



**New Zealand Society of
Genealogists
NELSON BRANCH
AUGUST 2016 newsletter**



Early Settlers - Port Nelson

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. except for June, July and August which will be on Sundays at 2pm.

Door charge **GOLD COIN DONATION.**

Our postal address is NZSG Nelson Branch, P O Box 1879, NELSON 7140

Our e-mail address is Nelson@genealogy.org.nz Please note this has changed.

Our Branch Library **Ancestors Attic** is at 67 Trafalgar Street.

**Next Meeting: Sunday 21 AUGUST at 1.30 pm at Smith's Hall Annesbrook
Golden Bay Repositories - Speakers from Golden Bay
PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME**

The 2015/2016 NZSG Nelson Branch committee is:

Please contact any of the committee for questions & suggestions

Convenor	Bob McFADDEN		03 9700029	bob.val@mcfadden.org.nz
Secretary	Robyn MARSHALL		03 744 3170	Nelson@genealogy.org.nz
Treasurer/Newsletter	Barbara WELLS		03 540 2741	pb-mthope@xtra.co.nz
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Hi everybody

Well winter has come with a vengeance - good for staying indoors and undertaking some research. I have been doing the Strathclyde University Online genealogy course and it is now up to the 5th week starting tomorrow. I've really enjoyed it as it has reminded me of all the research strategies I knew but had forgotten. One interesting session was on the Genealogical Proof Standard which I must admit I have only just recently come across. I've included the Standard further on in the newsletter. Another point that I must admit I'm very lax about is that of Citing my sources.

I've decided that I am going to go back and review all my families and put them in a better order and record all the sources etc. etc.

Regards

Barbara

Can someone help please. (Request from Cheryl)

Could someone type up 4 WW1 soldiers' stories please. There are 7 pages A4 both sides. Notes are hand written and not suitable for binding. Contact Cheryl on Ph. 5447684 or email carnahan@kinect.co.nz

Walking Tour at Wakapuaka Cemetery for Family History Month

Due to last Saturday being wet this was postponed until 27th August so if you are interested in joining Judith and Cheryl it is starting at 2pm.

Programme for 2016

Date	Speaker and Topic details
Sunday August 21 1.30pm	Golden Bay Repositories - speakers from Golden Bay
Monday September 26	Irish History - Kevin Ryan
Monday October 24	Publishing Family Stories - Dave McManus from Copy Press
Sunday November 27	Mystery Walking tour starting at Miller's Acre. Coffee to follow at the Attic

Ancestors Attic, Duty Roster

Sunday	2 - 4 pm			Mondays 1pm - 4pm
Aug 21	CLOSED MEETING	Sept 18	Judith Fitchett	Cheryl Carnahan
Aug 28	Barbara Wells	Sept 25	TBA	Thursday 10am - 4pm
Sept 4	Bob McFadden	Oct 2	Barbara Wells	Cynthia Stratford's Team
Sept 11	Pete Gillin	Oct 9	Pete Gillin	

Sales Table

Please remember the Sales Table at Branch meetings and bring some spare cash just in case there is something on it that you may wish to purchase.

Books for Sale

History of the Church of St Thomas Woodbury, Canterbury, 1950, \$5.00.

The beginnings of **Tuapeka Methodism** 1861-1886, \$5.00.

St John Baptist Church 1831-1973, **Te Waimate**, \$5.00.

Ashurst Wesleyan Methodist Church 1886-1986, \$5.00.

Southland Boys High School Register 1881-1956 and supplement and Centennial Anniversary Official Record 1981, \$10.00 for the 3.

On The Edge of the Bush by Sheila Natusch, about women in **Early Southland**. 115 pages, illustrations, index. \$20.00.

G.A.Selwyn Bishop of NZ and Lichfield by Louise Creighton published 1923, 180 pages, A biography. \$15.00.

These Antipodes a New Zealand Album by Shirley Maddock. 317 pages. Maddock brings the past to life. Numerous black and white illustrations & 28 pages in colour, from early paintings to modern colour photographs. \$15.00

The Selwyn Churches of Auckland. A. H. & A. W. Reed, Wellington, etc., New Zealand, 1972. Soft cover. Book Condition: excellent. 1st Edition. 88p. B&W photos. Sketches. Maps. Quote: "The early history of New Zealand architecture in the Auckland province is notable for a group of Anglican churches, now known as 'Selwyn churches', whose design and construction were inspired and fostered by the famous prelate after whom they were named". \$15.00.

Methodist Church Brightwater, Nelson, New Zealand by Nola A. Humphreys. Soft cover 35 pages, 1980. Many names associated with the early years of this church and surrounding district. \$20.00.

