



Hutt Valley Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Evening Meeting: 7.30pm 2nd Thursday, February to December
Day Meeting: 10.00am 3rd Thursday, February to November
Venue: Petone Community Centre, 7-11 Britannia Street
Postal Address: PO Box 31-024, Lower Hutt 5040
Website: www.huttvalleygenealogy.org.nz
Convenor: Alistair Hardy
Secretary: Terry Stock HuttValley@genealogy.org.nz
Editor: Suzanne Cummings sjsc@clear.net.nz

COMING EVENTS (subject to change)

13 Oct: Researching in Salt Lake City – Annette Gazley
20 Oct: Friends of the Mount Street Cemetery – Karen Adair
10 Nov: My Norwegian Grandfather – Kathy Callaghan
17 Nov: My Norwegian Grandfather – Kathy Callaghan
08 Dec: Christmas Party & Displaying your Family Tree - Members

Evening meeting doors open 7 pm notices begin 7.30 pm speakers begin about 8 pm
(approx 1 hour)

Day meeting doors open 9.30am notices begin 10am speaker begins about 10.30am
(approx 1 hour). Please note the library does not open until 10am.

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Evening Meeting

Annette will talk about her recent trip to Salt Lake City to do research. She will tell us what it is like researching with all the resources at your finger tips and with their very helpful volunteers. She did also find a bit of time to look around Salt Lake City.

The LDS Family History website is www.familysearch.org

Morning Meeting

Members of the Friends of Mount Street Cemetery committee will be talking about the project to restore the Cemetery. Dating from 1841 the Cemetery contains the graves of Wellington's pioneer Roman Catholic community. Find out about the work that has been undertaken since 2009 to restore and conserve this Cemetery located in central Wellington.

The latest burial list and maps can be found on www.mountstreetcemetery.org.nz

ADVANCE NOTICE - DECEMBER EVENING MEETING

Bring along your family tree in whatever shape and form you have it.

CD COLLECTION

At each of the branch meetings, Lynly Yates will discuss one of the CDs from our collection, showing how to best to access relevant information.

GENEALOGY/FAMILY HISTORY HELPERS AVAILABLE AT PETONE LIBRARY

10am -12pm 1st and 4th (not necessarily the last) Wednesdays and the 1st Saturday of the month. This is a good opportunity for those new to family history to get advice from the experts!

If there is anyone else interested in helping please contact Marie Perham or Joy Adams

UNLOCK THE PAST CRUISE SPEAKERS IN NOVEMBER

- Conference Room, Archives New Zealand, 10 Mulgrave Street, Wellington
- November 25, 1:00 – 3:30pm
- Door Charge \$10 for all three afternoon talks
- Forty minute sessions covering Irish and Scottish Research and 'findmypast'.

More details to come.

PRIZE UP FOR GRABS - A Two Hour Clinic With Jan Gow

If you are fairly new to genealogy and think Jan can help you with your research, please contact the editor.

Jan can look at using your genealogy programme, your research, using the internet, give you research advice or any combination of these ... or ... whatever you need. She can meet you face to face if you are in Auckland or face to face on Skype.

This offer is only available to paid up members of the Hutt Branch.

Copied from "Naenae" folder in cabinet Petone Library October 2011 (3 pages)

OTAKI HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

P.O. Box 50,
OTAKI
7 June, 1983

The Secretary,
Hutt District Historical Socy.,
8c Russell St.,
Waterloo,
LOWER HUTT

Dear Mrs. Williams,

Mrs. Papps, daughter of the late Mr. V.F. Bertelsen, has handed me the enclosed notes on the site of Nae Nae College which were prepared for the College, she thinks. Anyway she thought you might be interested in having a copy on your files if you do not already have them.

Mr. Bertelsen spent his whole life in Nae Nae until he moved to Otaki in the late 1930s.

Yours sincerely,
D. Meyer, (Miss)
Hon Secretary.

MEMORIES OF GORDON'S FARM - NOW NAE NAE COLLEGE

I lived in the vicinity of Nae Nae College then Gordon's farm - from 1907 to 1940, and went to Taita School now Intermediate. The name is Maori for mosquito and is sometimes spelt Ngae. People then considered Nae Nae to be an area on the eastern side of the Valley between Nae Nae Road and Seddon Street. All properties south of Gordon's Farm were in the Hutt Borough while Gordon's and land north were in the Hutt County. The Borough had sealed footpaths, sewerage, water, and gas, but the County had not.

