



First Steps into your Genealogy

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Abstract

- So you've decided to start looking into your genealogy/family history - find out who your ancestors were, discover your heritage, or look for long lost relatives. How do you get started? What resources should you use? Who should you talk to? This presentation hopes to provide some starting points for you as it can be an overwhelming hobby to get started without a little guidance.

Terminology

- Genealogy
 - Collins Dictionary definition: Genealogy is the study of the history of families, especially through studying historical documents to discover the relationships between particular people and their families.
 - Encyclopedia Britannica: Genealogists compile lists of ancestors, which they arrange in pedigree charts
- Family History
 - This is the story of your family, not just the names, dates and pedigree charts. Family traditions, family recipes, biographical stories, photos, artefacts. Family History is what makes your Genealogy come alive.

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Terminology

- Like any hobby or group you join, there are words and phrases that are used by the people who have been doing it a long time that you may not be familiar with.
- Two such phrases that you may have heard are “Genealogy” and “Family History”. They are often used interchangeably, but actually do have different meanings and understanding them may also help you to shape how YOU will participate in this hobby.

Start with Yourself

Own Name and
Date Of Birth

Mother's (Maiden)
Name and Birthday

Siblings



Father's Name
and Birthday

Grand-parents

Spouse and
Children

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Start with Yourself

- When you're an author, it is said you should write about what you know. Genealogy is no different. You should start with yourself.
- Write down your name and vital statistics, your parents, siblings and anything else you can remember. You'll be surprised how much you do know when you start to write it down.
- If you're making a family tree for your children, you may want to research both your own ancestry and that for your spouse, as your children are half of each.

Ask Family members

Go back
one more
generation



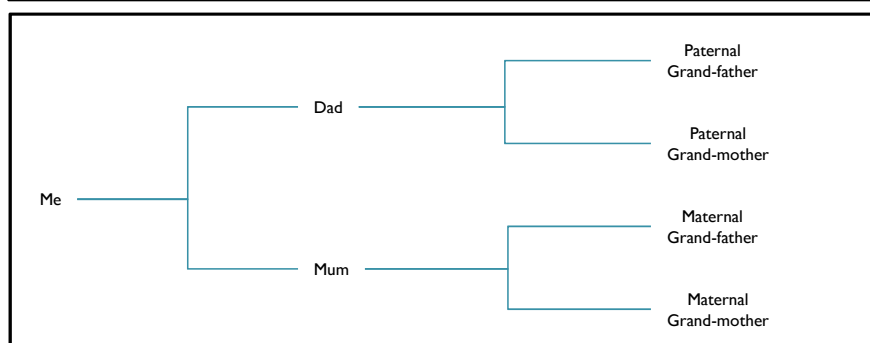
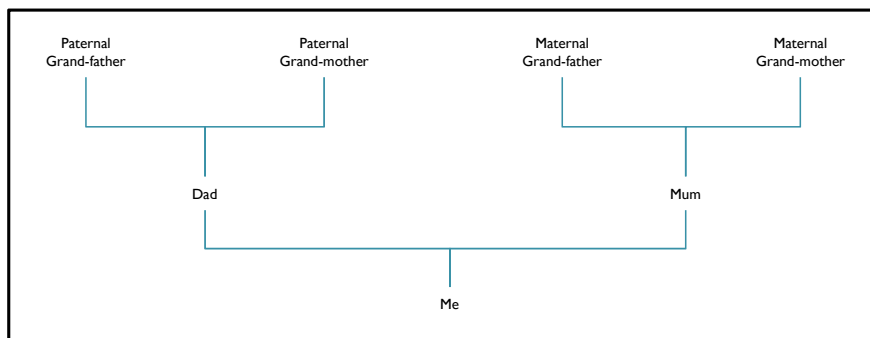
Learn about
family members
you weren't
aware of

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Ask Family members

- Once you have written down all you know, talk to your family members. In the same way that you likely know your mum's full name and birthday, she will know her mum's details.

Drawing it out



NOTES

Drawing it out

- As soon as you make even the smallest of starts into a family history project you'll realise that you need a way to capture all the information you are collecting.
- To start with, a piece of paper is just fine. There is no need to shell out lots of money for software or pay large online subscriptions right up front. My advise is to try out those online services, with free trials, or ask around other genealogists what they use before getting out the Credit Card.
- Most people end up with a diagram that looks a little like this.
- There are various templates you can get for free online to use as you get started. The Tauranga Library has a couple of templates as shown, a Pedigree Chart and a Family Group Chart (see the "Printable resources" section on <https://library.tauranga.govt.nz/your-history-our-history/genealogy-assistance/genealogy-at-the-library> and my own blog hosts an Excel template (<https://unstmorag.wordpress.com/resources/pedigree-chart/>) that you may also like if you want to edit on a computer instead of writing on paper.

Drawing it out – Hints and Tips

- Writing
 - Use pencil unless certain
 - Write Surnames in capitals
- Software
 - Can edit later if wrong
 - Separate surname entry field – some still use capitals though
- Both
 - Don't use married surname for women – leave it blank
 - Remember spelling isn't final. Names change over time because the scribe writes what he hears the informant say.



Alastair Sandison HUGHSON

Rhoda Harrison GRAY



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Drawing it out – Hints and Tips

- When capturing your research, if just writing it down, here are some hints and tips.
- Unless you are absolutely certain of the details, consider writing it in pencil. Of course, if you are entering it into some software or online service, you can just go back and edit.
- When writing down names, write the surname in capitals. This helps to make it clear which name is the surname, especially handy when middle names are also surnames, and when some people don't yet have a surname recorded, say because you don't know the maiden surname of a married woman.
- When recording the name of a married woman, if you don't yet know her maiden name, don't write down her married name. This can later confuse you, since some women do marry a man with the same surname as them, and it might look like this. Just leave it blank until you know.

GEDCOM files

Manage your tree

Export your family tree data, as a GEDCOM file, to your computer.