Millennial Moments in **Okiwi Bay** by Shirley Loffhagen. Soft cover, 40 pages, printed 1999 Nelson. Shirley Loffhagen has compiled stories which were contributed by families associated with the area. \$20.00

Country Ways in Two Countries **Jonah Russ** from Somerset and his New Zealand descendants a family history written by the family, compiled by Elsie Curnow. Reunion Souvenir Supplement. Soft cover, pages start at 233 to 346 as this copy is a supplement to version one. Published 1989 in Nelson. Photos on almost every page, family notes on Russ, Davies, Higgins, Friend, Index of names. \$40.00

The Exiles of **Asbestos Cottage** by Jim Henderson. \$45.00.

See **Cheryl Carnahan** who is selling on behalf of the Nelson Branch. Ph. 5447684 or email

Library - Ancestors Attic

The Library is open

Sundays 2 - 4

Mondays 1 - 4

Thursdays 10 - 4

Recent Acquisitions

WORLD WAR I COMMEMORATIVE PROJECT Soldiers of Nelson Tasman all in bookcase 07, reference.

ALLEN J E 6/2344 & J A 6/3598

EVERETT R E 2/1973

McKee A 19214

PALMER H V 6/320

MURCOTT E 6/5021

JAMIESON H B 24/1090

ANDREWS J H 6/3603

SLOAN M H 5/1338A & 10/1338 & A K 6/352

SIGGLEKOW F H L 38610

PATTERSON TCC 7/255, AC 7/548, WJC 36789

ANDERSON A J 7/155

SIMPSON AJP 6/2272, FWP 6/308, JLP 6/348, MA 6/349

CAMPBELL D C 5/876, CAMPBELL C C 6/2567

BAIGENT E J 6/752

HUMPHRIES 49626

WEBBY H W 11362

NORTON H W 40236, W E 40237, R 40238, T 40239

RICKETTS R A 2/1665

DODSON S R 62/3683

The New Zealand Genealogist June 2016, loan Bookcase 01.

The Campbell Family of PuPu Takaka classification **NZ.FH. CAMPBELL** loan, bookcase 02.
Nelson and Bays White Pages Bookcase 01, reference.

Overcoming your 'brick wall' from Lost Cousins newsletter

It's generally pretty simple to research our ancestors, but occasionally you will get stuck. So how do you get out of the genealogical mire? Here are nine top tips from expert Simon Fowler:

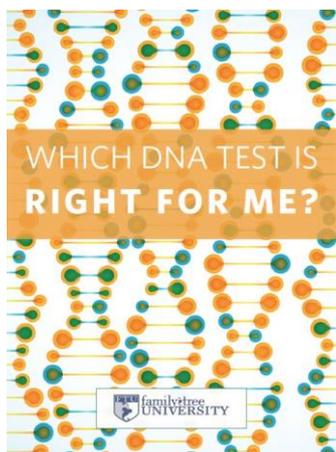
1. Don't make assumptions about your ancestors without testing them. In particular, remember Occam's Rule that 'the simplest explanation is usually the correct one'.
2. Spellings of names, especially surnames, change over time.
3. Your ancestor may have always been called by a name that wasn't on their birth certificate. Or rearranged their forenames or had them rearranged by a clerk.
4. Don't trust the written record - it can be wrong. Clerks will and do make mistakes in writing down names, misspelling surnames and getting forenames wrong.
5. There may be records you haven't used. The Victorians, in particular, produced a lot of paperwork that effectively duplicate each other. So if the document you want is missing, there may be something almost as good.
6. Don't rely on family tradition - it can be wrong.
7. Note down all the sources you have used so you can revisit them if you need.
8. Don't use online databases without checking whether there is a description of the material, what it contains and most importantly what is missing. Some ancestors don't want to be found.
9. Keep things in proportion. Don't waste your time in pointless searches, on the off chance.

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Simon Fowler is a member of the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (AGRA).



FREE DNA Genealogy E-book



New to genetic genealogy and not sure if you want to try a DNA test – or want to get strategic about doing so? In this eBook, we've put together articles that will help you determine the type of DNA test that will help you achieve your genealogy goals.

With this eBook, you'll get an easy introduction to the basics of genetic genealogy and see how those DNA results will help you break through brick walls.

I downloaded this easily – it is 25 pages in a pdf format.

http://ftu.familytreemagazine.com/free/?utm_source=linkconnector&utm_medium=affiliate&cid=affiliate

Website Updates

FindMyPast

- Britain, Absent Voters Lists 1918-1921
- Home Office and Prison Commission: Female Licences PCOM 4
- Home Office: Criminal Registers, Middlesex HO 26
- Home Office: Criminal Registers, England and Wales HO 27
- Chronicles of Crime or the New Newgate Calendar, vols I & II, pub 1841
- Prisoner of War records last instalment
- Worcestershire Monumental Inscriptions
- Aberdeenshire, Banffshire & Kincardineshire Monumental Inscriptions
- Linlithgowshire 1864- 1931 electoral rolls
- New South Wales 1901 Census
- Tasmania Convict records 1800-1893
- US Naturalization Petitions
- US Passport Applications and Indexes