I am told that the brothers John and Adam Gordon farmed the property and later halved it. Adam took the northern end and then subdivided - thus Gordon Road - while John held 50 or 60 acres south of Cottles Lane, now Walters Street, on which he ran a dairy farm. John spoke with a Scottish accent and had lost an eye. He told how he had exchanged a horse for four acres of the land. The property was known as Bannachburn, the homestead being a two-storey building with balconies on the north and west. It stood about 100 yards from High Street with the farm buildings at the rear. The milking shed had 72 bails being suitable for indoor feeding. The herd were Holstein and Shorthorn cows, large by today's standard, and were milked by the family of six daughters and one son, before and after school. The place was, noted for its good tarred yard, its Damson plums and Guinea fowl. The Gordons always kept good horses. When John Junior went to World War 1 he joined the mounteds and took his own horse - Longlegs.

The pioneers' wooden post and rail fences were still there when I was a boy and had not all been replaced by wire. Gorse hedges were still in evidence - good hedges for birdnesting while large white mushrooms were to be had in season. The milk was mainly sent to Wellington. John Junior took over the farm about 1922. The Taita, Avalon, Nae Nae area was settled quite early as it was. not troubled with floods to the same extent as the lower Valley. Taita Anglican Church still standing, is very old and Taita School was first opened in 1859. Most of the early homes; were still occupied in 1915 while Gadsby's Abattoir with large buildings, was situated opposite Gordon's entrance but was not operating in the 1920's. Cleland's Store was situated south of the Gordon's entrance, and it also served as a boarding-house.

Mason's Gardens established in the 1840's was still open to the public with cages of Monkeys and Wallabies. At that stage it was reputed to be the finest collection of trees in the Southern Hemisphere. Later, this was subdivided into housing lots and named Avalon Park Estate by Mr. J. Stellin. The name 'Avalon' has now been adopted by the whole area.

Other old; houses; I remember were Te Mako previously a Maori property in Park Avenue, Kilmisters on the Avery Estate, a Captain Adams at the end of Cottles Lane, Finks, Waiwhetu Road, and others.

Daysh Street was not formed until the late 1940's¹ and Walters' Street had houses on the northern side only. Names of residents that come to mind are :- Walters, Westbury, England, Alsop, Horlor, Gordon, Kitchener, Gorrie, Wyatt, Adams; and in Park Avenue :- Johnson, Tilbury, Bertelsen, Waugh, Pescini, Hitch, Weir, Cottle, Williamson and Kilmister.

A horse Bus service to Lower Hutt Station was operated by Dad Peters-taking half-an-hour from Park Avenue which, at that time was an important cross road. The original New Zealand Land Company's 100 acre survey lines are evidenced by Walters Street, Gordon Road, Waterloo Road and Whites Line.

Taita School, now the Intermediate, served the valley north of Park Avenue with about 100 pupils under headmaster 'William Philip' in 1918, when I passed through standard six. There were only five in my class, all

¹ Someone has pencilled in Oct 1954.

boys. Children living south of Park Avenue attended Epuni, or latterly Western Hutt.

The secondary schools available in the Valley at that time were Petone Technical and Hutt Central (Railway Avenue). Some boys went to Wellington Technical daily by bicycle, train and tram. Very few girls from our locality had secondary education. There was plenty of work for both boys and girls on the farms and market gardens of those days: a few girls attended private schools such as Chilton St. James and the Convent.

I moved from the district in 1940 and saw little of the process of development, but will always remember the words of the Taita headmaster 'William Philip' in 1918 when he said, - "You boys will live to see this valley a sea of houses". I have seen it happen.

Vic Bertelsen
1978

NATURAL BURIALS



New Zealand's first natural burial cemetery, at Makara, has proved so successful that other areas are installing their own. A second cemetery has opened in New Plymouth and there are plans for one in Palmerston North.

In natural burials, the body is not embalmed or cremated and is buried in a casket made of untreated sustainable wood. A non-treated wooden post is sunk into the ground at the head or foot of the plot. You or your family can include on the post cap and sides a poker-burnt engraved inscription of your choice. The marker is designed not to be permanent but the plot and details of the person buried there is marked and drawn on a map held by the Council.