Export tree

Upload a GEDCOM file



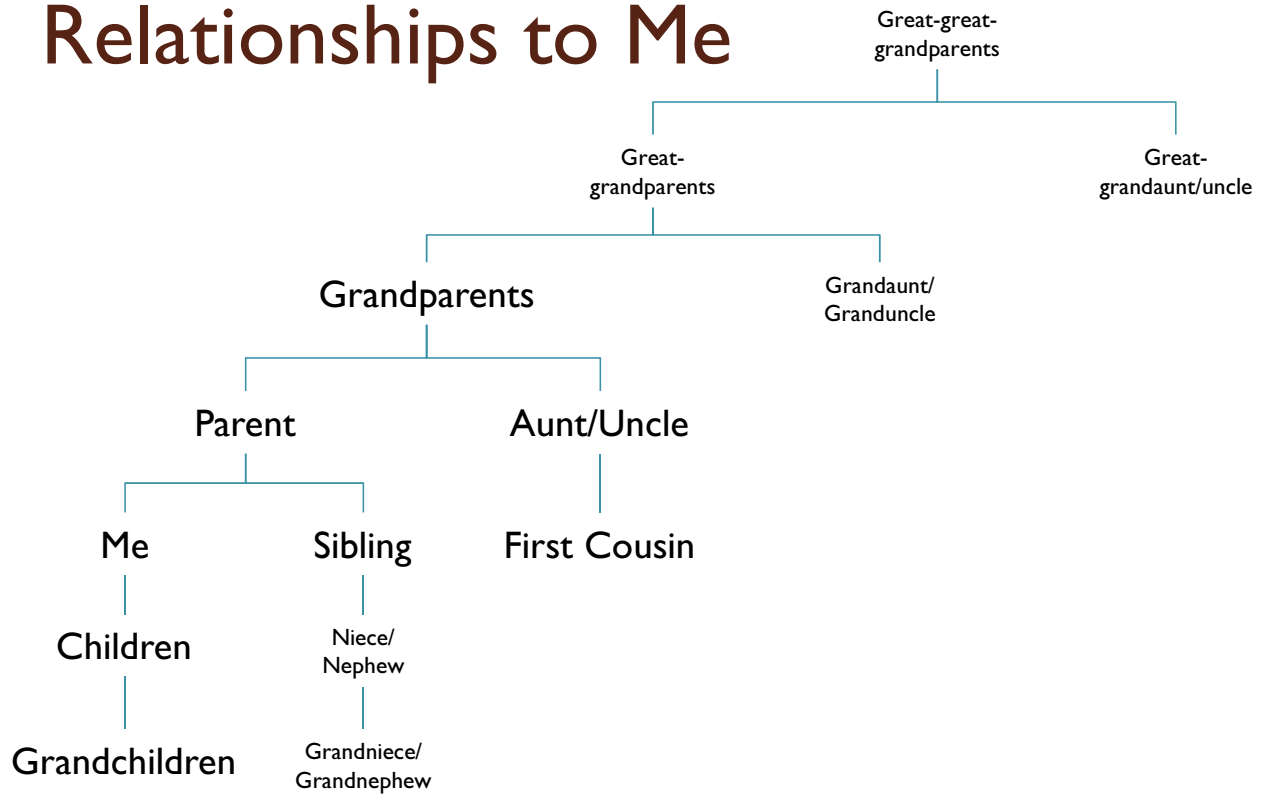
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JohnHenryEdwardson.ged - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Number: 16 Line: 21 Roll: CSSCT1901_2
3 _APID 1,1101::2951025
1 RESI
2 DATE 1891
2 PLAC South Hall, North Yell, Shetland, Scotland
2 SOUR @X4@
3 PAGE Parish: North Yell; ED: 5; Line: 13;
3 DATA
4 DATE 5
3 NOTE ht
3 DATA
4 TEXT Name Lamar Gray, Age: 3 Estimated Birth Year
Lamar Gray Male Where born: Yell, Shetland
5 CONC er: 4 Registration District: North Yell Ci
Household Schedule Number: 13 Line: 13 Roll: CSSCT1
3 _APID 1,1108::77825
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1 OCCU Road Labourer
2 DATE 1901
2 PLAC North Yell, Shetland, Scotland
2 SOUR @X3@
3 PAGE Parish: North Yell; ED: 2; Page: 4; Line: 20;
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**TEXT FORMAT
NO PICTURES!!!**

GEDCOM files

- When you do decide to buy some software or pay for an online service as a place to build your family tree, this is not a decision for all time. Almost all modern genealogical software and online services have a way for you to export your data as a GEDCOM file, and import your data from the same.
- This means if you change your mind, you can pull your data from one and import it into another.
- A word of warning. The GEDCOM file format is a text format. It will hold all the names, and dates, and web links and source information you have typed in, but it does not hold photographs. So if you do decide to add photographs to your family tree, which does make it come to life, keep a separate backup of those.
- It is worth taking a copy of your family tree as a GEDCOM file at regular intervals anyway, just in case the software or service you are using, has some sort of failure.

