



**New Zealand Society of  
Genealogists  
NELSON BRANCH  
est. 1973  
July 2014 newsletter**



**Early Settlers - Port Nelson**  
Photo courtesy of The Nelson Mail

Our monthly meetings are at Smith's Hall, corner Waimea & Quarantine Roads Annesbrook on the **4th Monday** of the month **February to November** at **7.30pm**. Door charge **GOLD COIN DONATION**.

Our postal address is NZSG Nelson Branch, P O Box 1879, NELSON 7140  
Our e-mail address is [nelsonbranch\\_nzsg@hotmail.com](mailto:nelsonbranch_nzsg@hotmail.com)  
Our Branch Library **Ancestors Attic** is at 67 Trafalgar Street opposite Trailways

**Next Meeting: Show & Tell followed by Soup & Rolls - Women in your family**

**The 2014/2015 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:** Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions

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***From the Editor***

Hi everyone

Thank you to those five people - Linda Dow, MaryAnn Mann, Kay Switzer, Jan Donnelly and Anne Evans who answered my request for speakers for the next meeting Show and Tell - "Women in the family". It should be an interesting evening and will be followed by "Soup & Rolls".

The Scottish Interest Group met last Sunday afternoon at the Attic. We had a very interesting speaker from Edinburgh and a good attendance of 18 people. Anymore and we would have been out the door and into the passage as we had to use the Attic itself as the room next door was booked for another meeting. Our speaker Iain Watson is doing a thesis for his doctorate at Edinburgh University on Scottish Migration to NZ, Australia and Hong Kong. He gave us a presentation on events in Scotland from the Act of Union with England in the 18<sup>th</sup> century through to the referendum to be held there this September. It was extremely interesting and I know everybody there enjoyed it very much. Gave us all "food for thought" that's for sure.

Hope to see a good attendance on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> and hope that it is not too cold.

Regards

Barbara

## Programme for 2014

July	28	Show & Tell followed by Soup & Toast - Women in your family
August	25	How to navigate our local cemeteries records
September	22	Websites 03 - Library records available through the NZSG website.
October	27	TBA
November	24	Christmas function?

## Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday Afternoons 2 - 4pm	Mondays 1am - 4pm	Thursday 10am - 4pm
July 27 Denis Bush-King	Cheryl Carnahan	Cynthia Stratford's Team
August 3 Barbara Wells		
August 10 TBA		
August 17 TBA		
August 24 TBA		
August 31 Barbara Wells		

## Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

**Sundays 2 - 4**

**Mondays 1 - 4**

**Thursdays 10 - 4**

### Recent Acquisitions

The Norfolk Ancestor journal March 1914, loan bookcase 12.

Kent Family History Soc journal March 1914, loan bookcase 12.

Dear Sister Letters between a Wairarapa family and relatives in rural England, by Holmes Robin & Farley Allan J. Primary Family Names Bonsall, Morten, Oates. Loan, Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.FH.OATES**.

Rutherford's Ancestors by Campbell John. Primary family Names Thompson, Rutherford. Loan, Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.FH.RUTHERFORD**.

Vintage Doctor by Hursthouse Miles primary families Hursthouse, Barnicoat. Loan, Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.FH.HURSTHOUSE**

The Richmond Volunteer Fire Brigade 1878-2003 by Stratford Tracy. Loan, Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.TAS.LH.RICH**

Sentinel at the Gates by Voller Lois. Covers 1883-1983. Loan, Bookcase 11. Classification **NZ.NLN.SCH.NGC**

The Nelson Girls Collegian 1989 magazine. Reference Bookcase 11.

Philip Handy by Thompson Megan. Reference Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.FH.HANDY**

Regional Research Repositories in Auckland booklet, Loan Bookcase 02. Classification **NZ.AKD.AID**



## WDYTYR LIVE

If you are a fan of Tony Robinson's program Time Team on TV you may be interested in logging into the link below. It is a video of his talk at the Who Do You Think You Are conference held in the UK earlier this year. His subject was "Life in England before World War One".

It is an interesting presentation made in the enthusiastic style that he uses in all his TV shows. It was sponsored by Ancestry and he refers to their records as examples for research.



This was filmed during the [Who Do You Think You Are? Live show](#) in London, UK.

