



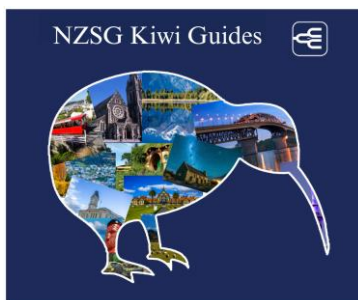
## NZSG Kiwi Collection

Your gateway to millions of New Zealand records to help you find your family, some with images! \$50/yr



## NZSG Kiwi Resources

Save time with our guide to New Zealand's national databases, with tips on how to search them. With over 20 different categories, you'll find your family's stories.



## NZSG Kiwi Guides

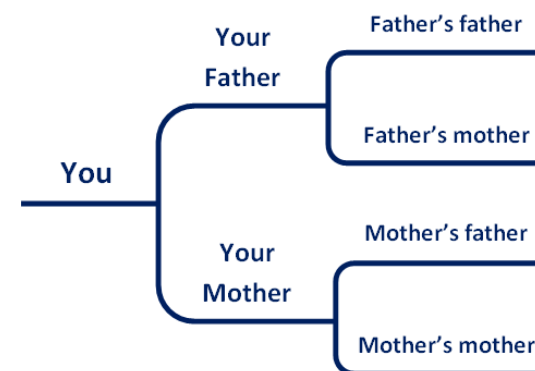
Your guide to local resources. Find out about where your family lived and their lives in that community.

## These are some of the Resources available to NZSG Members:

- *The New Zealand Genealogist* - a quarterly online Journal full of information and articles, as well as a twice monthly email newsletter about what's on and what's new
- Family Research Centre (FRC) - houses the NZSG Library. Volunteers are on duty to assist you with your research
- Research Service - for those unable to visit the FRC in Panmure, Auckland
- NZSG Record Collections:
  - Certificates Collection
  - First Families Collection
  - Pedigree Collection
  - Pre-1856 NZ Marriage Records Collection
  - NZSG Illegitimacies
  - New Zealand Cemeteries
  - Obituaries
  - School records
  - Funeral Service Sheets
- Free access from home to digital records on Discovery at UK's The National Archives and Gale Newspapers
- Branches and Interest Groups - details on the website
- Overseas Resources – the overseas version of our Kiwi Resources, this will help you start researching in a number of countries when you trace your family out of New Zealand



# Welcome To Family History



## Begin with yourself...

Start writing what you know. You might find a Pedigree Chart or a Family Group sheet useful. You can print them out from the NZSG website – look under Resources/Research Skills.

On a Pedigree Chart, put yourself in as #1. Then, fill in your father on the top line #2, then your mother (using her maiden name) at #3. Next come your grandparents; if you know your father's father's name and your father's mother's name, add their details on #4 and #5.

Then fill in details of your mother's father and your mother's mother on #6 and #7... and so on with what you know. Or you can use a Family Group Chart to list one set of parents and their children.

There are a few conventions to recording information.

- Use CAPITAL letters for surnames. This helps to distinguish names such as Campbell THOMAS,
- Write the dates in a 'dd mmm yyyy' format - such as 05 NOV 1912. Write the year in full as family histories span more than one century.

Next, look at home for items that might help fill in the gaps. You may have certificates, invitations to family occasions, diaries, birthday books, newspaper clippings and photographs. Some of these may be on your computer.

You need to confirm the information as you proceed. This can be by examining a primary source such as a birth, marriage or death certificate, or a christening record.

Talk to older family relatives and people who might have known your family; they can often help with the details you are seeking.

The NZSG website has a great set of resources called *Getting It Right*. The first series is on "Starting Your Genealogical Journey" – it's there to get you started with some of the practical elements of genealogy. Look on our website under Resources/Research Skills.

You will soon start to accumulate documents, photographs, and photocopies of events where your families feature. Always record the source of any information you find - you may wish to re-look at the original sometime in the future. It is important to acknowledge the source if you are writing a family history or sharing your information with others.

Your papers are valuable and deserve the best preservation. Use acid free paper and copy-safe pockets for storage. Do not laminate your certificates or use any adhesive tape or glue on original documents or photographs. If you have a computer, scan documents and photographs for use in a genealogical software program.

The New Zealand Society of Genealogists is dedicated to helping its members research their family history. There is an excellent collection of resources including books, magazines, maps, microfiche, microfilms and CD /DVDs, as well as international databases, available for research; these cover New Zealand, Australia, England, Ireland, European Countries and many more worldwide.

The library has an online catalogue on the NZSG website and many of the resources are available for members to borrow.

For resources that are 'Reference Only', there are volunteers who will look up the items for members and email or post the results. Contact the Research Team at: [researchservice@genealogy.org.nz](mailto:researchservice@genealogy.org.nz)

There is also a huge array of resources on our website. Look under Resources. In the Research Skills section, you will find various resources available to everyone. If you become a member, you will find even more!

**[www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz)**

## Research Skills

Discovering the stories of your family is not always as straightforward as you would hope. The NZSG has an array of resources to help you with your research skills.



In addition to our *Getting It Right* series of resources (which cover lots of useful things and are available to everyone), we have resources on:

- Copyright
- Best Practice

The ability to cite your sources is very important. It gives your work credibility. We have a guide which keeps it simple and helps you record the information you need to find that record again.

We also run courses (either online or in person at our Family Research Centre) to help you get started. These are followed up with Q&A Sessions for you to ask any questions.

If you are a member, there are more resources available including the *Getting It Right Case Studies* and information on genealogy software. You can also join our Forum or Memlist to ask questions and get help from your fellow members.

To find out more, have a look at our website. The front page has lots of information about our resources. As a non-member, you will only be seeing the tip of the iceberg of the resources we have available.