The Makara cemetery is a partnership between Wellington City Council and not-for-profit organisation Natural Burials founded by Mark Blackham. He found conventional cemeteries to be cold grey places and the bush seemed a far nicer place to be buried.

Burials take place in an active soil layer with compost added to assist the natural decomposition process. A native tree is then planted at the head or base of each plot.

Natural Burials is run by a group of volunteers including those who work with the elderly, funeral organisers and self confessed greenies.

From *The Wellingtonian* October 6, 2011 and <http://www.ecofunerals.co.nz/ecofunerals.html>

AUSTRALIAN WEBSITES

- www.naa.gov.au/

Australian Defence Forces - The National Archives of Australia holds records about service in the Australian defence forces from Federation in 1901, from the Boer War, WWI, WWII, service between and after the Wars and also civilian service. Access may only be given to records more than thirty years old, and an initial payment is required.

RecordSearch describes over 8.1 million records created by 9000 Australian Government agencies, mostly since 1901. Searchable records include documents, photographs, posters, maps, films and sound recordings. Generally, you can access records once they enter the open access period.

- <http://www.cwgc.org/>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission - Find those of your family who died in WW2 or WW1. Contains names from all over the British Commonwealth, including Australia and New Zealand. Free site.

- <https://familysearch.org/>

The world's largest genealogy organisation has millions of records from many countries collected by the *Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints*. There is a comprehensive Wiki on how to research in Australia. Free site.

- <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

National Library of Australia - Trove is an exciting, revolutionary and free search service. With millions of items from newspapers, journals, books, diaries, letters and archives - Trove is an unrivalled repository of Australian material. Free site.

- <http://www.pictureaustralia.org/>

Pictures of Australia's past and present, including photographs, objects, maps and works of art. Free site.

- <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/>

Assisted Immigrants arriving in the early days of Sydney, Newcastle, Moreton Bay and Port Phillip. Free Index.

- <http://www.archives.qld.gov.au/>

Registers of Immigrant Ships' Arrivals, 1848-1912; This series was created and used by the Queensland Immigration Department. Free index.

- <http://access PROV.vic.gov.au/>

Public Record Office Victoria Online Catalogue – Includes [Indexes to Unassisted Inward Passengers to Victoria 1852-1923](#), Assisted British Immigration 1839-1871, [Assisted British Immigration 1839-1871](#) (http://210.8.122.120/indexes/index_search.asp?searchid=24) and Outward Passengers to Interstate, U.K. and Foreign Ports, 1852-1908, Wills and probate and much more. Free indexes.

- <http://coraweb.com.au/>

An **Australian gateway site** for tracing your family history. This site has 1,850+ quality links arranged in 48+ categories from Aboriginal to Wills.

- <http://www.coraweb.com.au/archives.htm>

Web Sites for Genealogists - An Australian gateway site for tracing your family history by Cora Num. Introduces **State Archives**.

- <http://www.coraweb.com.au/convict.htm>

An Australian gateway site for tracing your **convict ancestry**.

- <http://www.coraweb.com.au/shipindex.htm>

An Australian gateway website for **shipping and immigration** sites. Free site.

- <http://www.australiancemeteries.com/>

A comprehensive list of cemeteries throughout Australia, with maps and indexes of burials. Free site.

- <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswsdps/index.htm>

The Ryerson Index - an index to death notices appearing in current Australian newspapers. It also includes some funeral notices, probate notices and obituaries.

Because the Index was originally created by the Sydney Dead Persons Society, its strength lies in notices from NSW papers. However, the representation from papers from other states continues to grow. Free site.