[http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/06/08/sir-tony-robinson-reviews-life-before-world-war-i/?cj=1&sid=TonyRobinson&o\\_xid=0001793701&o\\_lid=0001793701&o\\_sch=Affiliate+External](http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/06/08/sir-tony-robinson-reviews-life-before-world-war-i/?cj=1&sid=TonyRobinson&o_xid=0001793701&o_lid=0001793701&o_sch=Affiliate+External)

# DNA Testing for Family History

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## Part 4. What a DNA test will NOT tell you and the associated risks of testing



*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> in a series of 12 articles by Gail Riddell (a popular and renowned DNA presenter in New Zealand) on the subject of DNA testing for genealogy purposes. For further information, please contact her directly at [riddellDNA@gmail.com](mailto:riddellDNA@gmail.com) We are reprinting here with Gail's permission from the Famnet newsletter.*

In the third article for the FamNet newsletter, I described in very basic terms the types of tests that are currently available by some firms. In this article, I intend to give you an overview of the risks associated with testing your DNA and what you will not discover as result of testing.

The primary thing to understand is that you must focus on what it is you want from any DNA testing, no matter which firm you may choose. For example, if you want your paternal ancestry, there is no sense in testing a female. Nor is there sense in testing a male unless the connection to your common ancestor is through both your and his direct paternal line (irrespective of the surname). Another example is that you may wish to learn of the deep ancestry of either or both of your direct lines (whether maternal or paternal). Similarly if you are seeking the geographical origins of your ancestors, you must take the appropriate test. Say you choose the cheapest appropriate test on offer, you will be disappointed if the forgoing is what you seek. (The very cheap tests are available for specific reasons although this is not what the publicity machines would have you believe).

A DNA test for genealogy will not tell you the name of an ancestor, nor where that ancestor was born. Should you strike a very close Y DNA match (as an example) at the higher testing levels (more on these 'testing levels' shortly), sometimes we can give you an approximate birth date of the common ancestor of the two testers concerned but the accuracy of that birth date given will depend on many things. Each situation is assessed on a case-by-case basis. This is because no two human beings are the same - not even identical twins.

Although the above may sound complex and somewhat negative, it is aimed at getting you to really focus on what is wanted and to avoid unnecessary waste of money -with its accompanying disappointment.

DNA testing for genealogy purposes will not give you medical outcomes, although one firm will give you health reports setting out your sensitive genes (as well as genealogy) to particular health issues. Some of those large issues include such as the various known cancers and range downwards to your eye colouring and blood type etc. The "scary" reports such as the cancers or Parkinson or Alzheimer etc. are behind a "lock" which you are free to ignore or to open. This particular firm will only give you the statistics of what has been located in your genes associated with the likelihood that your physical body will succumb to that particular event. (By way of interest, my blood type; my hair colouring and degree of curliness; eye colouring; my skin tone; etc. was correctly identified. In addition, being a curious person, I chose to look at the reports of the serious maladies - these had an associated age frame attached, although I accept not all testers wish to learn of these things).

DNA testing for genealogy purposes is not forensic testing - the areas considered within the chromosomes that are used specifically for forensics or for medical diagnosis are not considered for genealogy (in spite of my comment above regarding "health". The concentration on the specific areas contained within the human genome examines different to those considered for genealogy).

Nor is DNA testing for genealogy a paternity test. I have lost sight of the numbers of men who simply refuse to test because they were a little er, ah, um, wayward in their youth. They have this vision of a dozen persons camping on their front lawn all crying "Daddy".

Such a situation cannot happen. But what can happen is that the male tester may discover they match another male who possesses a differing surname, yet possesses an identical haplotype. (A haplotype is the unique Y-STR marker results pertaining to that tested individual - see the next article for the newsletter). Should this happen, there is still no way that the two testers can be stated as being a father and a son. Certainly the strong possibility exists but it is far from conclusive.

Although the physical test itself by being non-invasive and holds no physical risk whatsoever, it is the outcome of the test that may pose a mental or emotional risk. Some of these are mentioned in this list, but it is not exhaustive:-

1. The name of one, or both, persons named on your birth certificate as your parents is incorrect. There are many reasons for this. Usually it is a function of social stigma, but just as often it is a case of an adoption and for which the authorities have taken it upon themselves to obscure the true parentage.
2. The mother, for her own reasons, has elected to withhold the name of the biological father. This could have taken place recently or it may have taken place in another century.

