

## IT IS POSSIBLE THEY ARE ON THE INTERNET – SOMEWHERE!

I have been researching my family history since the 1960's and I find it awesome how much easier it is today. For this article I wanted to write about the many ways we can use the internet for family history research and soon realized it would take books to cover the subject.

To show how fast the internet is growing go to: <http://www.linkpendium.com/>. According to its website it is “the definitive directory” This is more than a simple list of links. It has 2 genealogy sections – US Localities and Worldwide surnames. Enter a surname and it will link you with sites worldwide that contain that name for family history information. On August 23, 2005 it had 1,674 genealogy links. On August 18, 2006 it had 5,083,569 genealogy links. I found links here to sites where each of my surnames are mentioned.

If you don't find something when you first look on the internet – keep going back.

To illustrate the variety of data available I will show some information on each member of 4 generations on my HOPE family tree by using the internet for free. We do not need to know each place to search – a good genealogy search engine can give us many choices. Most of the New Zealand entries were found through <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>

### **1<sup>st</sup> Generation - GORDON HOPE (1909-1975)**

#### **(Cemetery database)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Cemeteries
3. CLICK ON: New Zealand Cemeteries Online
4. CLICK ON: Hastings District Council's new online cemetery records database (<http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/>)
5. CLICK ON: Cemetery database

**RESULT:** My Uncle Gordon who died 26 July 1975 at Hastings. Also his brother Albert who died in 1966.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Generation - FREDERICK HOPE (1864-1929) and ADA LOUISE GIBSON (1875-1928)**

### **(Passenger List)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Hawkes' Bay & Wairarapa
3. CLICK ON: Passenger Lists
4. CLICK ON: Passenger Lists to Hawkes Bay
5. CLICK ON: Invererne

**RESULT:** Invererne arrived Napier 8 March 1874. Frederick as a 9 year old along with his parents, William and Sarah and his siblings, Elizabeth, Agnes, Catherine, Charles, and Fanny who died on board.

### **(Cemetery database)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Cemeteries
3. CLICK ON: New Zealand Cemeteries Online
4. CLICK ON: Palmerston North Cemetery & Cremation Database

**RESULT:** Ada HOPE was buried on 27 Sep 1928 in the Kelvin Grove Cemetery. Also her husband Frederick on 8 Mar 1929.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Generation - WILLIAM HOPE (1831-1916) and SARAH ROWLES (1838-1912)**

### **(Sheep returns)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: All-New Zealand
3. CLICK ON: Helen's Page of New Zealand History (<http://www.angelfire.com/az/nzgenweb/>)
4. CLICK ON: Employment
5. CLICK ON: *Woodville Sheep returns 1887 – 1888*

**RESULT:** W. Hope of Woodville

### **(1871 Census)**

It is possible to view the index of the census on Ancestry from home but to see the image requires a trip to a family history centre where it can be viewed for free.

1. GO TO: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk/>
2. CLICK ON: 1871 England Census

**RESULT:** Entering Sarah Hope with a birth year of 1840 + - 2 years and residing in Oxford which is where the children were born gave an entry of William and Sarah with five children.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Generation - ALEXANDER DAVID GIBSON (1847-1935) and LOUISA BELLA FOX (1856-1914)**

#### **(FamilySearch – IGI marriage submission)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.familysearch.org>
2. CLICK ON: Search for ancestors

**RESULT:** Entered Alexander Gibson married 1873 New Zealand. Clicked on Search and found the marriage of Alexander to Louisa Fox at Big Bush. This was an individual entry on the IGI, submitted in 1975.

#### **(Newspaper – Electors petition)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.cyndislist.com/newzealand.htm>
2. CLICK ON: World GenWeb (Under category index)
3. CLICK ON: Nelson and Bays, Marlborough New Zealand GenWeb Project
4. CLICK ON : *Nelson Region*
5. CLICK ON: Evening Mail - 1870 to 1874

**RESULT: December – 1870, Collingwood electors signing a petition asking Arthur Shuckburg Collins to stand for election: T L Gibson, Sandy Gibson (*Thomas Lennox and Alexander David Gibson – brothers*)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Generation - WILLIAM HOPE (1801-1838) and HANNAH CHESNEL (1801-1834)**  
**Websites)**

**(RootsWeb -**

1. GO TO: <http://www.rootsweb.com/>
2. CLICK ON: Web Sites
3. CLICK ON: Surname Websites - Ho-Ht
4. SCROLL TO: HOPE
5. CLICK ON: Ed Burton's Genealogy Page
6. CLICK ON: SURNAMENAMES
7. CLICK ON: HOPE
8. CLICK ON: HOPE, William (1801-)

**RESULT:** A family group sheet of William and Hannah. By going back to Step 6, and clicking on Index instead of Surnames, and then HOPE, I was able to see a family tree that traces this family back to Arnold Hope born in 1540.

