

Gore Branch of New Zealand Society of Genealogists July 2016

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Next Meeting
5 July 2016
Tuesday 8pm -
Bring along 2 or more
names to share your
research or problems

Our Hobby

From Papamoa

Branch's April 2016 Newsletter

What hobby combines history, travel, detective work, photography, food, fashion, technology, science and reading? Genealogy does and it is the fastest growing hobby.

Television shows where celebrities trace their ancestry gave this hobby a big boost over the last few years and today anyone can take advantage of both free and purchased research tools to climb their family tree. Genealogy has traditionally incorporated history, detective work and reading, but today budding genealogists can add online technology and software to the mix. There are free online databases, subscription databases, various types of software to help with the history and detective work. There are even online genealogy courses people can take to learn more about this hobby.

The science of DNA is opening doors for genealogists like never before. For a fee, genealogists can find out their racial makeup, how far back their earliest ancestors walked the Earth, where ancestors came from, and more. Scientists are now detectives assisting in the search.

Anyone can make genealogy as sedate or active as they want it to be. Genealogy can be free or it can cost as much as it takes to travel to ancestral homelands. It is a hobby flexible enough to suit the genealogist, which may explain its growing popularity.

UPGRADING TO WORD 2016?

Do you hate having to learn new ways of doing things on your computer? I have found an ideal website to help. The website www.gcflearnfree.org/word2016 has free online lessons. There are 30 separate modules grouped under Word basics; Working with text; Layout and printing; Working with objects; Collaboration and reviewing; and Doing more with Word. Each module consists of a short video lesson to view. Written instructions for that lesson appear below the video. You can select and print these instructions or copy them into another Word document to save for future reference.

Andrea Cade | May 2016 Thanks to Whanganui Branch

Meeting Night

Due to the 1st Tuesday of the month clashing with some members activities, we are considering changing **the week** we hold our meetings.

Please bring your thoughts to the next meeting, or let Vicky know which week would be most suitable to you.

Research night June 2016

A small number of members enjoyed the time to do research and several new members were able to take time and discover new resources in the Hokonui Heritage Center.

<https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/> is amazing when used to its maximum benefit .

Births, deaths and marriages can be searched by entering the surname, given name, but enter a much earlier date i.e. 01/01/1880, leaving the second date vacant. When all the records appear, go to the top of the page and click on any of the five headings. This will sort the records into numerical or alphabetical order. Deaths can be searched in the same manner. Note the birthdate or age of deceased is at the right side. Marriages give you Brides given and family name, and the same for grooms given and family name. If you are unsure of given names, simply enter the family name and sort. You may be surprised with the results.



We extend our deepest sympathy to Elaine Scott in the sad loss of her brother

ancestry.com records from Cornwall, workhouse admissions & discharges, police charge book, militia & fencibles, congregational & Baptist records, records from Sutton, Surrey, 3.8 million electoral registers, BMD from sea, BMD from British Consulates, Australian service records From WW2

SORT, SCAN, SHARE:

How to **NOT** Drown in Family Memorabilia

By Jodi Bash <http://familyhistorydaily.com/>

PLEASE READ THIS

A visit to a client revealed small piles of photos, letters, and other yellowed documents lining the living room walls. They also lined all available space in the kitchen and bedroom.

She was overwhelmed with her extensive genealogy collection. She had been the recipient of family documents for as long as she could remember. She needed to downsize her home. Her grown children were seemingly uninterested in genealogy and inheriting a massive collection, as were her siblings. She had no idea where to start with the heaps of family memorabilia. This could have easily be any of us.

Working together for just 2 hours, we came up with a plan and a process that would keep much of this amazing family history (photos, letters, official military documents, written histories, etc.) at her fingertips but not in her home.

This is a process than can work for anyone on almost any de-cluttering project. No matter how organized or unorganized your material is, you can start this process. It will take some space, piles and hard decisions, but it will be well worth it.

You are not responsible for the burden of your family's history. You can throw things away, you can give things away, you can make hard decisions. Definitely let your family know you are going through a process of elimination and would love their input and ideas on what they might want themselves. Don't try to do this in a vacuum!

STEP 1 – Sorting

Also known as, let-the-piles-begin! The first sorting you will do is based on where your family memorabilia will go.

For each piece of family history answer one question first: **Do I want to keep this? Don't think about need, but want. Then follow this process...**

If yes – put it in a keep pile.

Sometimes a piece of history is really a pile.

Consider if you want to keep ALL of it, for example a collection of 150 letters written from your grandfather to your grandmother? Pick 5-10. For the rest, follow the remainder of this process.

If no – Does a family member want this?

If yes – put in a give to family pile.