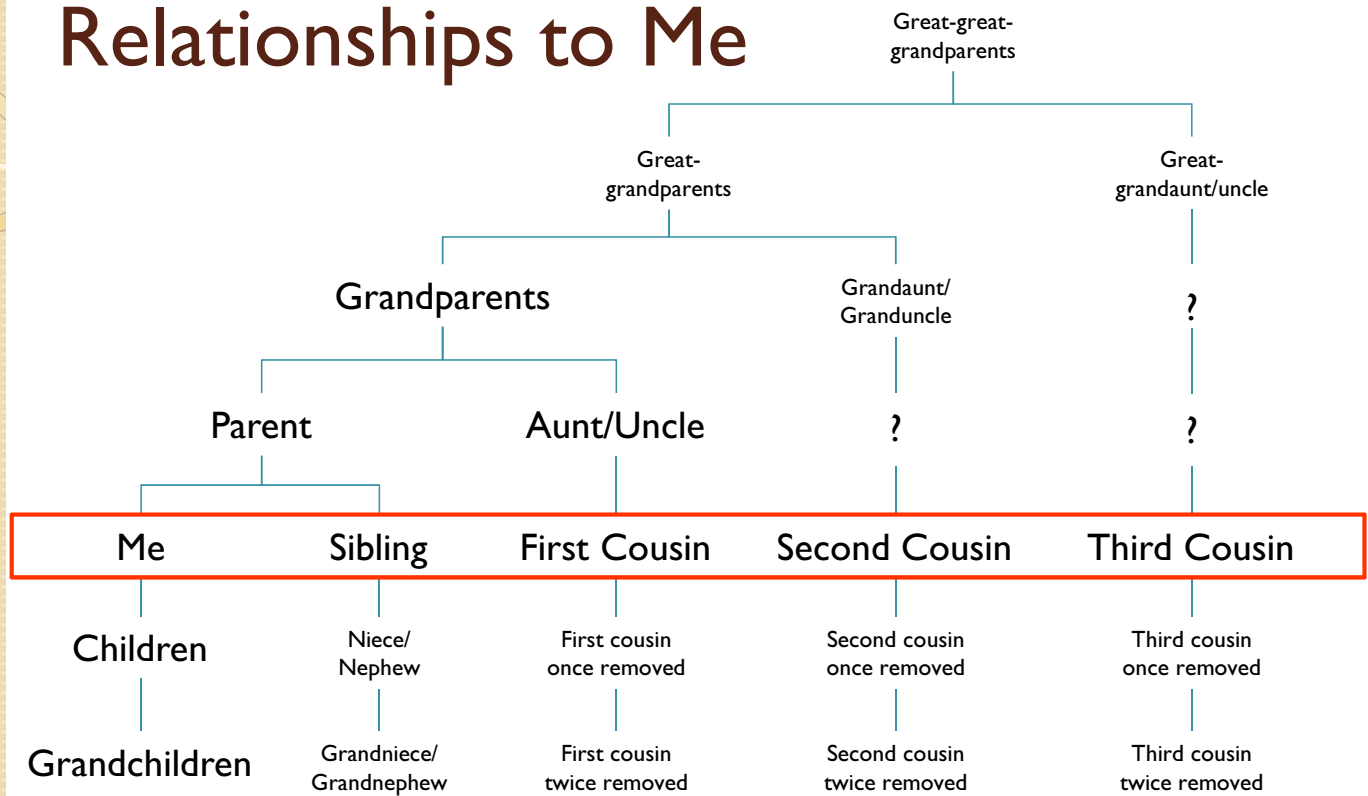
Relationships to Me



Relationships to Me

- While we're looking at pedigree charts and diagrammatic ways to display your research, perhaps it is worth looking at the terms for the relationships between people in your family tree.
- We start with a portion of the diagram we looked at a moment ago. We've combined the father and mother to show "Parents" and the same for "Grandparents" to give ourselves space to make some additions. We've also added two generations below you, to show children and grandchildren.
- Children of your own siblings are your nieces and nephews and their children are your grand nieces and nephews. Adding more generations adds "great" to each relationship.
- Siblings of your parents are your aunts and uncles and their children are your First Cousins. First Cousins share common grandparents.
- Going back further generations, we add either "Grand" or "Great" (something of a personal preference it seems) to each relationship to show it is further back through the generations.

Relationships to Me

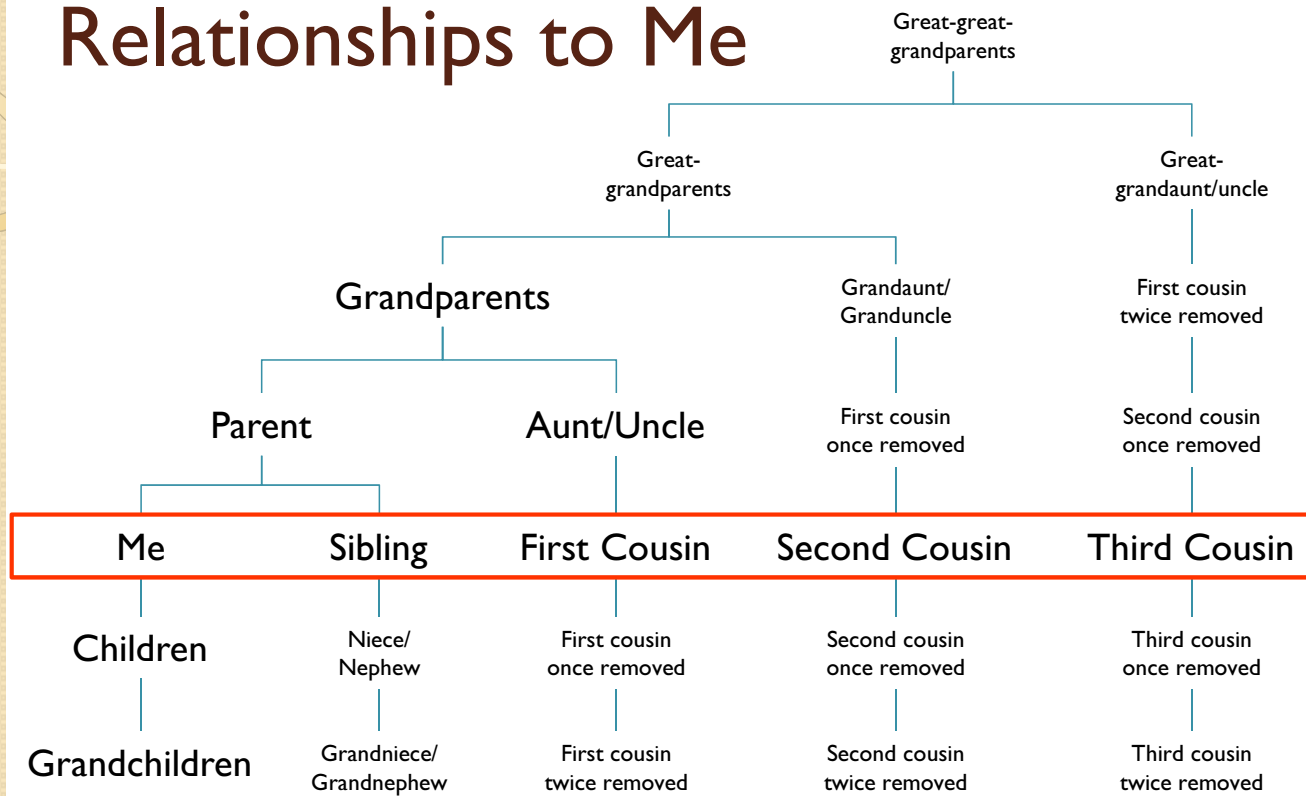


Relationships to Me (Continued)

- As we noted a moment ago, first Cousins share common grandparents.
- Second cousins are more distantly related and share common great-grandparents.
- Third cousins are even more distantly related and share common G-G-grandparents.
- The red box here shows your generation. This is important for the next few, more confusing, cousin labels.
- You'll have no doubt heard phrases like, "First Cousin once removed" and wondered what it meant. So first, let's just say that if the two people are in the same generation, that is, the other person is in that red box with me, then there is no "removed". The "removed" in these labels means that the relationship is between two people who are in different generations.
- The cousins in the younger generation from me are the same relationship their parents have to me, but "once removed". So the relationship is calculated at the oldest generation involved, and then we count how many removed steps we have. The next even younger generation are the same relationship their grandparents have to me but "twice removed".

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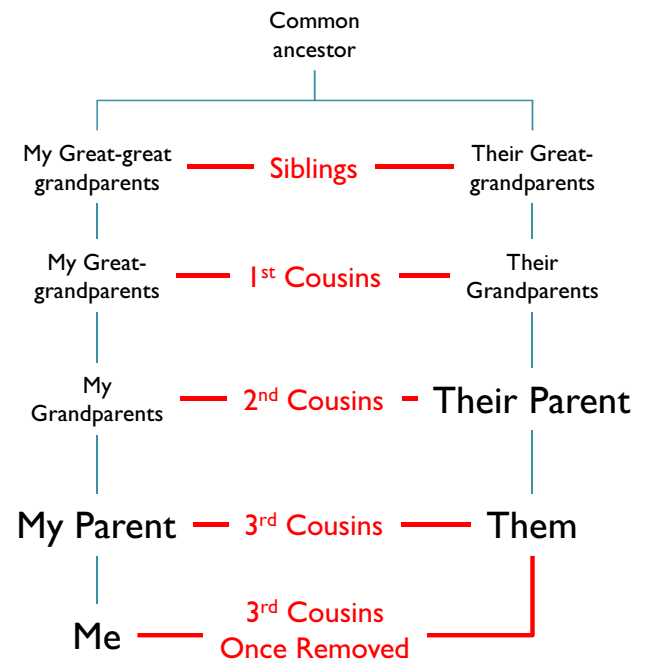
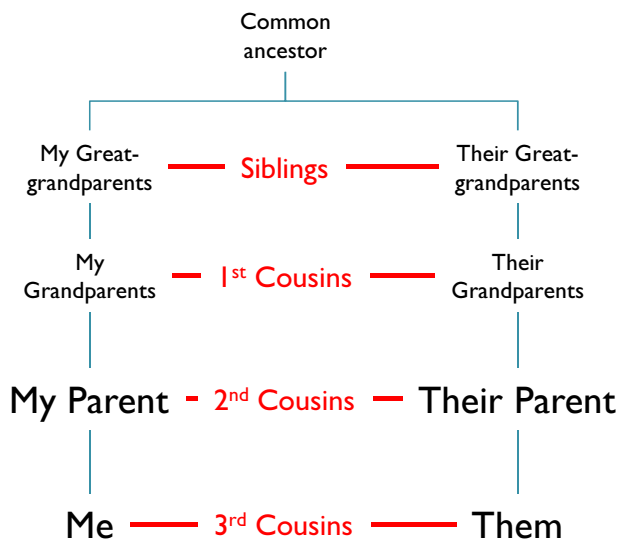
Relationships to Me