- <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

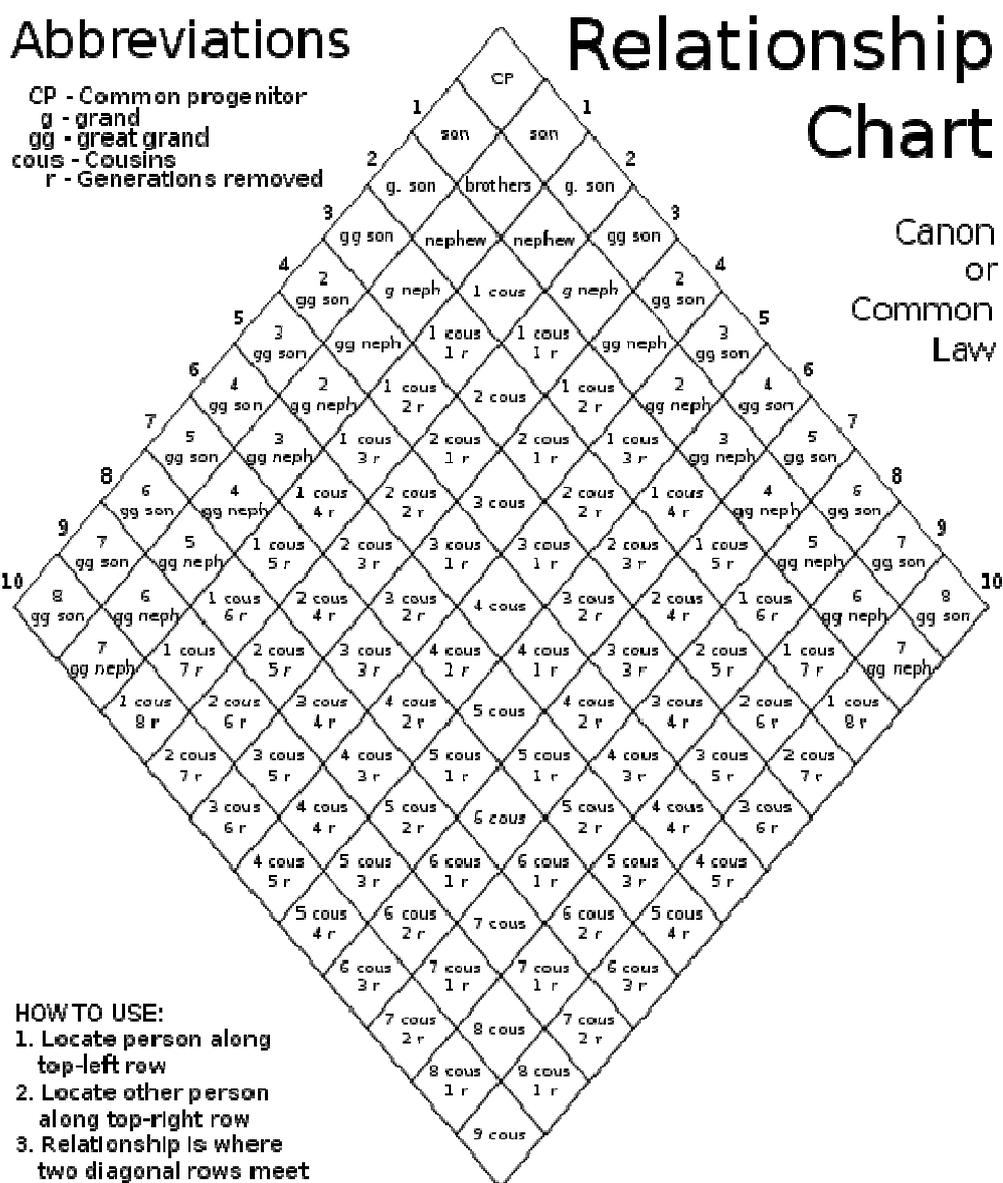
Make contact on these lists with others who are searching in the same area, or with the same surname. There are occupational lists too. Free site.

- <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/intl/AUS/AUS-GEN-EVENTS.html>

A mailing list for the discussion and sharing of information regarding family and local history fairs, lectures, and other genealogy-related events occurring in Australia or about Australia. Free site.

- <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/intl/AUS/GENANZ.html>

For the discussion of Australia and New Zealand genealogy. The oldest and most extensive mailing list for the region. Free site.