**12<sup>th</sup> Generation - ARNOLD HOPE (1540-1612) – mentioned above.**

**(Will and church photos)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genuki.org.uk/>
2. CLICK ON: Enter this large collection.....
3. CLICK ON: England
4. CLICK ON: Gloucestershire
5. CLICK ON: Towns & Parishes
6. CLICK ON: W
7. CLICK ON: Wyck Rissington
8. CLICK ON: Genealogy - Allan Taylor's web page
9. CLICK ON: The Wills of Wyck Rissington

**RESULT:** The will of Arnold who died in 1612 and his presumed grandson Giles who died in 1706. Also photos of the churches in this area where the family lived for at least 300 years. Arnold very kindly left his daughter a cow – not of the best or of the worst. Maybe the word “average” had yet to be invented?

**4<sup>th</sup> Generation - JAMES ROWLES (1805-1888 ) and CATHERINE LAWRENCE ( 1807-1880)**  
**(FamilySearch – IGI christening)**


3. GO TO: <http://www.familysearch.org>
4. CLICK ON: Search for ancestors

**RESULT:** Entered James Rowles born 1805 England. Clicked on Search and found 3 entries. 1881 British Census, International Genealogical Index and Pedigree Resource file.

I clicked on the IGI entry and found that this was an extracted record of his christening. Clicking on the source call number showed that this was taken from the Bishop's transcripts, 1670-1851 Church of England. Parish Church of Charlbury, Oxford. That information enabled me to view the original record on microfilm at the family history library.

**(Free BMD indexes)**

The 1881 census record had James Rowles listed as a widower so I went to:

1. GO TO: <http://www.freebmd.org.uk/>
2. CLICK ON:  **Search**
3. CLICK ON: Entered Catherine Rowles, died 1871 – 1881
4. CLICK ON: Find

**RESULT:** Catherine died 1880 in Chipping Norton, Oxford.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Generation - JOHN GIBSON (1804-1889) and ELIZABETH KENNARD (1809-1893)**

### **(Newspaper - obituary)**

John died on 15 March 1889. As he was a prominent citizen of the Marlborough area, I figured there just might be something written in a newspaper about his death.

1. GO TO: <http://www.cyndislist.com/newzealand.htm#Records>
2. CLICK ON: Papers Past - New Zealand Newspapers and Periodicals (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>)
3. CLICK ON: Browse publications
4. CLICK ON: Marlborough Express
5. Located the paper for the 16 March 1889.

**RESULT:** On the second of the four pages was an "In Memoriam" for John Gibson. This gave a wealth of information. He was born 10 February, 1804 at Auchterarder, Perth, Scotland. Arrived in Nelson, New Zealand in February, 1842 in the Fifeshire. He left 4 sons, 3 daughters (having 10 children in all). His wife was 5 years younger.

### **(Electoral roll)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Nelson & Bays
3. CLICK ON: Nelson Electoral Roll 1865-1866 A-I

**RESULT:** John was on the Nelson Electoral roll for 1866, in Wairau – freehold.

### **(Early Settlers)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Nelson & Bays
3. CLICK ON: Nelson Early Settlers Database

**RESULT:** John and Elizabeth with 4 children arrived on the Fifeshire on 1 Feb 1842.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Generation - WILLIAM FOX (1821 - ) and RACHEL SMITH (1820 - )**

##### **(City Directory)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.genealogylinks.net/newzealand/index.html>
2. CLICK ON: Nelson & Bays
3. CLICK ON: Nelson Directory for 1859

