

Getting Started with your Genealogy

Start with yourself using a 5 generation pedigree chart and use a family group sheet for each couple on your pedigree chart. Cross reference the individual sheets with the 'Record of Ancestry' chart by giving each individual a unique identifying number.

Charts are available via the website of The New Zealand Society of Genealogy at www.genealogy.org.nz under the Resources tab. A good tip is to print off the chart, enlarge it to make it easier to record your information.

- Use a pencil if you are unsure of details and when you have confirmed the information write it in using a black pen.
- Using the pedigree chart fill in your details first on line #1. Even numbers are males and odd numbers are females on the rest of the chart.
- Use maiden names for females.
- Use CAPITAL letters for surnames to help distinguish names like Campbell THOMAS.
- Write dates in a dd mmm yyyy format like this: 05 Nov 2011. Write the year in full as family histories span more than one century.
- Place names should be in full and include county and country, where possible.
- Be sure to keep a record of your sources.

Useful Websites and Tips

- New Zealand Society of Genealogists: www.genealogy.org.nz
- NZ Birth, Deaths & Marriage Historical Records:
www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz
- Papers Past:
www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz
- Archives New Zealand:
www.archives.govt.nz
- Archway:
www.archway.archives.govt.nz
- NZ Electronic Text Centre
<http://www.nzetc.org/>

Further websites can be found by searching the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Library Catalogue using the visual search.

Remember to note the sources of your data for future reference, and to check reliability of the information to ensure the facts are correct.

There are many books outlining 'how to' for each country or type of record you are interested in, visit your local library for more information.



About the New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Mission Statement:

To provide educational opportunities and research resources for the development of knowledge, skills and practice in family history, genealogy and whakapapa for members and the wider community

Benefits for Members of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists:

- ✓ Branches throughout New Zealand
- ✓ Educational Classes and Workshops
- ✓ Conference
- ✓ New Zealand's Family History Fair
- ✓ Library- over 45,000 genealogical items
- ✓ The New Zealand Genealogist Magazine
- ✓ Interest Groups for specific areas of research
- ✓ Our Family Research Centre (FRC)
- ✓ Via our website
 - Mailing list
 - UK, Irish & US Newspapers
- ✓ Members-only Databases and Collections
- ✓ Documents Online TNA (UK) Service
- ✓ Research Services Volunteer Team
- ✓ Remote Film Reader Service
- ✓ Schools Look-ups
- ✓ Land Research Service
- ✓ Digital Archive for Family History
- ✓ Scottish Certificate Purchasing Service
- ✓ UK Certificates Purchasing Service
- ✓ UK Probate Purchasing Service
- ✓ Letter of Introduction for visits to overseas Family History Societies
- ✓ and more...

Society members meet regularly in the many NZSG branches throughout New Zealand. Activities include exchange of information, specialist speakers, visits to local repositories, research days and transcribing projects. In areas where there is no branch, NZSG often has a Local Area Contact. There are a number of Interest Groups for regions around the world and for special subjects (ie genealogical computing).

More resources and research assistance is available through our website:

www.genealogy.org.nz