Relationships to Me (Continued)

- The final few labels that we haven't mentioned yet are possibly the most complicated ones.
- To calculate the relationship, e.g. "first cousin" we calculate it at the oldest generation. So a "first cousin" of my parent, is a "first cousin once removed" to me. Similarly for a "second cousin" of my parent.
- Finally, a "first cousin" of my grandparent is a "first cousin twice removed" to me.

Calculating cousins

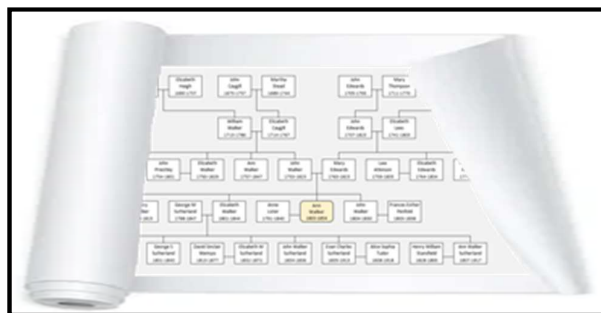
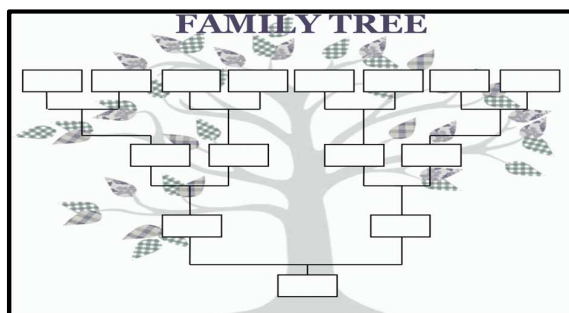


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Calculating cousins

- Something you might find yourself doing as you get into your research, is trying to figure out how you are related to someone. I get contacted through my blog by people who have common ancestry to me and I like to reply telling them how we are related.
- If you ever visit my office, there is a fair chance you might see a diagram something like this on my whiteboard!
- Here's a quick way to discover exactly your relationship to someone.
- This assumes that you have found a common ancestor.
- You work down from the common ancestor to yourself, writing out the names of the people.
- Then you work down from the common ancestor to them, doing the same. Sometimes you don't know the names because all you have from them was, "My great-grandfather was so-and-so", but that's enough.
- Now that you have all the names lined up, you can start at the top where the generation below the common ancestor were siblings, then the next generation are first cousins, then second cousins, and so on. If you are both the same generation then you are all set.
- Sometimes though, they are the same generation as your parents, as in the second diagram, so then we work out the relationship they have with my parent, and I am the same relationship but "once removed".

What to research



NOTES

What to research

- Everyone is different in what they want out of their Family History research. Given how immersive and expensive this hobby can be, it is worth thinking about what you want to get out of it before you get too far in.
- Some people just want to follow back through their main ancestral lines, some even just want to follow the male line back.
- Some people are looking to connect with cousins, and so research a much wider family tree, taking in all the siblings, and thus aunts and uncles, and look to find 4th, 5th and 6th cousins.
- Some people get interested in an unusual family name, and start what is known as a One-Name-Study. This is probably not a beginner project!
- Some people get interested in an area, because much of their family stayed in and around that area, and do what is known as a One-Place-Study. Again, this is probably not a beginner project!

Basic Source Records

- Vitals
 - Births
 - Deaths
 - Marriages (+ Divorces)
- Where they lived
 - Census (e.g. UK or USA)
 - Electoral Rolls
 - City Directories
 - Land records and Deeds
- Newspapers
 - Stories about them
 - Obituaries, Birth and Marriage announcements
 - Wedding reports
 - Travel – passengers on ships
 - Trouble with the law!
- Other
 - Wills and probate

“HISTORICAL”?

Basic Source Records

- When you start researching for records that mention your ancestors, there are various different types of records you will look for.
- One set of records that are very commonly used by genealogists are the Birth, Marriage and Death records, often called the BMDs (or sometimes BDMs). These will help you to find the next generation back as these records often contain the names of the parents (the father at least) of the person(s) having the event recorded. It can however, be an expensive job, so we'll look in a moment at alternatives.
- Another set of records that are commonly used are those which record where your ancestors lived. In some countries, which may become useful if you are searching for ancestors who travelled to New Zealand from somewhere else, such as the UK, there are census records showing who lived in each address on a certain date. These were taken generally taken every 10 years. New Zealand doesn't keep census data, it is destroyed once the census is counted. Instead we do have Electoral Rolls which serve a similar purpose but with unfortunately less data.
- Newspapers are a great source of information, but of course, more ad hoc than the formal, legally required records.
- And of course, there are many other records that your ancestors will be mentioned in. Some examples include wills and probate, which will often mention various relatives, and omit others – leading to either, a search for a death you weren't aware of, or a story about why they all fell out!

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Historical Records

- What counts as Historical?*
- Births that occurred at least 100 years ago.
- Stillbirths if registered at least 50 years ago.
- Marriages and eventually civil unions that occurred at least 80 years ago.
- Deaths that occurred at least 50 years ago or the deceased's date of birth was at least 80 years ago.

• According to NZ's Historical Births, Deaths & Marriages Online: <https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/>

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Historical Records

- To some extent you are aiming to get back far enough with your in-person research to be able to start searching for historical records. It is generally not easy, or cheap to obtain records about people who are still alive, to ensure their privacy and to avoid identity theft so generally speaking you will be searching for historical records.
- NZ considers Births, Marriages and Deaths to be historical with the criteria shown.