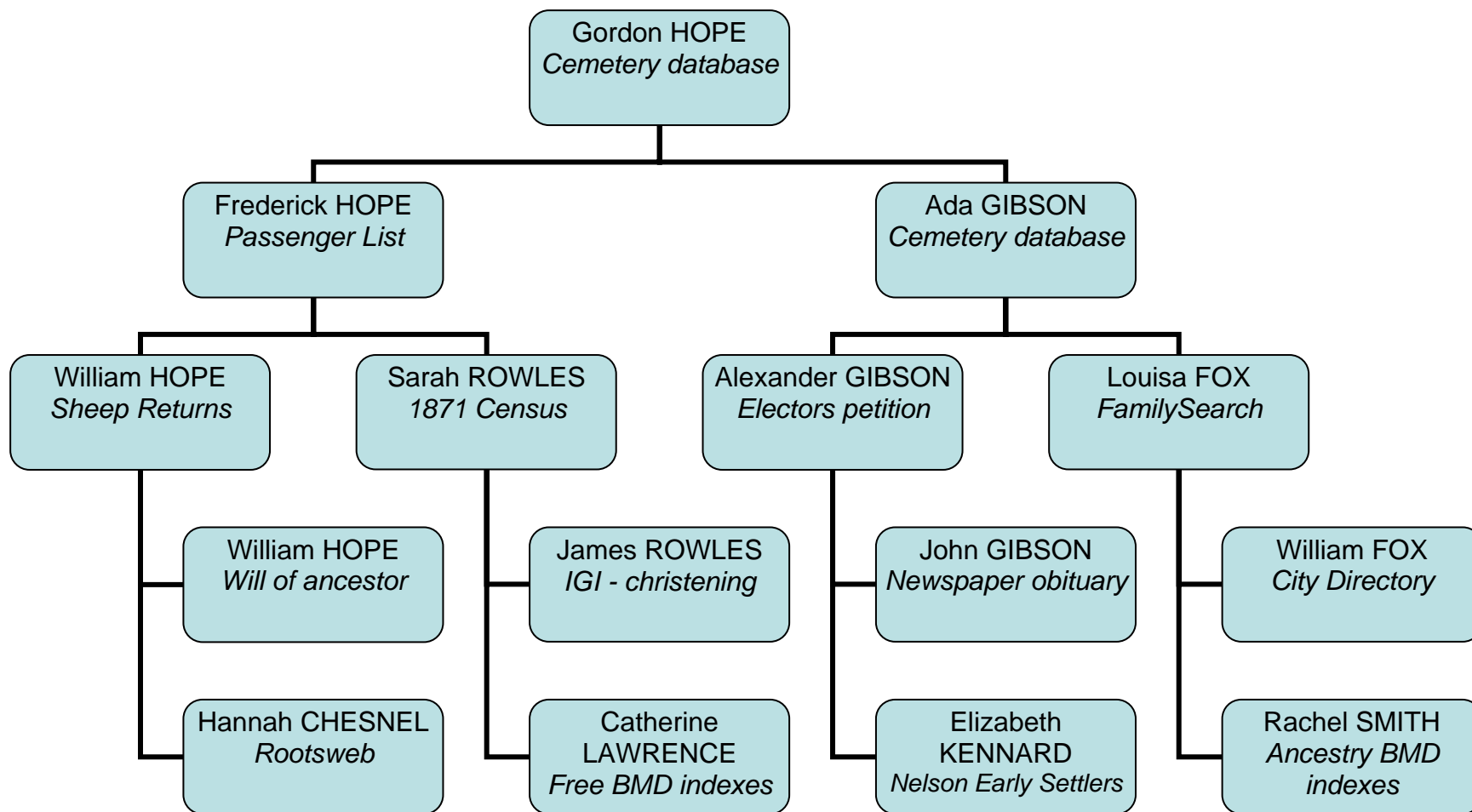
**RESULT:** Fox, W – Nelson, Carpenter and Builder

##### **(Ancestry BMD Indexes)**

1. GO TO: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk/>
2. CLICK ON: England & Wales, BMD Index
3. CLICK ON: Partial FreeBMD Indexes & Images 1837-1983 - Marriages
4. Entered Rachel Smith – 1841, Suffolk
5. CLICK ON: View Record for the Wangford entry
6. CLICK ON: 1194 – the page number.

**RESULT:** Rachel Smith and William Fox married In Wangford, Suffolk in the Dec quarter 1841.

Some of the information found is not from original records but can be used to locate more reliable data.



What ever the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve. *Napoleon Hill*

This surely applies to the internet today – if you don't see it in the following list and you can imagine it then it is either already out there or will be soon.

## USES OF THE INTERNET FOR FAMILY HISTORY

Archives
Blogs
Cemeteries
Criminal records
Databases
Directories
DNA sites for family history
Email lost cousins
Forms
Fun stuff
Gazetteers
Genealogy standards
Geocoding
Geography
Government records
Hiring a professional
History
Indexes
Lessons
Libraries with family history material
Lookups
Magazines devoted to family history
Mailing lists
Maps
Medical family tree
Message Boards
Military records

Newsletters
Newspapers
Original records, digitized
Parish locator
Photo storage
Planning a genealogy trip
Prices of genealogy tools comparison
Publish family history
Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness
Research help
Search engines
Search for ancestors
Send documents
Share your information
Social networking
Subscription sites
Surname meanings
Surname distribution
Technology
Telephone Directories
Translation
Vlogging
Volunteer projects