



WANAKA GENEALOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

Hello All

We had a good attendance at our first meeting for the year and were happy to welcome people from Alexandra as well as some new faces from Wanaka.

DNA

The following are well worth reading to explain and help make some decisions about which DNA test to take.

1. Attached document - Genetics Genealogy from the University of the Third Age in the U.K. – kindly sent to us by Sue Sweet.
2. Thank you to Raylene Padgett for the following link which gives a very clear comparison of the 3 major testing companies. <http://www.genie1.com.au/blog/58-which-dna-testing-company>

The DNA testing companies

Up until recently there were three major direct-to-consumer DNA testing companies for genealogical people-matching purposes:

1. *Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) - www.familytreedna.com*
2. *23andMe - www.23andme.com*
3. *AncestryDNA - dna.ancestry.com.au*

All are based in the US, and offer DNA test kits by mail and provide results online.

In late 2016, two new DNA tests became available:

1. *MyHeritage - <https://www.myheritage.com/dna> This DNA test offers admixture/ethnicity estimates and a matching database. If you have already tested at any of the above companies, you can currently upload your raw data file for free matching.*
2. *Living DNA - <https://www.livingdna.com/en> This test provides breakdowns of your ancestry into 80 regions - including 21 British regions - and Living DNA will be soon be adding customer matching and transfers to its product.*

OUR EXPERIENCES

It is important to try and decide what outcome you would like from a DNA test before making a choice. For instance if you are more interested in your ancient origins than progressing your family tree or vice versa. We all agreed that an element of luck existed especially as to who had taken the various tests with the company you chose.

Living DNA

I have tested with Living DNA. It took from the order date of 19 October 2016 until 13 February 2017 before the results were available. This test is currently \$159 US but includes the autosomal, motherline and fatherline (if male). It also guarantees that as new research come out your results will be updated.

This is the only test that breaks down Great Britain and Ireland into different counties of Britain which can be useful in determining a new area for research.

Ancestry

There was positive feedback from Raylene – *“I have done my DNA through Ancestry (also my brother's) and taken the raw data from Ancestry and put it into Gedmatch. I also have been successful in finding a new second cousin and matching up with more distant cousins.”* The Ancestry database is larger than others. There is an additional cost as you need to have a current subscription or you will not be able to see other people's family trees.

Family Tree DNA

The Family Finder autosomal test is still the cheapest test around at \$79 US which makes it a good one to start with. Matt demonstrated the people matches and the results of contacting one of his closest matches. Some of the common ancestors can be very difficult to pin down and can be further back than at first realised.

Places were deemed to be of more use than surnames although people noting place names with surnames made it easier to find a common ancestor. Some frustration was experienced when people did not add any further information (family trees, place names or family names).

GEDmatch

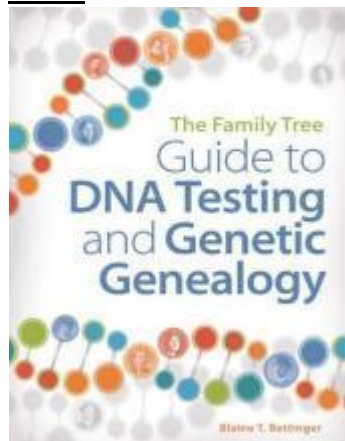
What is GEDmatch?

GEDmatch.com is a free, volunteer-run website for people who have already tested their autosomal DNA for genealogical purposes at AncestryDNA, 23andMe, Family Tree DNA, MyHeritage DNA, or tested for health purposes at companies such as at WeGene or GenetiConcept.

Testers download a copy of their autosomal raw DNA data file from their own testing company online account, and then upload this file to GEDmatch where it is processed and added to a large database. Use the following link to find out how to do this.

<http://www.genie1.com.au/blog/78-tips-for-using-gedmatch>

BOOK



The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy : How to Harness the Power of DNA to Advance Your Family Tree Research by Blaine Bettinger

This is available for loan from Wanaka library and is really useful to help you make sense of your DNA results.

It is available to buy on Book Depository <https://www.bookdepository.com> for \$31.17 (on 3 March)

Or it is available as an e-book.

www.shopfamilytree.com/guide-to-dna-testing-and-genetic-genealogy-ebook at \$19.99 US

If you take the Family Tree DNA test once you are logged in various chapters of this book are available to download for no cost

BLOOD GROUPS AND GENEALOGY

The following websites look at and relate Blood Groups to the movements and groupings of early peoples as they adapted to changing climates, mutating germs, and uncertain food supplies. They explain how the various blood groups arose due to enhanced protection against particular circumstances. This gives another way to trace where our ancestors might have been.

The Blood Type Diets: Blood Groups and the History of Peoples

www.dadamo.com/txt/index.pl?1010

Human Blood: ABO Blood Types

anthro.palomar.edu/blood/ABO_system.htm

article BBC - Future - Why do we have blood

types?

www.bbc.com/future/story/20140715-why-do-we-have-blood-types

Margaret Thomlinson has kindly compiled a summary for us (attached).