From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Canon_law_relationship_chart.svg

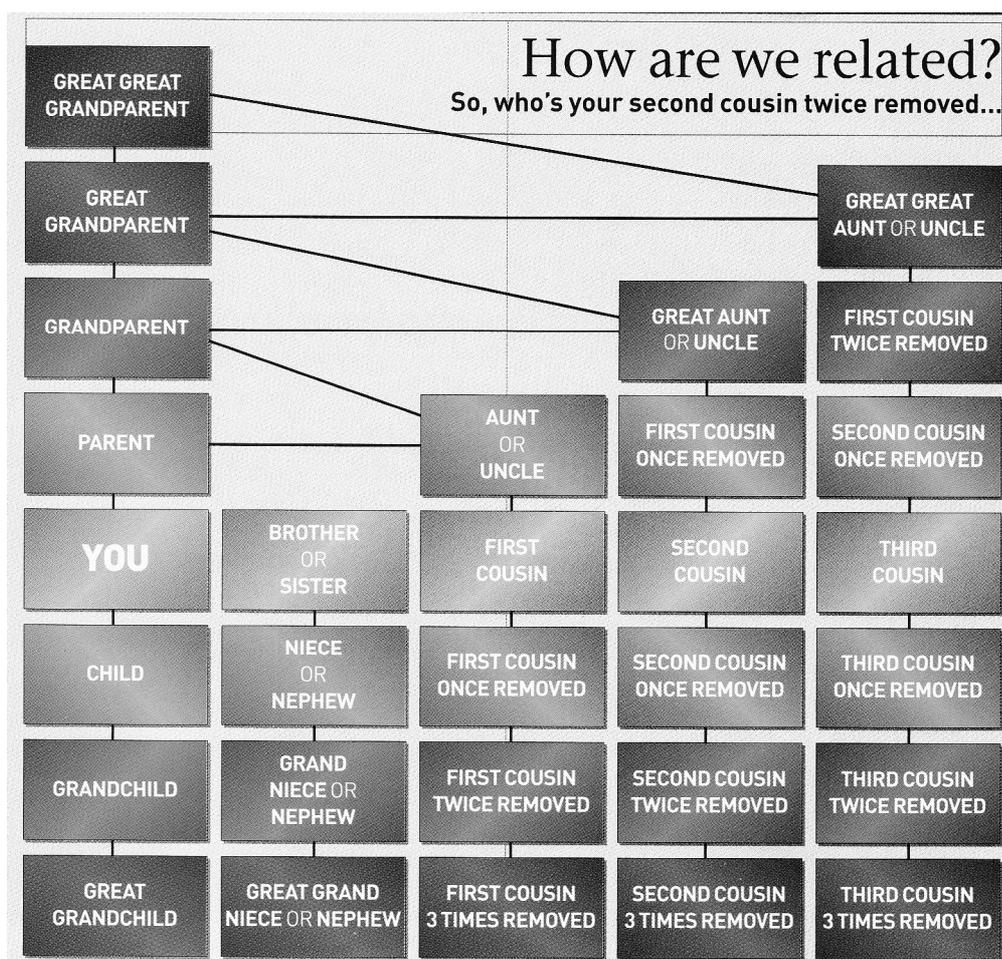
CALCULATING RELATIONSHIPS - A Mathematical Method

Here's a very simple way to work out how you're related to any cousin, living or not:

- (1) Identify on your family tree the point at which your lines diverge - there will be an ancestor or a pair of ancestor who you both share.
- (2) Count the number of generations from the common ancestor to yourself, and do the same for your cousin. The answer may or may not be the same.
- (3) If you get the same answer for both cousins simply subtract one. For example, if there are 4 generations then you are 3rd cousins.
- (4) If you get different answers subtract one from the smaller answer. Thus if the answers are 4 and 2 you are 1st cousins.
- (5) The difference between the two answers tells you how many times removed you are, ie if the answers are 4 and 2 you are 1st cousins twice removed.
- (6) If one of the answers was 1, then this is a special case. You're not cousins but aunt or uncle and nephew or niece. In this case take the difference between the answers and subtract 1 - this tells you how many "greats" you need to add. For example, if the answers are 4 and 1 then the relationships are great-great aunt (or uncle) and great-great nephew (or niece).

Tip: you can work out who your common ancestor is by doing this in reverse. For example, suppose that you and your relative are 5th cousins 3 times removed - in this case the common ancestor is the great-great-great-great (ie 4G) grandparent of one of you and the 7G grandparent of the other. How did I work that out so quickly? Simple - the first figure is 5 minus 1, and the second is (5 plus 3) minus 1.

from <http://lostcousins.com/newsletters/latesep11news.htm>



From *The Complete Family Tree Handbook* Published by Derwent Howard Pty Ltd 2005