

## DNA

### Proved My Genealogy to be Correct!

When did you last say '**WOW**'—or even like a big kid say, '**yippee!**' I have said this many times in the last 12 months since becoming involved in DNA testing to find answers to fill those missing gaps in my genealogy. DNA results and your paper trail go together in filling the gaps in your family tree!

In 2008 I wrote a family history about my Swaysland ancestors. I carried out extensive research and even enlisted a military and naval researcher in the United Kingdom (UK). I included in my book the reason why I believed that the Australian Swayslands and the New Zealand Swayslands descended from the same common ancestor, Thomas Augustus Swaysland, born 1797 in Shoreditch, London. The Australians descending from Edward (John) Swaysland, and the New Zealand Swayslands, Stephen Adolphus Swaysland. Stephen and Edward were brothers. Clive Swaysland from Australia shared my belief. However there were some who needed more proof. At the time Clive and I agreed (tongue in cheek) that only DNA will prove we were right. Little did we know at the time that this would become a reality!

I have been interested in genealogy for many years. My interest was influenced by my mother, Mabel Kelly (nee Douglas). Mum loved to talk about her mother Margaret (Maggie) Swaysland, frequently saying to 'us kids' (there were five of us) 'If Mum was here she wouldn't let you get away with that'! Always in the nicest possible way as I always got the feeling that Granny must have been a lovely lady. Sadly I never knew my Granny Swaysland as she died in 1949 when I was only 11 months old. Mum would often go through the generations to let us know who our ancestors were on her mother's side. She didn't need to say much about Granddad Douglas' side nor Dad's, as many of these descendants were still in the Motueka area where I was born.

Mum's mother's side of the family was a different story. She would tell us: Maggie's grandfather was Stephen Adolphus Swaysland, her father was Thomas Augustus Swaysland, and he married Elizabeth Kivell. Elizabeth Kivell was the daughter of John Kivell and Mary Jane Old and Mary Jane Old was the daughter of Richard Old and Jane Liddicoat from Cornwall. What mum didn't know at the time, was that she had missed a generations. In fact Mary Jane Old was the illegitimate daughter of Richard and Jane Old's oldest daughter Jane Old. But that's another story!



Above right: The family of Thomas Augustus Swaysland, (son of Stephen Adolphus Swaysland ) taken in Taranaki, circa 1900 L-R standing; William John, Edward Bennett, James Richard Sitting; Thomas Augustus (father) Thomas Alfred (Alf) Elizabeth (mother- Lizzie- nee Kivell) and Margaret (Maggie) Swaysland. (My Granny)

While mum could tell you who descended from whom in almost the entire Motueka district, what I found most interesting was that she could not tell me anything about her Swaysland ancestors nor why and when Stephen Adolphus Swaysland came to New Zealand – it was a complete mystery to her! The names Stephen Adolphus and Thomas Augustus Swaysland always fascinated me as they were not plain names like most of my ancestors! I had reconciled myself to the fact I would never know where our Swaysland ancestry came from.

In 1989, when working for Telecom in Wellington, one day I was talking with a customer who was arranging to have her telephone connected – her name was Swaysland. I commented ‘my grandmother was a Swaysland’, and she mentioned that she was married to a Swaysland.

It wasn’t long after the ‘Swaysland’ customer had left, that I received a phone call - it was Alf Swaysland. Alf Swaysland was mum’s first cousin although she had never met him. Alf worked on The Terrace in Wellington and I was not far away in Willis Street. Alf’s daughter-in-law had called him to tell him about our conversation in the Telecom Centre. So Alf came down to see me and we had a long chat as to how we fitted into the family. I asked Alf if he knew when Stephen Adolphus Swaysland had arrived in New Zealand. Alf didn’t know but did know that there was mention of him in the book, *Terawhiti and the Goldfield* by James Brodie. The book recorded that in the Makara Valley, Stephen Adolphus Swaysland, late sergeant in the Royal Hussars, had obtained an 80 acre entitlement. I was intrigued! Alf also told me of an elderly lady in Petone, Victoria May Swaysland, who was the daughter of Richard Swaysland, Stephen Adolphus Swaysland’s son. My great grandfather, Thomas Augustus Swaysland’s (not to be confused with his grandfather with the same name, born in 1797) and Richard were brothers.