INTEREST GROUPS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Research

Friday 31 March 2017

When: 2.00 pm
Where: Wanaka Library
Topic: Bring any information you have
Contact: Doreen Hale 443 7320
rosemaryhale@xtra.co.nz

RESEARCH MEETINGS

We meet on the last Friday of each month in Wanaka Library.

These sessions are for anyone actively researching an ancestor/family. Bring a name and any information you have. You can use the library computers or bring your own tablet/laptop. This is a good idea as sometimes the library computers are very busy.

Books and magazines may be borrowed from the Genealogy Group library cupboard. The library also has a selection of genealogy books.

There will be people to help you!

If you are not researching but feel able to help others search, please do come along.



IRISH GROUP - Friday 17 March 2017

When: 2.00 pm
Where: **86 Kings Drive, Wanaka**
Topic: Discussion of topics for the year/Research

This is primarily a research group.
We will be looking at new online resources.
Bring your ideas for other topics you would like to cover
Planning for the Ulster Historical Foundation visit in May
Contact: Matt Primrose 443 8977
mprimrose@xtra.co.nz

SCOTTISH GROUP - Friday 24 March

When: 2.00 pm
Where: **105 Aubrey Road, Wanaka**
Topic: Famous Scottish Battles
Bring any relevant material, especially if you had an ancestor taking part.
Contact: Neal Brown 443 1044
brown.hawea@actrix.co.nz

LOCAL HISTORY EXPLORERS

Wednesday 29 March

When: 11.00 am
Where: **Wanaka Library**
Topic: Topic to be decided
Bring your ideas
Contact: Jo Wilton 443 8123
wiltonnz@hotmail.com

DNA INTEREST GROUP

If you would like this to go ahead, please get in touch with Louise (details at the end of the newsletter) and we can decide when and where to meet. I do not envisage it meeting very often – perhaps one session between social meetings but it would be nice to catch up and talk about any new developments on this subject.

RECORD KEEPING AND WRITING

This group will not be continuing this session. We may look at starting again in June so please let Louise know if you are interested.

SOCIAL MEETING & Annual General Meeting Friday 5 May 2017

Where: Meeting Room, Wanaka Hotel, 71 Ardmore Street, Wanaka
When: 2.00 pm
Topic: PHOTOS AND PARAPHERNALIA.



PRESENTATION ON HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE FAMILYSEARCH WEBSITE

Wednesday 5 April 2017

Where: 16a Brandon Street, Alexandra
When: 2.00 pm
Speakers: Garry and Karen Howard from Family History in Hamilton.
Cost Free

We have kindly been invited to this presentation in Alexandra on the Familysearch website. If you would like to go please let me know so I can advise them of numbers and arrange a carpool.

HALF DAY WORKSHOP BY THE ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Irish and Scots Irish ancestors?

Exciting news - Fintan Mullan, the Executive Director and Gillian Hunt, a Research Officer of the Ulster Historical Foundation will be visiting Wanaka on Tuesday 23 May 2017!!!

You will not want to miss this half day series of lectures. More details to follow soon.....

SUMMARY OF DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - MARCH TO MAY 2017

Date	Group	Place	Time	Topic
MARCH				
Friday 17 March	Irish Group	86 Kings Drive	2pm	Research Group – New online resources
Friday 24 March	Scottish Group	105 Aubrey Road	2 pm	Famous Scottish Battles
Wednesday 29 March	Local History Explorers	Wanaka Library	11am	New Project: To be discussed
Friday 31 March	General Research	Wanaka Library	2pm	Bring the name of an ancestor to research
APRIL				
Wed 5 April Presentation by Gary and Karen Howard from Family History Hamilton	Of interest to all!!	16a Brandon Street Alexandra	2pm	the new Family Search.org site
Friday 28 April	General Research	Wanaka Library	2pm	Bring the name of an ancestor to research
MAY				
Friday 5 May	Social Meeting: All Welcome (Bring a Friend) A.G.M.	Meeting Room Wanaka Hotel Ardmore Street	2pm	Photos and Paraphernalia
Tuesday 23 May Half Day Programme by Fintan Mullan from The Ulster Historical Foundation	Irish Group Of interest to all!!	Details to follow shortly. Programme to be decided		
Friday 26 May	General Research	Wanaka Library	2pm	Bring the name of an ancestor to research

Committee

President	Louise Primrose	tel. 021 266 6975	wanareilly@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Doreen Hale	tel. 443 7320	rosemaryhale@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer	Neal Brown	tel. 443 1044	brown.hawea@actrix.co.nz
	Jo Wilton	tel. 443 8123	wiltonnz@hotmail.com
	Ken Allan	tel. 443 6101	kiallan@clear.net.nz
	Pam Dovey	tel. 027 631 3377	doveypam@gmail.com

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO MEETINGS? Contact Louise and we will match you up with someone coming to the meeting.