Money

- Genealogy can be an expensive hobby!
 - Lots of subscription websites
 - Occasional free weekends!
 - Some pay-per-record websites
- Also, many free resources – get to know those well!
 - Indexes
 - Often the indexes of pay-per-record sites are free, although you might need to get a login
 - Library editions of various subscription websites
 - Family Search – free but you need a login
 - Papers Past
 - The Wilson Collection

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Money

- There are lots of subscription based and pay-per-view based websites around that will help you with your goal of creating a family tree of your ancestors. Before you start melting your credit card though, be aware of what you can find for free first of all. This can save you a lot of money. Sometimes these websites have free weekends to tempt you in. Keep an eye out for those! Black Friday, ANZAC day, Mothers/Fathers day etc.
- Many of the pay-per-record websites have a free index so you can get basic information completely for free.
- Another thing to be aware of is that several of the subscription based websites are available to use in the library for free. Before you even consider shelling out for a subscription, you should try them out in the library, see if they have good record collections for the research you are doing, and decide whether you like the website interface to use, before even paying a cent.
- If you are looking for New Zealand based records one excellent starting point is the Wilson Collection. This is an index – meaning that it doesn't have all the records and images, but just the basic details of each record. It is a great starting point because it has so many different record types pulled together in one place. And, another bonus, it is free!

Births, Marriages and Death records


- New Zealand
 - <https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/>
- England and Wales
 - <https://www.freebmd.org.uk/> and then to purchase full records: <https://www.gov.uk/order-copy-birth-death-marriage-certificate>
- Scotland
 - <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>
 - Logon needed to view free index
- Other Countries
 - Start by web-searching for either “BDM” or “BMD” and the country name, and you’ll often find the website you need.

Births, Marriages and Death records

- Each country has a different scheme for recording these records, and thus a different website you can go to, in order to get basic indexed details, and order full copies of records.
- We’ll look in detail at the New Zealand version of this, but on this page I also show a few other countries for those of you looking for ancestors in other places.
- Often, but not always, the place where you view the free BMD indexes is also the place where you can go on to order (and pay for) the full record.
- In general, if you need to purchase full records, make sure you are not doing it the expensive way. For example, ordering through one of the big subscription websites tends to be double the price of getting direct from the country’s website. Always check before parting with your money.

NZ Historical BDMs

- The website is at <https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/>
- It is free to search and look at the indexed results.



The screenshot shows the website interface for "Births, Deaths & Marriages Online". The navigation menu includes "Home", "Search", "Births", "Deaths", "Marriages", "Data Collected", "About The Records", "Payments & Products", and "Timeline". The "Marriages" section is active, displaying "Marriage Search" results. The search results show 1 match for a marriage registered in 1930/5971 between Robina Sutherland and John Marwick.

Registration Number	Bride's Given Name(s)	Bride's Family Name	Groom's Given Name(s)	Groom's Family Name	
1930/5971	Robina Sutherland	Anderson	John	Marwick	Order Product

NZ Historical BDMs

- You can search for historical (that is "old enough") records on this website. The index is free to view, but if you decide to purchase the record to see all the details, it will be quite expensive.
- Here I am looking for a marriage record, so I choose "Search" and then "Marriages" in the LHS navigation pane.
- I'm looking for the marriage of a woman called Robina whose married name was Marwick. I don't have to fill in all the name boxes if I don't know them. I do have to give it a date range though so I have gone with a very wide range.
- The results show you, in the case of marriages, the two names involved, which is handy if you didn't already know both names, and also it gives you a number of the record. You might think this number is not very helpful, but actually it is very helpful. In my example the number is 1930/5971. This tells us that the marriage was registered in 1930. It probably also took place in 1930, although near the end of the year, it is possible to have the registration roll over in to the next year. With births it also sometimes took people a little while to get around to registering births.

What more from the number?

- Registration Number
 - Year marriage was registered
 - Probably year the marriage took place
- Check this:-

Search By/Rapua mā te:

Bride's Family Name:
Te Ingoa Whānau o te Wahine Mārena

Bride's Given Name(s):
Ingoa Karanga o Te Wahine Mārena

Groom's Family Name:
Ingoa Whānau o te Tāne Mārena

Groom's Given Name(s):
Ingoa Karanga o te Tāne Mārena

Search From Date:
Rapua Mai i te Rā (dd/mm/yyyy)

Search To Date:
Rapua Ki Te Rā (dd/mm/yyyy)

Search Results

1 Matches [1 Page]

« Start | Prev | 1 | Next | End »

<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Bride's Given Name(s)</u>
1930/5971	Robina Sutherland

« Start | Prev | 1 | Next | End » [Printer F](#)

- Record still in Search Results?
 - => 1930 ✓

What more from the number?

- In this case, I learned something from the index because I didn't know both the first name and surname of the two people mentioned on the marriage record. In some cases you may already know both names. In that case, have you learned anything from this index?
- Well, the registration number tells you something. It is made up of two parts, the year of the registration and then the number within that year. The year of the registration is of interest to us. That tells us the year the marriage was registered, which is most likely also the year the marriage took place – occasionally it might not be when a marriage takes place very near the end of the year, or something else happened to result in it not being promptly registered. We can easily check this though. We go back to the search fields and change the dates to reflect the year we think this marriage took place in. If the record still appears in our results, then we know that the marriage took place between those two dates.
- Now the eagle-eyed among may have realised that, if we can guess the correct date the marriage took place within this year, then the same thing will happen, it will still show up in the results.

Binary Chop

- Try 1st half of year
 - No results => 2nd half
- Try 1st half of that, i.e. 3Q
 - Record shows up => 3Q ✓
- Try 1st half of that (Jul - Aug)
- Keeping halving until dates match

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
30 31			
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31
		31	
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	30 31		



Search From Date:

Rapua Mai i te Rā

(dd/mm/yyyy)

Search To Date:

Rapua Ki Te Rā

(dd/mm/yyyy)

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Binary Chop

- So we can use the search facility here to discover the exact date of the marriage, by putting in some guesses. In the most extreme case, you could imagine trying every single date one at a time, 365 guesses at most, and you would eventually hit upon the correct date. This is not what we recommend however. There is a more sensible technique.
- The technique involves taking the calendar and cutting it in half. So our first attempt tries the first half of the year (01/01/1930 – 30/06/1930). If there are no records within that date range, then we know it must have taken place in the second half of the year.
- Now we cut our known date range in half again. We try the 3rd Quarter (01/07/1930 – 30/09/1930). This time the record shows up again, so we know we are in the correct quarter.
- We continue, cutting our known date range in half, over and over until the date in the From box and the date in the To box are both the same and the record is still being returned in the Search Results. Now we know the exact date.
- This technique is known as a binary chop – binary meaning two, you are chopping the problem in half with each step.

Finding children

Search By/Rapua rānei mā te:

Family Name:
Ingoa Whānau

Given Name(s):
Ingoa Karanga

Mother's Given Name(s):
Ingoa Karanga o te Whaea

Search From Date:
Rapua Mai i te Rā
 (dd/mm/yyyy)

Search To Date:
Rapua Ki Te Rā
 (dd/mm/yyyy)

- Given Name blank
 - Find all children
- Sorting by fathers name
 - Groups all children together

Search Results

163 Matches [6 Pages]

« Start | Prev | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Next | End »

Click here to sort

<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Family Name</u>	<u>Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Mother's Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Father's Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Still Birth</u>	
1892/17543	Anderson	Albert Edward	Ann Olive Christina	Louis	-	Order Product
1890/12486	Anderson	Leslie Vernon	Mary Ann	Peter	-	Order Product
1884/4585	Anderson	Norman David	Elizabeth Ann	Edward	-	Order Product

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Finding Children

- You can also use the Historical NZ BDM site to find all the children of a couple.
- Searching in the Births section, put in the Family Name, and the Mother's Given Name, but leave the Given Name blank. Put in a wide date range to start with.
- Once you have your search results, click on the title at the top of the "Father's Given Name(s)" column, and this will sort that column, which has the effect of grouping together the people with the same parents names. Now you can see the whole family together.