Left, two of Stephen’s sons:  
Sitting; Charles Frederick Swaysland, standing, Richard John Swaysland.  
Right: Victoria May Swaysland



I wasted no time and rang Victoria May Kepple (nee Swaysland) known as May. May was in her 90s - I visited May on two or three occasions and even took mum out to meet her when she came to Wellington to visit me. Having had very little to do with her Swaysland relations, mum was moved to meet her mother’s first cousin and they both had a tear in their eyes when they said good bye.

May told me the story as told to her by her father. Richard said his mother, Margaret Ann Bennett died in 1869 after giving birth to twins. The twins did not survive. (Margaret Ann Swaysland is buried in the Historical Churchyard of Christ Church, Taita in the Hutt Valley) After the death of his wife, Stephen Adolphus Swaysland said he was going south to look for work.

Stephen put his four sons aged from 3 to 9, into the care of four different famers in the Hutt Valley near Wellington. The sons were, Thomas Augustus, Richard John, Charles Frederick and John Forster Swaysland. Their father never returned nor saw them ever again! This story staggered me—how could a man leave his children like this!

It was not until they were adults that a chance meeting reunited the four boys. One day (in the 1890s, Jack (John Forster) Swaysland, who was a drover in Featherston, had driven cattle from the Wairarapa over the Rimutaka Hills to the Gear Meat Company. When talking with one of the men at the Gear Meat Company, the man on hearing his name, asked him if he knew Dick Swaysland in Petone. Jack said ‘yes, I think he would be my brother’. The man told him if he went down to the Victoria Inn at a certain time, he would find Richard there. And so the four boys eventually met up again.

While I was far from impressed by the fact that the boys had been deserted, I was still fascinated about the ancestry of Stephen Adolphus Swaysland and his military career. At one point, I wondered why I was wasting time carrying on researching my great, great grandfather who had not only deserted his children but I was later to find he was also a bigamist. In 1858 when he married my great, great grandmother, Margaret Ann Bennett, at St Peter’s Church, Wellington, he was still married to a woman in Australia! I will tell more about that later. However the saving grace from my perspective, was when I found a 1859 Coroners Report at Archives New Zealand, on an inquest, held at the Ames Arms Inn in Johnsonville. The inquest was as a result of Margaret Ann Swaysland having given birth to a still born baby.

I felt differently about my great great grandfather after reading what a witness, Sarah Telby said at the Inquest The woman she is referring to is Margaret Ann Swaysland:

*I had never seen the woman previous to four days before her confinement. She told me that her parents would like her to go home but her husband was too kind an husband to her that she did not want to leave him.*

*Her*

*Sarah X Telby*

*Mark*

The Coroner’s Report of the Inquest provided a mine of information about my Bennett ancestors, including the fact that they did not like their son-in-law. There had been an altercation between them as stated in the Report. Thomas and Margaret Bennett were my 3 X great grandparents who had arrived in Wellington in 1841 with their daughter Margaret Ann Bennett on the ship *Katherine Stewart Forbes*.

It was interesting to see that all witnesses (including Thomas and Margaret Bennett) at the Inquest, except Stephen Swaysland, were illiterate and X marked their signature. Below and on the following page, are extracts from the Coroner’s report stated:

*Thomas Bennett being sworn stateth I am a farmer and I reside on the Porirua Road the woman who has had the child upon whose body the present enquiry arises is my only daughter She has not been in good health for the past three years I do not know that her health has been worse since her marriage.*

*His*

*Thomas X Bennett*

*Mark*

Continued next page

Margaret Bennett being sworn stateth I am the wife of Mr Bennett and reside at Porirua Road Margaret Swaysland is my daughter I believe she has lately been confined of a child. On Thursday morning Mrs Telby came and told me my daughter had been confined Mrs Telby told me the child was still born I went and saw my daughter I believe my daughter was happy with her husband she said nothing to me about being frightened at any time during her pregnancy . She enjoyed pretty good health lately.

