access to a full range of date and family trees. Access to the catalogue, information wiki and digitised books is available without registering. User names are displayed publicly and it is possible to contact other users through an internal messaging system.