

Free Repositories and Sources for Genealogy Research

A “*repository*” is where you find “*sources*”

Selected Websites

The sources included in this presentation are largely random and by no means complete.

That would be an impossible task.

SeniorNet North Shore

- ▶ Attend our genealogy meetings and ask others
- ▶ Our website has a huge range of sources (many of which are free) under:
 - ▶ “Genealogy Links”
<https://www.seniornetns.com/copy-of-links>
 - ▶ “Tutorials/Genealogy” which provides many sources discussed at genealogy sessions.
<https://www.seniornetns.com/genealogy>

Google

Genealogy Search Tips can be found on our SeniorNet website as follows:

- ▶ Ian's Google Genealogy Search Tips & Tricks
https://www.seniornetns.com/_files/ugd/a0f8d2_d0723bbfd0fa4b6497df312a42c2931c.pdf
- ▶ Google Power Tips
<https://www.thoughtco.com/google-genealogy-style-1422365>
Interesting for me is the section on “Search With a Focus”
- ▶ Google Searching Tips for Genealogists
<https://www.legacytree.com/blog/google-searching-tips-genealogists>
More great tips I didn't know.

Public Libraries

- ▶ NZ BDM indexes on microfiche - (check for Eng & Wales BMD's)
- ▶ Auckland Public Library - <https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/>
 - ▶ Kura Heritage Collections Online
 - ▶ Library editions of larger websites (Ancestry, FindMyPast, MyHeritage, The Genealogist, etc)
 - ▶ Books & CD's (incl NZ Marriages - matched wife & groom indexes on CD)
- ▶ Assistance?

New Zealand Society of Genealogists (NZSG)

- ▶ Website has various items, some free for non-members
<https://genealogy.org.nz/>
 - ▶ List of NZ Websites
<https://genealogy.org.nz/NZ-Websites/11116/>
 - ▶ BDM indexes on microfiche (NZ and UK)
 - ▶ Funeral Notices
 - ▶ Funeral Directors records
 - ▶ Grave Inscriptions
 - ▶ Guidance
 - ▶ Etc etc
- At the Family Research Centre in Panmure (\$20/day for non-members):
- ▶ Computer access to many websites

Telephone People!

Don't be like me and hesitate to telephone organisations to ask for help and advice.

Bernice (and others I have known) seem to be particularly successful in this.

Family Search

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

This “Free to All” website is so huge and extensive that no justice can be given to it here.

Some SeniorNet members have far more experience with this website than me. Also, updates and changes are regularly made.

Like other websites, there are many errors in submitted information to be wary of.

Newspapers, etc

- ▶ Papers Past (NZ)
 - ▶ Newspapers - <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers>
 - ▶ Magazines and Journals (e.g. NZ Police Gazette) - <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals/new-zealand-police-gazette>
- ▶ Digital NZ - owns Papers Past (better for grouping by relevant family notices?)
<https://digitalnz.org/>
- ▶ Trove (Australia) - <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>
- ▶ Google Newspapers - <https://news.google.com/newspapers>
- ▶ The British Newspaper Archive - <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

NZ BDM Indexes

Department of Internal Affairs (NZ DIA)

<https://www.bdmonline.dia.govt.nz/>

- ▶ Historical Index Records - (restricted to age of events)
- ▶ Non-historical Indexes - (need verified RealMe account)
- ▶ Must pay to get full “printouts” or certificates

The Wilson Collection

<https://wilsoncollection.co.nz/>

This website “New Zealand Family History records’ is a free collection coordinated by Diane Wilson over the past 40 years includes records from many and varied sources to assist with your research. Searching can produce indexes from various categories, e.g.

- Early Settlers
- Burial/Cremation Records
- World War 1
- Electoral Rolls
- Marriage Records
- Smaller Specialty Indexes

One of the benefits of this database is that search results will combine all data types, birth, burial, marriage, etc.,

Australian BDM indexes

- ▶ All States? - <http://coraweb.com.au/>
- ▶ ACT - <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/births-relationships-and-deaths>
- ▶ NSW - <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/births-deaths-marriages>
- ▶ QLD - <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au/>
- ▶ TAS - <https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm>
- ▶ VIC - <https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/research-and-family-history/search-your-family-history>
- ▶ WA - <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-justice/online-index-search-tool>

Who Do You Think You Are magazine - British Websites

WDYTYA website: “*These free genealogy websites will help you start your British family history research without costing a penny*”. Includes brief descriptions of and links to each website.

<https://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/getting-started/best-free-genealogy-websites>

UK BMD indexes - “Free UKGenealogy”

Free UK Genealogy provides free, online access to family history records.

Search
FreeBMD

292,000,000 births,
marriages and deaths

Search
FreeCEN

48,000,000 individuals from
census data, from 1841 to 1891

Search
FreeREG

59,000,000 records
from parish registers

<https://www.freebmd.org.uk/cgi/search.pl>

<https://www.freecen.org.uk/>

<https://www.freereg.org.uk/>

UK BMD indexes - “GRO”

The General Register Office (of the HM Passport Office)

<https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/login.asp>

Scotland

- ▶ Shortly, Pam Hamlyn will be talking about free Scottish websites.

Ireland

- ▶ Irish Civil Records Online for Free

<https://irelandxo.com/ireland-xo/news/irish-civil-records-online-free>

- ▶ Irish Genealogy.1e

<https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>

An Introduction to Irish Research - Family History Federation



(Double click to open)

USA indexes - National Genealogical Society (NGS) - List of free websites

- ▶ The NGS recommends 18 Important Free Websites for Genealogy Research

<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/free-resources/websites/>

Archives New Zealand

<https://collections.archives.govt.nz/en/web/arena#/>

- ▶ Wills
- ▶ Army records

Burial Records

- ▶ NZSG have list of Local Authority websites in NZ that have grave and cremation records. Some have photographs!
<https://genealogy.org.nz/Local-Authorities-Cemeteries/11178/>
- ▶ Purewa Cemetery - <https://purewa.co.nz/find-a-loved-one>
- ▶ FindaGrave - <https://www.findagrave.com/>
- ▶ Billion Graves - [BillionGraves | Cemetery & Headstone Records](#)

Geni

A World Family Tree

<https://www.geni.com/home>

A MyHeritage company

Often appears in searches

Free to join

Commercial Websites

- ▶ Many of the top commercial (subscription based) websites offer free trial periods where you have a window of opportunity to download data before ceasing membership.
- ▶ Ancestry - 2 week trial
- ▶ MyHeritage - 14 day trial
- ▶ Findmypast - 2 week trial
- ▶ Genes Reunited - 14 day trial
- ▶ Fold3 (Military Records) - 7 Day Free Trial

Check also library websites for access to these websites