Her

Margaret X Bennett

Mark

Margaret Bennett being again called in says upon oath that her daughter has just told her that she the daughter never told the preceding witnesses that she had been frightened by the quarrel between her husband and mother.

Stephen Adolphus Swaysland being sworn stateth I am the husband of Margaret Swaysland she had been in bad health three years before she was married. Since her pregnancy she has had a fall down stairs she has been frightened on two occasion this last time and the time previous were caused by altercations between me and her parents the last time she held by me and was inclined to faint and appeared to be excited and as her arms were ??? down me I put her down on the mat on the floor.

*S. A. Swaysland.*

All the above informations were severally taken and acknowledged the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of the above written before me *S M Curl* -

Coroner

Judging by the article below in the *Wellington Independent* newspaper of 1863, the issues between Stephen and his in-laws continued.

Below: *The Wellington Independent*, 3 October 1863

**RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT.**

**HITT.**

**WEDNESDAY. 30TH SEPTEMBER. 1863.**

**(Before A. Ludlam and J. Jackson, Esqs., J.Ps.)**

**C. England v. Wm. Abbott—Debt 19s—Judgment for amount and costs, 7s. Thos. Darcy was charged by Captain Ludlam, with a breach of the Militia Act—Judgment was reserved. Another charge against the same defendant by Captain Ludlam, for another breach of the Militia Act, not attending drill on the 8th, 15th, and 22nd August, was withdrawn. S. A. Swaysland was charged with assaulting Thomas Bennett—The charge was withdrawn.**

In defence of my great, great grandfather, whatever his faults, it is clear that he was a kind man. Not only did his wife not want to leave him, but just prior to his death in 1888, when living in an old men's home in Thames, he was recognised for his kindness on more than one occasion. The below report from the committee confirms recognition of his kindness.

Right: *The Thames Star*, 13 November 1888

Over the years I have found out a great deal about Stephen Adolphus Swaysland and collectively they add up to a person who I would possibly call a rogue. However it is all very well making judgements when we did not live in those times.

The children born to Stephen and Margaret Swaysland are below:

- Unnamed Still born - Johnsonville, January 1859*
- Stephen Adolphus & Margaret Ann (twins) b Wellington 18 November 1860—did not survive.*
- Thomas Augustus b Hutt, 13 December 1861 d 24 Feb 1931*
- Charles Frederick b Hutt, 1863 d 6 April 1942 (buried with his mother).*
- Richard John b Hutt, 1865 d 1948 Lower Hutt.*
- John (Jack) Forster b Hutt 3 January 1867 d 6 December 1915*
- Ellen Rebecca b 6 October 1868 d November 1868*
- Twins unnamed b 1869 died 30 September 1869*

So, about 1870, Stephen moved south having placed his four boys in the care of farmers in the Hutt Valley.

In Christchurch, 1872 he married Ann Elizabeth Kennington. Stephen was 48 and she was 17! They had two daughters; Ada Jane Swaysland, born 1873 and Minnie Gertrude Swaysland, born 1874. By 1875 Ann had left Stephen for a younger man - James Cunningham Johnson. They ran away together to Auckland. I confess that at this point I felt Stephen had got his come-uppance. Sadly, on 3 May 1875 Minnie Gertrude Swaysland died aged 9 months.

It was not long before Ann left James and their son George, born to them in Auckland and fled to America. The last record of Ada Jane Swaysland was in the 1880 United States Federal Census for Alameda California—as indicated on the right. By now she was known as Ada Johnson and aged 7. There was no sign of her mother on census night and I have never been able to trace what happened to Ada Jane Swaysland.