Purchasing NZ BMDs

- From your search results you can choose to purchase.

Search Results

1 Matches [1 Page]

« Start | Prev | 1 | Next | End »

<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Bride's Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Bride's Family Name</u>	<u>Groom's Given Name(s)</u>	<u>Groom's Family Name</u>	<u>Order Product</u>
1930/5971	Robina Sutherland	Anderson	John	Marwick	Order Product

« Start | Prev | 1 | Next | End » [Printer Friendly Page \(current\)](#) [Printer Friendly Page \(all\)](#)

- When you do, you are offered two choices.

You have selected to order a product relating to a MARRIAGE record for: **JOHN MARWICK and ROBINA SUTHERLAND ANDERSON**, Registration Number **1930/5971**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Marriage Certificate	33.00	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Marriage printout from 1 Jan 1875	25.00	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Purchasing NZ BMDs

- In New Zealand's case, the website where you can interrogate the index of BDMs for free is also the place where you can purchase the complete records. You'll notice that your search results have an "Order product" link on the right hand side. Clicking on that gives you the choice of two products to order. You'll be happy to hear that you are recommended to choose the cheaper one for genealogical purposes.
- The print out is much better for genealogical purposes as it is a photocopy of the original record and not the typed up version of a certificate which does not have all the details on it and is liable to be mis-transcribed. You only ever need to order a certificate if you have some legal requirement for one.
- It's slightly counter-intuitive, but the cheaper one has more information!
- Before you decide to purchase, there are some other factors to consider. Also remember that, with the date in your hand, you can look to newspapers for details rather than purchasing records.

Older NZ BDMs

Record Type	Year Range	Father's Name	Mothers' Name
Birth	1848-1875	✓	✓
	1875-1912	✓	✓
	1912+	✓	✓
Marriage	1854-1880		
	1880+	✓	✓
Death	1848-1875		
	1875-1912	✓	✓
	1912+	✓	✓

NOTES

Older NZ BDMs

- There's a great document here: <https://library.tauranga.govt.nz/Portals/9/data/history/files/family-history-research-guide.pdf> that lists all the fields that are in each type of New Zealand BDM document.
- Be aware that older records have less information on them. Marriage and death records before 1880/1875 might not even be worth purchasing as it doesn't include parents names, which is often the main piece of information you are a looking for.

Where they lived

- New Zealand
 - Electoral Rolls
 - Ancestry + FMP
 - Fiche + Books in library
 - City and Area Directories
 - Ancestry + FMP
 - Books in library
- UK and USA
 - Census
 - Ancestry + FMP + F/Search

NOTES

Where they lived

- In some countries, for example the UK and USA, census material is retained after the census has taken place, and that is very handy for genealogists. If you are researching ancestors in that country, you will discover how handy it can be. The two main subscription websites, Ancestry and Find My Past contain transcriptions, and in some cases, images, of the census records.
- In New Zealand, census material is destroyed after the census has taken place, and so, genealogists, decades later, do not have the benefit of looking at these.
- Instead there are other types of records that show where your New Zealand ancestors lived including electoral rolls and directories.

Ancestry

- Subscription Website
 - The website is at <https://www.ancestry.com/>
- Free to use in the library
 - Viewing records
 - But not building your tree
 - When using library machines or own device on library Wi-Fi, go to <https://library.tauranga.govt.nz/digital-library/online-resources/a-z> and click on the “Ancestry.com” link.

NOTES

Ancestry

- Ancestry is a subscription website and can therefore be an expensive part of your genealogy hobby. Before launching in and handing over your credit card details, get to know how the website works, and whether it has good collections for your own specific research, by using it at your local library.
- Ancestry Library Edition allows you to see many of the records, in essence the same as you get with a Worldwide subscription, but you cannot make a family tree using the library edition, you have to have your own login to do that. The library edition will however, let you get used to searching for records, and also you can see whether the record collections cover the areas where your ancestors lived.
- When you purchase an Ancestry subscription for yourself, you can choose just to look at local records, rather than buying a worldwide subscription. If you later discover you have an ancestor in another country, remember the library edition which might be useful to you again.

Ancestry: Other Records

- Ancestors of Welding Ring and His Wife Ida Malvina Mailler
- Australia and New Zealand, Obituary Index, 2004-Current
- Canterbury, New Zealand, Provincial Rolls, 1868-1874
- Chronicles of the N.Z.E.F., 1916-1919
- Clan Macleod Society, Annual Report, 1910-1911
- Datus, A Chronology of New Zealand from the Time of the Moa, 1931
- Early History of New Zealand, From Earliest Times To 1845
- Finley of Maberacolon and McArthur of Miltown, County Tyrone
- New Zealand Army Medal Rolls, 1860-1919
- New Zealand Expeditionary Force Record of Personal Service, 1914-1918
- New Zealand Index, 1899, 1908, 1915 & 1939
- New Zealand, World War I Army Nominal Rolls, 1914-1918
- New Zealand, Auckland, Chapman's Gazetteer, 1867
- New Zealand, Bankruptcy Notices, 1893-1904
- New Zealand, Birth Index, 1840-1950
- New Zealand, Cemetery Records, 1800-2007
- New Zealand, City & Area Directories, 1866-1954
- New Zealand, Death Index, 1848-1966
- New Zealand, Early Wellington, 1839-1850
- New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981
- New Zealand, Jury Lists, 1842-1862
- New Zealand, Maori Land Claims, 1858-1980
- New Zealand, Maori Voter and Electoral Rolls, 1908 & 1919
- New Zealand, Marriage Index, 1840-1937
- New Zealand, Naturalisations, 1843-1981
- New Zealand, Notices of Deceased Estates, 1880-1950
- New Zealand, Registered Ships & Owners, 1840-1950
- New Zealand, Registers of Medical Practitioners and Nurses, 1873, 1882-1933
- New Zealand, Roll of Honour, 1840-1903
- New Zealand, Settlement of Otago, 1898
- New Zealand, White Wings, 1924, 1928 (Volumes 1 & 2)
- New Zealand, Who's Who in New Zealand and the Western Pacific, 1908, 1925, 1938
- New Zealand, World War I Army Casualty Lists, 1914-1919
- New Zealand, World War I Army Reserve Rolls, 1916-1917
- New Zealand, World War I Army Roll of Honour, 1914-1919
- New Zealand, World War I Military Defaulters, 1919-1921
- New Zealand, World War II Appointments, Promotions, Transfers and Resignations, 1939-1945
- New Zealand, World War II Army Nominal Rolls, 1939-1948
- New Zealand, World War II Ballot Lists, 1940-1945
- Principal Women of The Empire: Australia and New Zealand, Vol. 1
- The Cyclopedia of New Zealand, 1897-1906 (Volumes 1-6)
- The Defenders of New Zealand
- The Pedigrees of Lloyd of Dolobran, Montgomeryshire; The Wordsworth Family; Foster, late of Le Court, Hants; Hanbury of Holfield Grange, Essex; Wakefield of Sedgwick House, Kendal; and Wakefield of New Zealand and So. Australia
- The Rise and Progress of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand
- Web: Lower Hutt, New Zealand, Index to Cemeteries, 1948-2012

Ancestry: Other Records

- In addition to Electoral Rolls and City and Area Directories, the Ancestry website has a whole variety of other New Zealand related record collections.
- This page shows a snap-shot of those to give you an idea.