If no – is there a third party that might want it?

- local genealogy library or historical society
- a school for things like yearbooks or class photos
- local or national museum or archives

- religious group or historical society/archives
- other families mentioned in or pictured in the documents you have.

If you have an account on places like Ancestry.com or MyHeritage.com (any site with public family trees online) you may be able to find and contact other people whose ancestors have been included in your family stuff. A simple email to offer the materials is easy. For many sites you don't have to have a paying subscription to send emails, just an account.

If yes – put in a give to third party pile.

Make a separate pile for each group that will be taking something.

If you do end up donating family memorabilia to a museum or archive, be sure to make a list of what organization took what and the location. That will help future generations who want to reference this material.

If no – is this something you could sell? (i.e. ebay, Trade Me or an antique store)

If yes – put in a to-be-sold pile (you'll be amazed and pleased with what folks will buy!)

If no – start a trash pile (gasp!)

So you have 5 (maybe more) piles: keep, give to family, give to third party, sell, and trash. Great! **Now what? Don't give or throw anything away just yet.**

Let's talk about giving or selling family memorabilia to third parties.

Search for "old photographs," "Yearbooks," or "old letters." Internment records have great information on them: the date a person died, was buried, their age, maybe what they died of, exact location of burial: plot/section/etc. All of that is extremely helpful in locating a grave. Findagrave.com or Billiongraves.com.

That way the information is secure and shared and you don't have to keep the records if you don't want to. With that you are ready for Step 2.

STEP 2 – Scanning

A cynical person would say that this step takes the physical piles and just turns them into digital ones, which technically is true. But it's one of the most important things we can do with our family materials for so many reasons: It preserves the original material – looking at a reprint or online photo means no sticky fingers on grandpa's crumbling letters. Opening and re-opening letters, certificates, and the like can wear down the original material quickly.

It safeguards our family history from us! The box of family "stuff" that I got from my uncle's house had a water stain down almost half of every document and photo. A computer failure, a flood, a fire; human errors and mother nature take their toll on the artifacts of our life.

It becomes easier to share – digital files can be put on websites, sent in emails, downloaded from dropboxes – you name it!

Having the one copy of something precious in one place increases the risk that future generations won't see it at all.

Scanning, much like sorting, has multiple steps. And you will scan more than you will keep. All those family documents that are going to your siblings, your kids, your local historical society, even to eBay you will want to scan and ensure you have a copy of the material. The reasons you wouldn't want to scan something are:

- You already have a digital copy.
- You have multiple similar photos in which case you only want to pick the best few to scan.

There is certainly more than one good process for scanning documents that can be followed.

Get a grouping of photos/documents that you want to scan at the same sitting. Maybe one pile or half a pile at a time. You can't do it all at once, but you do want to gain some efficiency in what can be a boring and repetitive process. Enlist family help for this too!

Scan at a relatively high resolution in color in case you want to make prints in the future.

Use the photo software on your computer to crop the scan to its edges so there's no wasted space.

Title the scan something that will make sense when you go back and look at the file in a year. Avoid "Papa Bash1," "Papa Bash2," "Papa Bash3," etc. You'll be opening files all day to see what's really there.

Use the description or tagging options that are on most photo software. In the Mac's Photos software you can add a title, description, key words, and even tag faces. If there is information on the back of a photo put it in the description. If you know the year, the place, or any other relevant information add that too!

This shows you how much detail about a photo can be added for easy searching and identification of your scanned documents.

Save the scan in a computer file that follows a logical order. You may choose to organize your digitized family history in any number of ways.

Create folders based on surname. Name the primary folder title which is more helpful than year or location. Add the photos to the appropriate folder, putting women in the folder of their maiden name if the photos are pre-marriage, and in the folder of their married name if they are post-marriage.

You can sort within surnames by creating folders based on year or decade. It all depends on how much data you have and what level of detail is important to you.

If you've done all this you have come a LONG way to organizing your family history material. You've sorted, you've scanned, you've mailed things off and even thrown a few items in the trash...good work!

STEP 3 – Sharing

This is the fun part! Now that you have a LOT of digital data taking up space on your hard drive, it's time to put it out in the cloud. Get it on websites, blogs, Facebook

pages, etc. so that distant and close relatives can see it, download it, and get reconnected to their family history. You can create photo books and give them as gifts. Sharing online does not mean you have to be technically savvy. You do need to know how much privacy you want – is this information just for known family, or can it be made public so that anyone who might have an interest can find it?

Here are just a few of the easiest and cheapest ways to share digital family media. There are many, many options out in the world wide web!

Facebook – This application is good because everyone probably already has a Facebook page, knows how to use it, and it's free. Privacy can be tricky, assume what you put there will be seen. You can even start a new page just for family stuff: The BASH Family page, or something like that.