**REMOVAL.**—In the course of his report the Relieving Officer mentioned that a man named Brown, who had been receiving charitable aid for the last two years, had been removed from Shellback Creek to Karaka Road. The man was in a very helpless condition through infirmities, which unfortunately were of such a character that he could not be admitted into the Hospital, but Dr. Williams had attended to him, and he was now somewhat better. He (the Relieving Officer) had got S. Swaysland, one of the inmates of the Old Men's Home, to look after him, and he could not speak in too high terms of Swaysland's humane and kindly feeling in carrying out the duties. He recommended that the Board should make him some monetary allowance for his work.—Agreed to.

1880 United States Federal Census about Ada Johnson															
Name:	Ada Johnson														
Age:	7														
Birth Year:	abt 1873														
Birthplace:	New Zealand														
Home in 1880:	Oakland, Alameda, California														
Race:	White														
Gender:	Female														
Marital Status:	Single														
Father's Birthplace:	England														
Mother's Birthplace:	England														
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>														
Cannot read/write:	} <a href="#">View image</a>														
Blind:															
Deaf and dumb:															
Otherwise disabled:															
Idiotic or insane:															
Household Members:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Age</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><a href="#">George Parry</a></td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Martha Parry</a></td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Evangeline Ballou</a></td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Ada Johnson</a></td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Sarah Thomas</a></td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Charles Thomas</a></td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Age	<a href="#">George Parry</a>	60	<a href="#">Martha Parry</a>	49	<a href="#">Evangeline Ballou</a>	14	<a href="#">Ada Johnson</a>	7	<a href="#">Sarah Thomas</a>	50	<a href="#">Charles Thomas</a>	27
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## So Who Were the Swayslands?

Stephen Adolphus Swaysland, born in 1824, Brighton, England, was the son of Thomas Augustus Swaysland (born 1797) and Mary Ann Garbett (born 1800). Sadly, Thomas Augustus Swaysland, my 3 x great grandfather died in June 1841 just two weeks after the 1841 Census of England was taken. Stephen was one of 10 children born to Thomas Augustus and Mary Ann Swaysland. Their children all born in Brighton, England were:

Thomas Augustus	baptised 28 March 1820
Stephen	baptised 13 Jan 1822—died as a child
Mary Ann	baptised 18 May 1823
Stephen Adolphus	baptised 17 July 1825
John Foster	baptised 3 June 1827
Charles Frederick	baptised 1831
Ellen Augusta	baptised 7 July 1833
Henry Alfred	baptised 1835
Maria Addison	baptised 29 March 1837
Edward John	baptised 30 November 1838

Below is a copy of the 1841 English Census Record for the Parish of Ifield taken June 1841. The Swayslands are listed in column 1, 5th from the bottom and column 2, the first three entries. The oldest boys Thomas and Stephen had left home by 1841.

The image shows two pages of a handwritten census record for the Parish of Ifield, dated 1841. The left page is numbered 4 and the right page is numbered 5. Both pages contain a grid of census data with columns for names, age and sex, profession, trade, or independent means, and where born. The Swaysland family is listed in the fifth row from the bottom of the first column on both pages. Arrows point to the Swaysland entries on both pages.

PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
			Male	Female		Wales	Foreign
Ifield Hill Farm	1	John Gutter	35		Farmer & Coach	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	25			4	
		Elizabeth D <sup>o</sup>	4			4	
		Mary D <sup>o</sup>	3			4	
		William Brooming	20		Ag Lab	4	
		Walter Brooming	15		Ag Lab	4	
		James Tullitt	15		Ag Lab	4	
		Mary Meeching	35		Lab	4	
		Elizabeth Meeching	15		Lab	4	
		James Meeching	55		Retired	4	
Hill Farm	1	James Meeching	55		Retired	4	
		Ann D <sup>o</sup>	55			4	
		John D <sup>o</sup>	20		Farmer	4	
		Elizabeth D <sup>o</sup>	12			4	
		John D <sup>o</sup>	15		Ag Lab	4	
		William D <sup>o</sup>	11		Ag Lab	4	
		Richard D <sup>o</sup>	15			4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	12			4	
		Maria D <sup>o</sup>	6			4	
		Frank D <sup>o</sup>	2			4	
Cragley Farm	1	Thomas Swaysland	35		Farmer	4	
		Mary D <sup>o</sup>	10			4	
		Mary D <sup>o</sup>	15			4	
		Charles D <sup>o</sup>	11			4	
		Ellen D <sup>o</sup>	5			4	
TOTAL in Page 4	4					13/12	

PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
			Male	Female		Wales	Foreign
Cragley Farm		Thomas Swaysland	35		Farmer	4	
		Maria D <sup>o</sup>	10			4	
		John D <sup>o</sup>	15			4	
		Elizabeth D <sup>o</sup>	15			4	
		Richard D <sup>o</sup>	25		Ag Lab	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	15		Ag Lab	4	
		John D <sup>o</sup>	10			4	
		Mary D <sup>o</sup>	15			4	
		Henry D <sup>o</sup>	25		Independent	4	
		William Bridges	25		Ag Lab	4	
do		Frank D <sup>o</sup>	10			4	
		William D <sup>o</sup>	9			4	
		Richard D <sup>o</sup>	8			4	
		Richard D <sup>o</sup>	6		Wholesale	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	20		Wholesale	4	
		Elizabeth D <sup>o</sup>	20		Lab	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	15		Ag Lab	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	16		Ag Lab	4	
		James D <sup>o</sup>	25		Wholesale	4	
		Thomas D <sup>o</sup>	10		Ag Lab	4	
do		Thomas D <sup>o</sup>	20		Wholesale	4	
		William D <sup>o</sup>	25		Wholesale	4	
		Robert D <sup>o</sup>	15		Wholesale	4	
		Robert D <sup>o</sup>	20		Wholesale	4	
		Robert D <sup>o</sup>	15		Wholesale	4	
TOTAL in Page 5	10					19/6	

There is no doubt that Thomas Augustus Swayslands death changed the lives of the family. However, the mother, Mary Ann Swaysland (nee Garbett), must have been left fairly well off as on all Census records until her death in 1873, she was living by her own means. Stephen's sister, Maria Addison Swaysland married well. On 8 March 1856 she married The Right Honorable Robert Rainey Best. Robert Rainey Best, was the son of William Samuel Best, 2nd Lord Wynford.

This is indicative of the type of family Stephen was born into. If Stephen had remained in England, he would most certainly not have married the daughter of an illiterate emigrant in New Zealand.

Maria Addison Best died 1881. Her husband remarried in 1882 as indicated in the record on the right from the *Counties Families of England*.

<b>MARRIAGES.</b>
On Saturday, the 8th inst., at the parish church, Kensington, the Hon. Robert Rainey Best, to Maria Addison Swaysland, youngest daughter of the late T. A. Swaysland, Esq., of Crawley, Sussex.

BIRMINGHAM, D. 1882.
<b>BEST, the Hon. ROBERT RAINY, of The Rowdens, Devon.</b>
Youngest son of William Samuel, 2nd Lord Wynford, who <i>d.</i> 1869, by Jane, youngest dau. of William Thoyts, Esq., of Sulhampstead Park, Berks; <i>b.</i> 1834; <i>m.</i> 1st 1856 Maria Addison, who <i>d.</i> 1881, youngest dau. of Thomas A. Swaysland, Esq., of Crawley, Sussex, and has a dau., Muriel Henrietta Louisa; 2nd 1882 Meynella Katherine Hilda, eldest dau. of the late Frederick A. P. Wood, Capt. R. Marines; was formerly Capt. Gren. Guards and 21st Fusiliers.— <i>The Rowdens, Torquay; Constitutional Club, w.c.</i>