Find My Past

- Subscription Website
 - The website is at <https://www.findmypast.com/>
 - A full list of the Australia and New Zealand records that you can use on FMP can be viewed at <https://www.findmypast.com/articles/world-records/full-list-of-australia-and-new-zealand-records> 
- Free to use in the library
 - Viewing records
 - But not building your tree
 - When using library machines or own device on library Wi-Fi, go to <https://library.tauranga.govt.nz/digital-library/online-resources/a-z> and click on the “Find My Past” link.

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Find My Past

- Find My Past is a subscription website and can therefore be an expensive part of your genealogy hobby. Before launching in and handing over your credit card details, get to know how the website works, and whether it has good collections for your own specific research, by using it at your local library.
- Using Find My Past in the library allows you to see all the records that are available, and there is a vast collection of Australia and New Zealand records.

Newspapers

- Family Notices
 - Births
 - Marriages
 - Obituaries
- Other Stories
 - Court cases
 - Messy divorces
 - Ships passengers
- Websites
 - New Zealand
 - Papers Past (free)
 - Australia
 - Trove (free)
 - Britain
 - British Newspaper Archive
 - Need a login – pay-per-record
 - No longer free at library ☹️

Newspapers

- Newspapers are a great source of information, but of course, more ad hoc than the formal, legally required records. The newspapers were your ancestor's Facebook! If they wanted to share something amazing that had happened, they would put it in the paper. So you will find birth and marriage announcements from proud parents; obituaries of people who died, which often contain the names of relations; and many varied reasons for writing stories. If your ancestor was part of the social elite you may find a story describing exactly what they wore to an event, because that's what people wanted to read about. See – just like Facebook!
- Papers Past website is at <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>
- Trove newspaper website is at <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>
- British Newspaper Archive is at <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> - you can search for free, but will need a login to view articles, and while you get a few free page when you first sign up, you will have to pay-per-article.

Other records

- 1881 Electoral Rolls
- 1893 Electoral Rolls
- 1896 Electoral Rolls
- 1911 Electoral Rolls
- 1925 Electoral Rolls
- Burial Locator
- Burials, Purewa
- Cremations, Purewa
- Burials, Catholics
- RSA
- Burials, St Pauls, TC Index
- Cemeteries, PN Index
- Hillsborough
- Deaths Pre-1846, TC Index
- Te Puke Death Notices
- Passenger Lists, TC Index
- Passenger Lists, Various
- Baptisms, Catholics
- Marriages 1830-1960
- Marriages Pre-1846, TC Index
- Maori Marriages
- Early Settlers
- Wairau Petition
- Schools, PN Index
- WWI Service Personnel
- WWI Deaths in UK
- Boer War Roll of Honour
- Sheep Owners
- Births Pre-1846, TC Index
- Hokianga, PN Index
- Nth Luminary, PN Index
- HOR Journals, PN Index
- NZ Engineering Biographical
- Auckland Game Licenses
- Bay of Plenty Game Licenses

MANY AND VARIED

Other records

- There are of course many other types of records that may mention your ancestors, and as you delve deeper into your genealogy hobby, you will come across many more of these.
- This page shows the selection of data sources indexed on another website, the Wilson Collection.

The Wilson Collection

- The website is at <https://wilsoncollection.co.nz/>
- Simple search box

Search our index

This collection is an index only.

It gives you a series of clues to help with your research. There are no active links – Google is your friend!

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of these records, but transcribing is not an exact science, and some of the informants were not literate. Where possible original sources should be followed up.

Below is a search box. Instructions to use to full advantage are under the box.

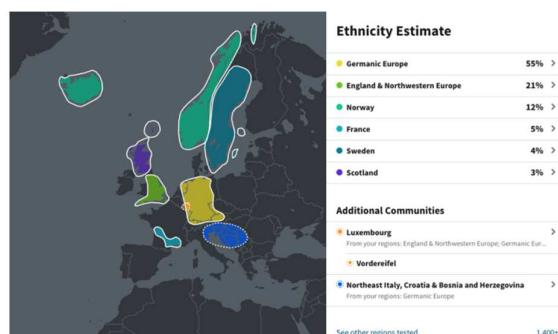
Surname	<input type="text" value="anderson"/>	Starts With	<input type="text" value=""/>	Show data sources	<input type="text" value=""/>
First Name	<input type="text" value="robina"/>	Starts With	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>	
Years	<input type="text" value=""/>	-	<input type="text" value=""/>		

The Wilson Collection

- Find the Wilson Collection online at <https://wilsoncollection.co.nz/>. It has a simple search box and will return you a list of records in their index that match the names and date range you supply.
- There are no links to the records found in the index. Your next step will be to find that record on another, possibly paid for, site. It is a great starting point, and can help you to find records that you have not thought about, since they are all indexed together here in one place.
- Selecting a found record will show you the indexed details about that record. This is not the full details as this is just an index, but now you know a record exists to go to look for.
- The links below the record are just a quick way of change the search box to use that name instead and re-running the search. Quite handy when records with two names on them are found, such as marriage records, now you can quickly run a search for the spouse name.