Blogs – Blogs can be free and they are usually drag and drop easy to set up. You can write about documents, family, etc. Post photos and really anything digital.. Here's a step by step guide for setting up a family history blog.

Photo sharing sites – this huge category can be free or cost a bundle. Depending on what site security you desire, how much to you to post/ share, needs will differ. Some I use are: SmugMug and Shutterfly. (USA) A simple Google search for "top photo sharing sites" or "best blogs for photos" or "good ways to share family history online" are great. There's no one right answer, there's just a right answer for you.

This is a big task, but, the goal is to preserve as much as possible, in the hands of those who want it and will care for it. It is also important that our family history is not a burden for anyone. One step, or document, at a time.

You can do this!

This article is slightly abridged

About Jodi Bash

Jodi Bash is a genealogist living in Houston, Texas with her husband and three children. She is founder of Family at Your Fingertips and is passionate about finding creative and tangible ways to connect with family history. She runs two blogs: Unclaimed Ancestors is an effort to connect old photos with descendants, and a way to scratch the ever-present research bug! A more personal blog at Family at Your Fingertips explores family heirlooms and the love of history. Jodi has been researching family history for over 15 years, and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She holds a B.A. in History and English from the University of Texas at Austin, a Masters in American History from the University of Houston, and an M.B.A. from Rice University. You can reach Jodi at Jodi@familyatyourfingertips.com and follow her on twitter via @famatfingertips

Thanks to Whanganui Branch

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Andrea Cade / May 2016

Thanks to Whanganui Branch

Write this date on your calender for later in the year
Dunedin Family History meeting
Wednesday 12 October 2016

DNA what is it, and how can DNA testing help you with your Genealogical research.
Guest Speakers

Dr Keith King and Mary Wallace

Ancestry add 100 million Netherlands records

Ancestry have added indexes to over 100 million birth, baptism, marriage, death, and burial records from the Netherlands, many of which have previously only been available at the [WieWasWie](http://www.wiewaswie.com) ("Who was Who") website, which is a collaboration between more than 20 Dutch archives. If you find a record of interest you'll have to follow a link to see the image - the images are not hosted at Ancestry.

These links will take you to the relevant search pages:

[Netherlands, Birth Index, 1787-1915](#)

[Netherlands, Baptism Index, 1569-1879](#)

[Netherlands, Marriage Index, 1570-1938](#)

[Netherlands, Civil Marriage Index, 1795-1950](#)

[Netherlands, Death Index, 1795-1965](#)

[Netherlands, Burial Index, 1546-1821](#)

Rootstech 2016 this is streamed around the world live, but is available on the website, This year it included Scottish Genealogy, Finding people, Finding elusive Records on FamilySearch.org, cemetery Crowdsourcing, using Google for Genealogy.

<http://www.rootstech.org/video/4050134760001>



www.nls.uk/

The National Library of Scotland is Scotland's largest library and the world centre for the study of Scotland and the

Scots.

On its home page at www.archive.type National Library of Scotland Maps and Places.

www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk.
maps.nls.uk/

View free high-resolution zoomable images of over 48000 maps of Scotland.

[Find by place](#) - [Counties of Scotland, 1580-1928](#) - [Series maps, 1795-1961](#) - [About](#)

NLS platform within the Internet Archives website <https://archive.org/details/nationallibraryofscotland> Scottish Post Office directories from 1774-1911 <http://digital.nls.uk/directories>

Who Do You Think You Are –

We know this TV programme, but it is also a massive Genealogy show in Birmingham, England where 13,000 visitors attended.

all the big names were present, workshops, website stands and excellent speakers with handouts available online

<http://www.sog.org.uk/learn/who-do-you-think-you-are-live-2014-speakers-handouts/> Amazing site- **please do search your interests.**

Findmypast released 1.2 million records of Irish Quakers, 1664- to the present.

www.findmypast.co.uk/quakers

900,000 records of Greenwich Pensions from 1704-1934 from Greenwich hospital and Royal Hospital Chelsea with many men's careers with Royal Navy.

<http://bit.ly/240hIDu>

Shipping

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/Auckland1875.htm>

Denise and Peter's site Our stuff has lots of passengers lists

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ourstuff/OurPassengerLists.htm>

Irish arrivals into New Zealand

<http://www.geocities.ws/nziconnection/immlist.htm>

fibis.org arrival and departure notices from 1900 extracted from Times of India newspaper: 7344 arrivals, 7797 departures.

Family tree Maker News – Australian

http://www.mackiev.com/mailings/2016jun/images/ftm-news_1x.jpg>