Above: An entry from the "*Counties Families of England*"

Records for the East Sussex Record Office dated 6 Jan 1824, indicate that Thomas Augustus Swaysland, was "*Clerk to the Attorney,*" dealing with mortgages. This would add weight to the entry in the 1841 Census, recording his occupation as a "*Conveyancer*". What we also know from 'Brighton Town and Brighton People' by A Dale (1976), is that Thomas Augustus Swaysland was appointed as "*Clerk to the Commissioner*" of Brighton on 9th August 1826 at a salary of £50 per annum. In November 1826, he was allowed to exchange posts and become "*Collector of Rates*" at £120 per annum. His remuneration was increased to £150 per annum in 1835. On Thomas' wife, Mary Ann's Death Certificate, some 30 years later, under the heading occupation, it is recorded "*Widow -Thomas Augustus Swaysland - Barrister*". For the record, there were ultimately three Thomas Augustus Swayslands; the father, the son and the grandson.

To establish more about Stephen Adolphus Swaysland's military career in the 10th Royal Hussars, resulting in his land grant, as mentioned previously, I enlisted the aid of a military researcher in England. The researcher was able to find that not only did Stephen join the military (1843) but so did his brothers; Thomas Augustus and Charles Frederick Swaysland—all commencing service with the 12<sup>TH</sup> Lancers. Thomas Augustus remained in the Army for some years and then became a prison officer- he never left England. Charles Frederick did not last long in the 12th Lancers and was retired medically unfit—he was later to die of typhoid aged 26 on 1863 in Melbourne, Australia .

While I wrote much about Stephen's other siblings and their lives in the 2008 family history, in the story I will deal with the facts as found out about Stephen Adolphus Swaysland and then later his brother Edward John Swaysland. It is the DNA from the descendants of these two who ultimately proved my suppositions.

**Stephen Adolphus Swaysland:**

By July 1846, Stephen had become Corporal Swaysland, in the 10th Royal Hussars and in the muster for May-August 1846, he is listed as 'On voyage to Bombay. On board Hindustan.' From the July 1846 until the March 1847 muster, Corporal S Swaysland was stationed with the "10<sup>th</sup> Royal Hussars" in Kirkee, India. Stephen remained at Kirkee until 1851. On 9 July 1850 he was promoted to Sergeant. The "10th Regiment of Royal Hussars Return of Marriage" also records his marriage to Ann Daldy, a "widow of a soldier" on 1 July 1850. On 3 June 1851 Sergeant Stephen Adolphus Swaysland was discharged by purchase. This meant he paid to be released from the Army.