3. If your parents have emigrated from another country, it can depend on whether they went through a civil upheaval possibly leaving a widower with small children or more often, leaving a widow with a quandary as to housing and feeding her wee'uns and willing to take up with any male who offered her same. Those children will have grown up thinking the adults were their parents and used their names on any later certification.
4. A more serious, although an extremely rare situation, is that a "male" does not possess a Y chromosome. Alternatively, a female possesses a Y chromosome when she should have 2 X chromosomes. I have also heard of the times when a female possesses both 2 X plus a Y and similarly a male. Such an event is beyond the ability I possess.
5. You have spent untold hours and money gathering your family tree and are feeling very comfortable with your accomplishments and choose to prove that you are indeed related to whosoever that your research indicates, and accordingly get the correct person to test to the correct level - only to discover your research has been in vain. "What to do"? Obviously your first reaction will be to think that the DNA is wrong and your results have been muddled. Let me say at the outset that this "muddling" has almost a zero chance of occurring! Nevertheless, it would be a natural human reaction and every one of us in this situation will run this risk! So the answer is, if you do not want to know the truth, then do NOT test your DNA for genealogical purposes.

In the next (and 5<sup>th</sup>) article, I shall go into greater depth on the direct paternal line. The 6<sup>th</sup> article will consider the direct maternal line and the 7<sup>th</sup> will be the autosomal line.

## Website Updates

### FamilySearch

Isle of Man Parish Registers, 1598-2009  
 Kent, Manorial Documents 1241-1976  
 Norfolk, Parish Registers (County Record Office), 1510-1997  
 Norfolk Register of Electors, 1844-1952  
 Ontario Births 1869-1912

### Deceased Online

Aberdeen and Kincardineshire: Aboyne, Arbuthnott, Auchterless, Banchory, Benholm and Cruden

### FindmyPast

Cheshire Land Tax Assessments 1786-1832  
 Honourable Artillery Company 1848 to 1922  
 Irish Petty Sessions Court Registers Lincolnshire Poor Law Removals 1665-1865  
 Nonconformist Records (RG4)  
 RAF and RFC 1912-1939  
 Royal Navy Personnel 1831

### Ancestry

Cornwall, England, Parish Registers, 1538-2010  
 Durham Diocese Bishop's Transcripts, 1639-1919  
 Kent, Register of Electors, 1570-1907  
 Lancashire, Vagrant Passes, 1801-1835  
 England, The National Roll of the Great War, 1914-1918  
 De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour, 1914-1919  
 Canada, Ledgers of CEF Officers Transferring to Royal Flying Corps, 1915-1919

### The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

British Home Children deaths

### National Library of Wales

Welsh Newspapers

### Durham Online

Coniscliffe baptisms & burials 1813-1846, marriage witnesses 1813-1836  
 Gateshead St. James baptisms 1891-1896  
 Gosforth baptisms & burials 1813-1839, marriages 1813-1836  
 Stanley Primitive Methodist Circuit baptisms 1923-1937  
 Stranton All Saints baptisms 1901-1957  
 Tynemouth baptisms 1827-1832

