

FAMILY SEARCH

how can I use it?

HOME PAGE

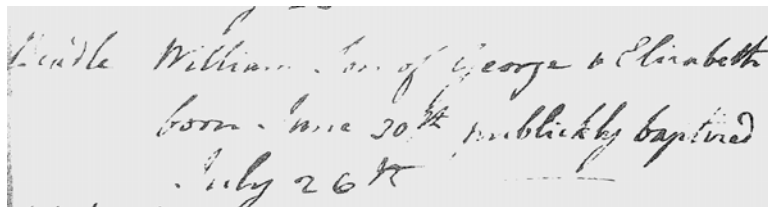
I have written this as a Kiwi with British ancestry, and selected some of my favourite things to do on this site. There are many features I have not mentioned.

Go to www.familysearch.org

Search for your ancestors

Clicking on Advanced Search will give you more options. You can also choose which records you want to search in. This saves getting a lot of superfluous material when you know what you want to look in.

Using the All Resources search for my 2nd great grandfather William Bittle, born 1807 in England, did not give me any entries so I needed to get a bit innovative and used the spelling Beadle. Then I was able to find his birth and christening record on the International Genealogical Index from an extracted entry. By clicking on the Source Call Number in the christening record I was taken to the Family History Library catalogue which told me that this was extracted from Parish registers of Warlingham Surrey. The Source Call No. is also the FHL film number. After looking at that film I copied the original christening record to my flash (jump, thumb etc) drive to take home and download to my computer.



Beadle, William, son of George and Elizabeth born June 30th, publicly baptized July 26th (1807, Warlingham, Surrey)

By clicking on the batch number on this same IGI record for William I was taken back to the search page. Now, with the batch number in its box and not entering anything else I got an index of all people christened in that parish between 1653 and 1812. There did not appear to be any siblings of William, but many Beadles from an earlier generation that just might be related. This is a great way to find people in a parish. This will also work when you find a marriage extraction. It also means that where people's names get spelled in a variety of ways you can still find them.



Family History Library

By clicking on the class schedule link you will see what classes are being held at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. It usually shows the current month and the following one. It also shows several previous months. If you see a class you would have liked to attend you can email and ask for a copy of the class handouts. Click on the Library tab, and then scroll down the left side of the page. Click on Send us an E-mail and follow the directions.

News and events - Guides for English Probate Jurisdictions

A complete collection of guides depicting pre-1858 English Probate Jurisdictions will be available online through FamilySearch. Different counties are entered as they are completed. These are old guides previously available in paper form but they have been out of print for many years.

Register

This allows you to access email lists and submit your family history database in a GEDCOM file to www.FamilySearch.org. It then becomes part of the Pedigree Resource File and available for people to search either on the internet or by purchasing the compact disks. This is also where you can submit your "correct" family information, when you see that other people have submitted "incorrect" data.

Find a family history centre near you

It is easiest to just put the country name in. Doing an advanced search could cause some confusion. You can also go the phone book and look for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in your local area and see which one has a family history centre. Be aware that they are all manned by volunteers so the hours will vary. The phones will only be answered when the volunteers are there.

Get started with family history

How do I get started?

Instructions for the beginner – everything you need to know – some good reminders for those who have already started too.

Helpful Research Guidance

Nothing there for New Zealand, but very helpful for other countries. For example under England there is an historical overview which traces events from about 480 AD to the present. Also search strategies and how to use the different types of records

Why family history?

This will tell you why members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints do family history research.

Forms, maps and guides

Blank family history forms.

Maps – for my William Bittle I could see the boundaries of Surrey and Kent before the 1974 county structure changes.

Guides – I can find out how to use the Parish and Vital Records List, and follow the Guide to Research to make sure I am following best practice.

Research Outlines – nearly 90 of these for many parts of the world (not New Zealand). These are a fantastic tool when you are not sure about how to search records of a different country.

Search Genealogy Records And Library Family History Library Catalogue.

One of my favourite ways to search is using the place search. If I put Surrey in I can see all records that are held at that level and then by clicking on the “View Related Places”, I can identify parishes that the Family History Library has records for. If they are on film or fiche then I can order them into my local family history centre. (Or, lucky me – just pop over the road and take them straight from the drawer and view them.)

If you see a record that says it is restricted it is usually because the copyright owner has only permitted one copy to be held by the Family History Library. All other films/fiche are held in the Granite Mountain Vaults and copied when requested around the world.

A keyword search will search not only the title but also the notes. This is a good tool to use when you are not sure what kind of records might be available. By putting in the words “Clark New Zealand” in the keyword box you will find an entry referring to a book titled *The William Clark family of Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States of America* by Robert Keith Clark. This will take you to an online copy of this book. Many family histories have been digitised by BYU and can be found through the Family History Library Catalogue or by going directly to the BYU site: www.lib.byu.edu/fhc.

US, British & Canadian census The only ones online here are 1880 USA and 1881 for British and Canada. This does not include Scotland and Ireland. You will be able to view a transcript of each household and the FHL film number if you want to see the original image on microfilm. I like the way it gives you a printed copy of the transcript. By 1881 William was in Kent and his youngest daughter was living with him and his wife.

Household:

Name	Relation	Marital Status	Gender	Age	Birthplace	Occupation	Disability
William BITTLE	Head	M	Male	73	Wallingum, England	Surrey, Labourer Farm	
Isabella BITTLE	Wife	M	Female	61	Chipsted, England	Surrey,	
Esther BITTLE	Daur	U	Female	16	Sundridge, England	Kent, Domestic Servant	

Source Information:

Dwelling	Sevenoaks Road
Census Place	Ightham, Kent, England
Family History Library Film	1341215
Public Records Office Reference	RG11
Piece / Folio	0904 / 70
Page Number	2

Family Search Questions/ Product Support

Between these two pages you will get many answers to questions relating to how to use familysearch and any of the other products that have been produced by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Order/Download Products

You can see the family history databases that can be purchased. These are available at the Distribution Centres in Hamilton and Manukau City – check the phone book for the addresses. If you would like a free family history database this is where you can download Personal Ancestral File.

LIBRARY TAB

When you open this page, scroll down the left side until you get to *Send Us an E-mail*. Here you can ask any family history question you might have. Be as specific as you can and limit your request to one problem. For example, if you have exhausted all the resources you can think of and still cannot find that elusive ancestor then say where you have looked and give all the surrounding information. There are many experts available to help you get through your brick wall.

Keep going back to this site. There are many very talented people working on improving this site and making it easier for people throughout the world to have access to family history information.