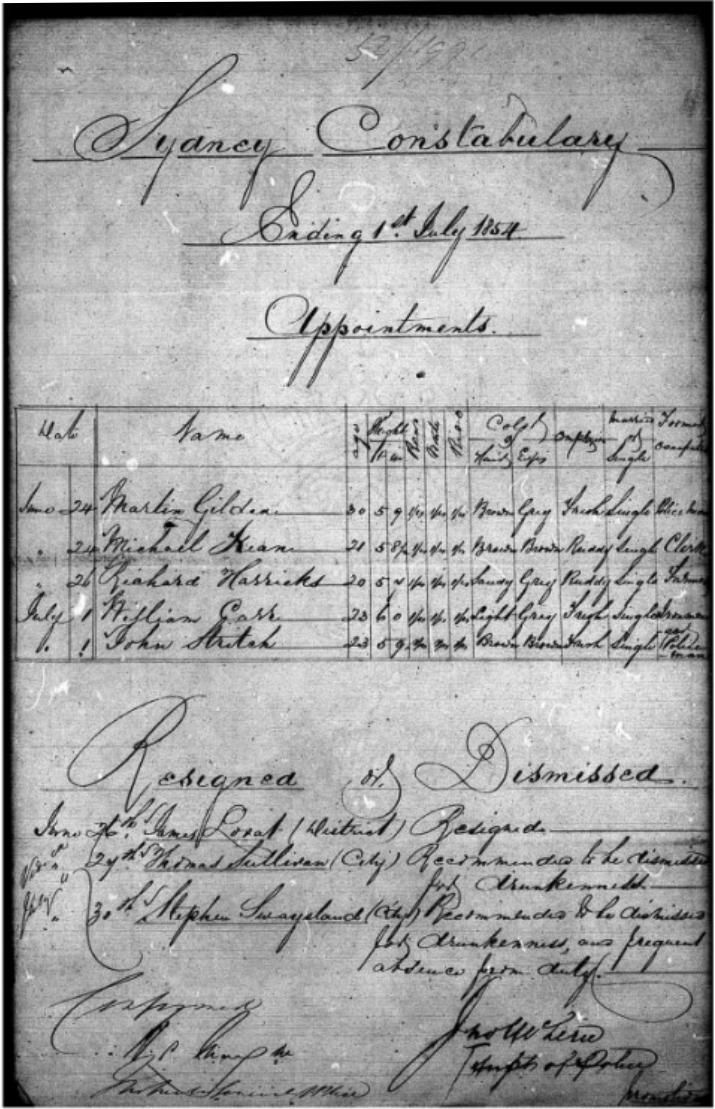
It was the marriage to Ann Daldy that made him a bigamist in years to come.

The next official record of Stephen Swaysland was his dismissal from The Sydney Constabulary in July 1854 - see the record on the right. The charge being a recommendation for dismissal for drunkenness and frequent absence from duty!

I was intrigued to find the below notice in *Sydney Morning Herald*, Friday, 4 May 1860. By now Stephen was 'married' again and in New Zealand - his brother Charles Frederick Swaysland was looking for him. No doubt he had mentioned the words 12th Lancers to draw his attention should Stephen see this advertisement. Sadly I doubt that they ever found each other before Charles died of Typhoid in Melbourne in 1963.

Below: From the Sydney Morning Herald, Friday, 4 May 1860

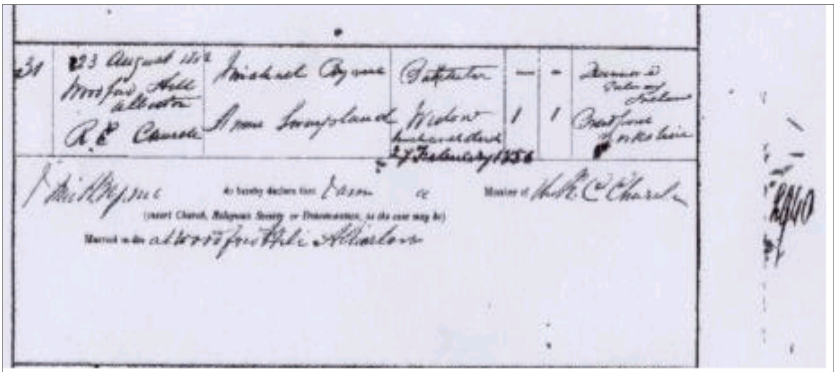
**I**F STEPHEN A. SWAYSLAND, son of the late T. A. Swaysland, Esq., of Brighton, will apply to Mr J. CHAPMAN, butcher, 44, Lower George-street, he will find his Brother Charles.



Translated the advertisement said :

If **STEPHEN A. SWAYSLAND**, son of the late **T. A. Swaysland**, Esq., of Brighton, will apply to Mr **J. CHAPMAN**, butcher, 44, Lower George-street, he will find his Brother Charles.

On the right, for the record, is the marriage certificate of Annie Swaysland to Michael Byrne in Melbourne Australia in August 1862. Annie is recorded as a widow. Also recorded is 'husband died 27 February 1856'. It would seem that Stephen Adolphus Swaysland did a 'disappearing act'. He became the 'ghost who walked.' In October that year, he sailed to New Zealand.