## British Newspaper Archive

Aberdeen Evening Express - 1910 Aberdeen Journal - 1799, 1803, 1805, 1809, 1812, 1815, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1846, 1849, 1852-56, 1864, 1869, 1875-83, 1884-85, 1887, 1890-91, 1896, 1899 Burnley Gazette - 1905, 1906  
Cambridge Chronicle and Journal - 1861 Cheltenham Chronicle - 1854 Cheltenham Looker-On - 1844  
Cheshire Observer - 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 Chester Chronicle - 1790 Coventry Herald - 1863 Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald - 1885, 1939, 1944 Dundee, Perth and Forfar People's Journal - 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861 Durham County Advertiser - 1814 Edinburgh Evening News - 1916, 1919, 1923, 1931, 1942  
Evening Telegraph - 1889, 1893 Folkestone, Hythe, Sandgate & Cheriton Herald - 1913, 1915, 1924  
Gloucester Citizen - 1939, 1943 Gloucester Journal - 1896, 1902, 1915 Grantham Journal - 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934 Hamilton Advertiser - 1914, 1915, 1916 Hartlepool Mail - 1899 Hastings and St Leonards Observer - 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946 Hull Daily Mail - 1888, 1910 Kent & Sussex Courier - 1895-96, 1898-99, 1917, 1921, 1924-1950 Lancashire Evening Post - 1889, 1890, 1907, 1909, 1921, 1929, 1932, 1938 Leamington Spa Courier - 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1914, 1917, 1918 Leeds Intelligencer - 1813 Leeds Mercury - 1836, 1842, 1875, 1898  
Leicestershire Mercury - 1836 Lichfield Mercury - 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882 Lincolnshire Chronicle - 1919, 1922  
Lincolnshire Echo - 1931, 1933, 1934 Liverpool Daily Post - 1859 Luton Times and Advertiser - 1859, 1860, 1867, 1868, 1877, 1879, 1885, 1896, 1897, 1911 Maidstone Telegraph - 1861 Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser - 1889 Morpeth Herald - 1892-96, 1898-1900, 1911-1913, 1915-1916, 1935-1940, 1949-1954 North Devon Journal - 1897 Northampton Mercury - 1912 Nottingham Evening Post - 1913, 1938 Oxford Times - 1862 Penny Illustrated Paper - 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870  
Portsmouth Evening News - 1939 Sheffield Daily Telegraph - 1886, 1888, 1895, 1899, 1910, 1911 Sheffield Evening Telegraph - 1889, 1907, 1912, 1914 Shields Daily Gazette - 1866, 1884, 1910 Southern Reporter - 1878 Staffordshire Sentinel - 1889, 1911 Sunday Post - 1914, 1915, 1917, 1918, 1919 Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette - 1904, 1910, 1913, 1919, 1940, 1941-1943, 1946-1948, 1950-1952 Surrey Mirror - 1880, 1889, 1900, 1901, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1945, 1946 Sussex Agricultural Express - 1877, 1883, 1911  
Taunton Courier, and Western Advertiser - 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1943 West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser - 1939 Western Daily Press - 1886 Western Gazette - 1886, 1910, 1929 Western Morning News - 1894  
Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald - 1905-1909, 1911-1917, 1922 Yorkshire Evening Post - 1906, 1943  
Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer - 1869, 1873, 1880, 1881, 1906, 1926

## Some items of interest from the latest Lost cousins Newsletter

### Ireland offers enhanced GRO indexes

While England & Wales remain resolutely stuck in the 19th century, offering only paper certificates, the BMD registers for Scotland have been online for many years, and earlier this year it became possible to download birth, marriage, and death entries for Northern Ireland.

Claire Santry, who writes the Irish Genealogy News blog <http://www.irishgenealogynews.com/> summarised it as follows:

*"A new and improved set of Irish civil registration indexes has been launched on IrishGenealogy, the state-run website best known for its church records microsite <http://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>. These free indexes differ from those currently available via FamilySearch, Ancestry and findmypast by including births, marriages, and deaths right up to 2013 - as well as a certain amount of additional detail to aid identification.*

*"The Births Index, which dates from 1864, includes the mother's maiden surname from 1900. Additionally, the actual date of birth is included from 1900 to 1927 and from 1966 to current. The Marriages index, which dates from 1845 for non-Catholic marriages and from 1864 for all marriages, includes the names of both bride and groom for all marriages from 1913, and for some marriages from 1900 to 1912. The Deaths Index, which starts in 1864, includes the age at death from 1924 and the marital status of the deceased from 1966.*

*"As with the pre-existing online database, the new GRO Indexes cover the entire island up to and including 1921. Thereafter, it includes only those events registered in the Irish Free State/Republic of Ireland.*

*"Give or take some foibles, the new database has been well-received and it's expected to quickly become the preferred option for family historians searching civil registration records."*

*The formal launch of the database in Dublin also delivered some unexpected and very welcome news. Joan Burton, the Minister responsible for the Republic's GRO, announced that the soon-to-be-published Civil Registration (Amendment) Bill 2014 would include plans for Ireland's civil registration registers to make their way online.*

## Ancestry add parish maps

Our ancestors didn't always stay in one place - they often moved to find work or to get married. If we focus our search on just one parish we're often going to be disappointed - but without a map it can be difficult to know which other parishes are nearby.

Last month Ancestry added a collection of parish maps which cover England, Wales and Scotland - an added bonus is that the date of the earliest surviving registers is also shown. The parish boundaries are as they were prior to 1832.

[http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=8830&cj=1&sid=Maps&o\\_xid=0001793701&o\\_lid=0001793701&o\\_sch=Affiliate+External](http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=8830&cj=1&sid=Maps&o_xid=0001793701&o_lid=0001793701&o_sch=Affiliate+External)

For maps of English and Welsh parishes in 1851 see FamilySearch. <http://maps.familysearch.org/>

## A Bit of Light Relief

### I can read it , can You?

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ONLY POST IF YOU CAN READ IT ?