Ancestry UK and Ireland

- Royal Naval Seamen Index, 1853 -1872
- Norfolk Parish Registers
- Somerset parish, Gaol and school registers
- Scotland, Non-OPR: Births and Baptisms Index, 1666 -1874, Banns and Marriages Index, 1656 - 1874, Deaths and Burials Index, 1673-1855
- Royal Naval Seamen Index, 1853 -1872
- Railway Employment Records, 1833-1956

Federal Naturalization Records, 1906-1930, various states

TheGenealogist

- 16th century Militia Musters for Somerset
- The Battery Records of the Royal Artillery 1716-1859
- The Manchester Regiment 63rd and 96th 1758-1922
- The Waterloo Roll Call of 1815
- Army Lists January 1838, December 1838, April 1886 and The Annual Army and Militia List 1855.

www.theoriginalrecord.com

- 1715 French Pensions of the English Civil List
- 1774 Warwickshire Voters
- 1803 Heritors of Fife
- 1830 Sentenced to Death, Transportation or Imprisonment at Gloucester Assizes
- 1834 Chimney Sweeps and their Apprentice Boys, London
- 1861-1905 Women Students Entering Stockwell Teacher Training College
- 1891 Fellows of the British Gynaecological Society

www.stirlingarchives.scot/poor-relief-indexes

- poor relief records

www.familysearch.org

- 1851 census for England and Wales transcripts

The importance of establishing proof and the Genealogical Proof Standard

It is a sad fact of family history research that there are usually no absolute truths when establishing family relationships (though DNA testing comes close) or discovering what happened to an ancestor.

Genealogists have to come to terms with the notion of 'probability', i.e. that usually you can only be say 90-95% certain that someone is your ggggrandfather due to inaccuracies in the records, common surnames giving a number of possible matches, possible illegitimacy and so on.

At some point, we all have to accept the most probable answer and move on; that means we have to come to terms with a level of uncertainty that many people are uncomfortable with. However, to get to the point of accepting the most probable answer to a research question, there needs to be a preponderance of evidence supporting that answer. One of the best ways to establish that you have established proof and reached this level of evidence is to use the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) which was touched on in the previous video.

The history of the Genealogical Proof Standard

In the 1960s [The American Society of Genealogists](#) published the book *Genealogical research: methods and sources* which supported the concept that a preponderance of evidence requires that 'the greater weight of the evidence supports your conclusion'. [The British Society of Genealogists](#) also has a list of principles essential in the conduct of genealogical research which includes statements such as 'evidence becoming proof through a reasoned and logical analysis' and 'argument capable of convincing others that the conclusion is valid'. The [Board for Certification of Genealogists](#) then codified the various standards of proof into the Genealogical Proof Standard.

The Genealogical Proof Standard

There are a number of interdependent points to the Standard. These are that:

- Research has been reasonably exhaustive
- Information has been analysed and correlated
- Conflicting evidence has been resolved
- Sources have been cited or referenced
- A reasoned conclusion has been created

Now some of these points are more difficult to get your head around than others so we'll explore a couple more deeply here.

Research has been reasonably exhaustive

This does not mean you have to access and explore every possible genealogical record that might be of use in answering your question. This would be pretty impossible given the vast number of sources available. Thomas W. Jones in his book *Mastering Genealogical Proof* offers the following six criteria to assure you that your research has been 'reasonably exhaustive':

1. that at least two independently-created sources are in agreement
2. that you have looked at all sources competent genealogists would examine for that particular question
3. that you have included some primary information
4. that you have included some original records (ie. you have looked an image of a birth certificate instead of just viewing the transcription of that certificate)
5. that you have used the primary and original documents where these are findable instead of relying on transcriptions or secondary sources which refer to these sources.
6. that you use all findable sources listed in an index or mentioned in a related source.

A reasoned conclusion has been created

To fully establish proof you must communicate it by writing up your conclusions. In its most simple format, writing up could consist of a sentence within a genealogical report, chart or family story. In situations where you have difficult conflicting evidence to resolve, you will need to create a more extensive argument which fully explains the rationale behind your proof and outcomes.

There are three options for presenting a conclusion and which one you choose will depend on the complexity of the question and answer.

1. A proof statement: this could be a sentence contained within a larger report on a family or a piece of data.
2. A proof summary: this could be one or more written pages containing lists or narratives stating facts that support or lead to your conclusion
3. A proof argument: this is a documented narrative that contains an explanation of why the answer given to a problem should be considered to be proven.

In all cases you must provide references for the data used.

Thomas W. Jones' excellent guide to the GPS is titled *Mastering Genealogical Proof* published in 2013 by the National Genealogical Society (USA). The paperback version can be difficult to source but there is an [e-book version](#) available.

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