DNA

- One tool in your toolbox
- Not your first step though



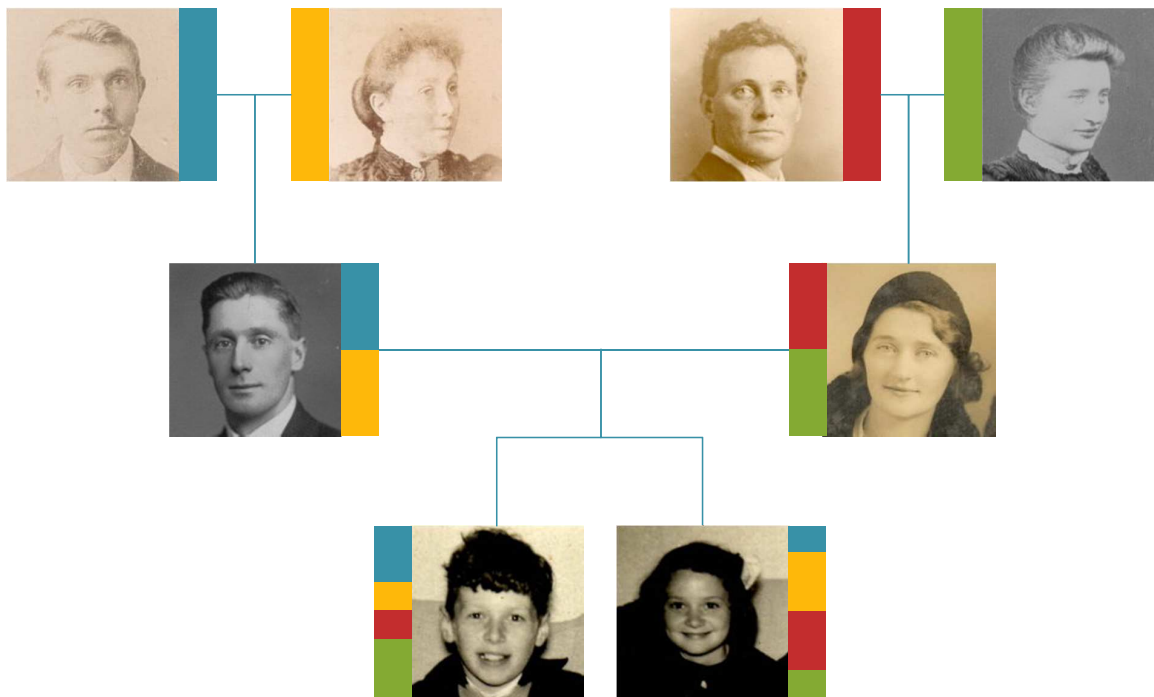
- Ethnicity Estimates attract some people
- DNA does not replace genealogical research

NOTES

DNA

- Should I get my DNA tested? I'm sure you've seen lots of TV adverts about getting your DNA tested. They seem to lead with the ethnicity profile, where you can find out that you are 40% Scottish and 20% Polish etc.
- When starting out on your Family History hobby, the DNA side of things is probably not the first step. It is another tool in your Family History toolbox, but one that works better when you already know some of your Family Tree as we'll see in a moment.
- Let's have a very brief introduction to DNA for genealogists. This is a very simplistic view and does not taken into account all the different types of DNA tests. It's just a very basic intro.

Introduction to DNA for Genealogy

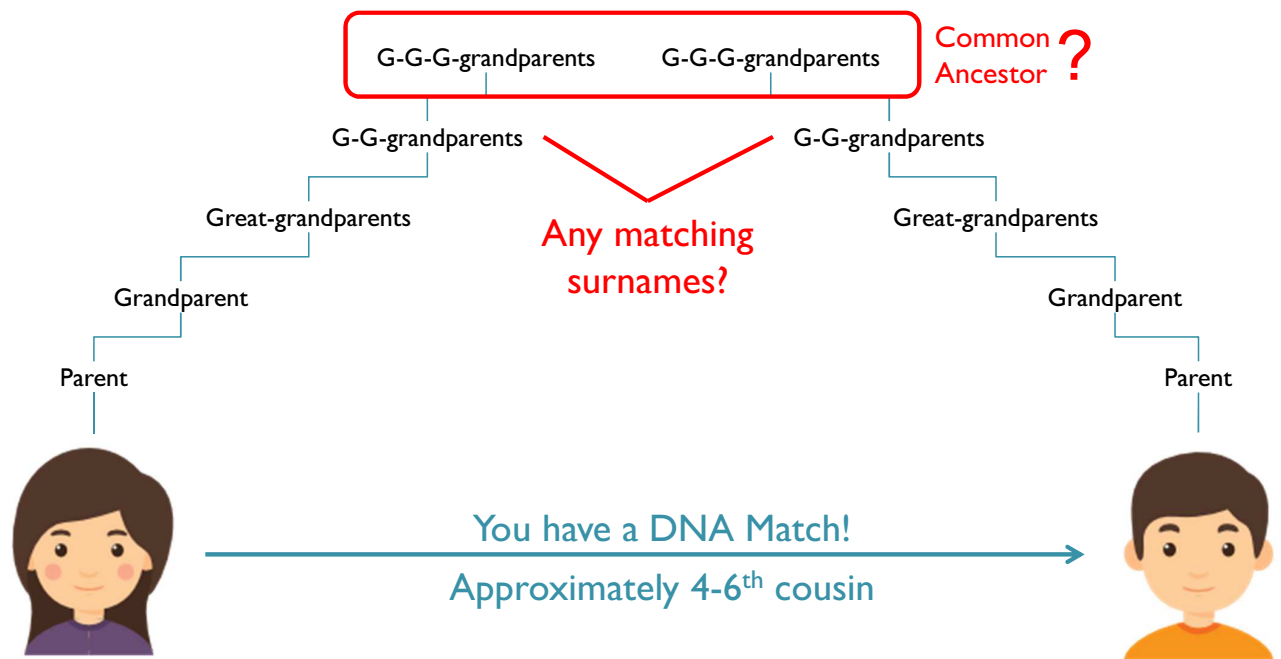


NOTES

Introduction to DNA for Genealogy

- A child gets half of its DNA from each parent, and not the same half as its siblings got.
- Each generation, the DNA is passed on, and halved again. So grandchildren have only a quarter of their DNA from each grandparent.
- Each child will get a different selection of DNA, so siblings share some, but not all their DNA (unless they are identical twins of course).

DNA Matches



DNA Matches

- If you get your DNA tested, and a long-lost cousin also gets their DNA tested, you might get a notification of someone with a certain amount of matching DNA with the suggestion that this person might be your 4th cousin for example.
- What the DNA results can't tell you is how you are this person's 4th cousin, only that they found matching DNA of a certain amount.
- The next step is to compare family trees and see whether a common person can be found which would help to show how you are related. This is why it is important to have some of your family tree already researched first, or the matches don't necessarily help.
- So, remember earlier we said that 3rd cousins share common G-G-grandparents. So 4th cousins share common G-G-G-grandparents. So if you want to figure out how you are related to someone who gets a DNA match that is approximately a 4th cousin, you need to be able to take your family tree back to at least your G-G-G-grandparents.
- If both you and your match don't yet have trees that far back, you might still be able to guess how you are related if some common surnames are seen between your two trees. Of course, all of this is only possible if you both have at least some of your family tree available to review.

Ethnicity Estimates



Ethnicity Estimates

- The ethnicity estimates seem to be something that is very popular. It is worth saying though, that your DNA does not CONTAIN your ethnicity. Your DNA only contains your DNA. The ethnicity breakdown that these companies provide to you are based on their database of other people who have also had their DNA tested.
- This is why, every so often, they will reissue your ethnicity estimate and it will look somewhat different, because they have more people in their database to compare you against.
- It's also why it is called an ESTIMATE.
- This is why tattooing your ethnicity estimate on your body would be a bad idea!



Summary

- Start with yourself and what you know
- Your ancestors will show up in various different records
- Don't be too quick to spend lots of money
- Remember your library has lots of free resources
 - Both online and traditional hard-copy/fiche