

**“History is nothing but a series of stories, whether it be world history or family history”** Bill Mooney and David Holt, ‘The Story Tellers Guide’

**Good stories capture the imagination and inspire or excite the hearer. In Family History reflection’s and recollections endure from generation to generation only when stories are told.... Clan Little Society in New Zealand & Australia encourages preservation and sharing of our heritage stories.**

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## Whakapapa

For Maori it’s important to know their heritage. Maori are accustomed to establishing their links with other people. They can **share their whakapapa or genealogy, ancestral ties and other relevant information.** It’s important to know and share whakapapa because its one’s identity. A person will usually identify specific geographical features from their tribal area including their maunga (mountain), awa (river) and moana (sea). They may also identify their waka (ancestral canoe), hapū (sub tribe), iwi (tribe), marae and an eponymous ancestor. This information is considered more important than the individual’s own name which may be the last piece of information given in mihi. We should understand and share our cultural heritage.

We should learn from Maori respecting and valuing our heritage or culture.

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# *Telling*

# *our story*



From ancient times ‘Little’s’ have lived and led. Its estimated there are in excess of 45,000 Little’s populating earth today. “Little” is one of common family or surnames in Dumfriesshire and the Scottish Border.

# Little bits



Today people live more inter connected than at any time in history. Memories are captured and digitised or globally published. Many and varied people on every continent share information with little thought given to who reads it and where.



**In our modern diversity how do we value, retain and understand our past ?**

## *Tell your story*

One of the most important things we can do is enable enriched human contact with exciting real life stories. Without boring the pants of a child or young person **share some short, sweet stories** about your life experience. Young people today have enquiring minds and understand the way things happen but they don't have your experience and you may be the only link they have with your past. **Keep family history alive** and interesting by sharing your memories and experience's.



**Children enjoy listening to stories shared with genuine feeling and a sense of amazement.**

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**“Life itself is the most wonderful fairy-tale of all”** Hans Christian Andersen

For many people, say the word, ‘storytelling’, and they presume it is for children. They imagine someone sitting reading aloud from a book or reciting a written text word for word. Storytelling in Family History is about you and the connections or memories you have to share.

The words you share should stimulate a sense of adventure and inquisitiveness as your **memories** comes alive. When speaking out your memories don't clutter things with meaningless jargon. Use normal everyday **language** understood by the listener and encourage **rediscovery** of family history.