Having been dismissed from the Sydney Constabulary, Stephen joined the Police in Hobart, Tasmania. You really have to admire his spunk! Once again he got himself in strife as reported below. I was particularly amused at the Chief Magistrates comments in paragraph three on the right.

Below: *The Hobart Mercury* Monday 9 July 1855

*Before the Chief Police Magistrate and Mr. S. Moses.*

**Charge against a Constable. — Stephen Adolphus Swaysland was charged by the Chief Constable with misconduct as a constable, in being under the influence of liquor on the night of the 4th instant; when Mr Symons called**

Mr Hutton, who having been sworn, stated, that on the night in question, he saw the defendant in Elizabeth-street, and followed him to the police office about ten o'clock; he had a female in charge who was the worse for liquor; the constable was the same; the woman had hold of his arm, and both were very chatty and very friendly; witness followed them to the station house, where the constable charged the female with drunkenness; he Mr Hutton, considered the woman had been decoyed; the constable was not fit for duty, neither he nor the female was drunk. (The female whose name was Stewart, was tried yesterday and pleaded guilty)

D C Hamilton stated that he was on duty at the watch-house, on the night of the 4th instant; the defendant brought in a woman whom he charged with being drunk; while he was in the watch-house Mr Hutton came in, and called witness's attention to the defendant whom he considered more drunk than the female; the defendant was perfectly sober; he was sober also when the men were mustered; his conduct since he had been in the police was remarkably good; the woman was too drunk to stand up, and the constable was holding her up.

The bench did not deem it necessary to call upon the defendant for his defence, and dismissed the case.

**CHARGE OF DRUNKENNESS AGAINST A  
CONSTABLE.**

**SYMONS V. SWAYSLAND.**

This was an information against a constable for being under the influence of liquor on the night of Wednesday last.

Mr Hutton deposed that about ten o'clock on the night in question he followed constable 69, down Elizabeth-street, he having a female in-charge at the time; she had hold of his arm, and was the worse for liquor; the constable was in the same state. When witness came opposite to his house he thought surely he could not be taking her to the watch house he followed on close and found they were very chatty together. Witness followed them into the watch house, when the constable leaned on the bar. Witness went in and said if the woman was under the influence of liquor, so was the constable, and he considered the woman had been escorted to the watch house. He must add, however, that there was no un-be-coming language used. It seemed to him the constable had just decoyed her in. Not a word was said by either that any one could find fault with.

Witness's opinion was that the constable was not fit for duty and he (Mr Hutton), was instigated to lay this complaint. In Edinburgh and Glasgow, the police handed drunken persons from one to another. Mr Burgess (lustily) We don't do that here or we should never have a drunken case.

Cross-examined —The female was the worse for drink. The gentleman who took the charge put you through your facings.

D C. Hamilton deposed that he was on duty on the night in question. Remembered the defendant bringing in a woman for being drunk. Whilst he was taking the charge Mr Hutton came in and said the constable was more intoxicated than the woman. Witness put him through his facings and from his genial appearance he deemed him perfectly sober. Witness saw him mustered that evening he was sober the. Defendant's conduct has been remarkably good since he has been in the police.

By Mr Hutton Your impression was that the man was intoxicated. The woman was too 'drunk to stand up he was trying to hold her.

The Chief Police Magistrate. The woman was brought before me yesterday, and acknowledged that she was drunk, and was punished.

Defendant said he wished to call witnesses; Their worships (Messrs. Burgess and S. Moses) did not think it necessary, and they at once dismissed the case.

Having had another close call in his role as a policeman, on 1 September 1855, Stephen was appointed as a Letter Carrier. See the 1855 Annual Official, Financial and Statistical reported below. Stephen was appointed on an annual salary of £102 6s.

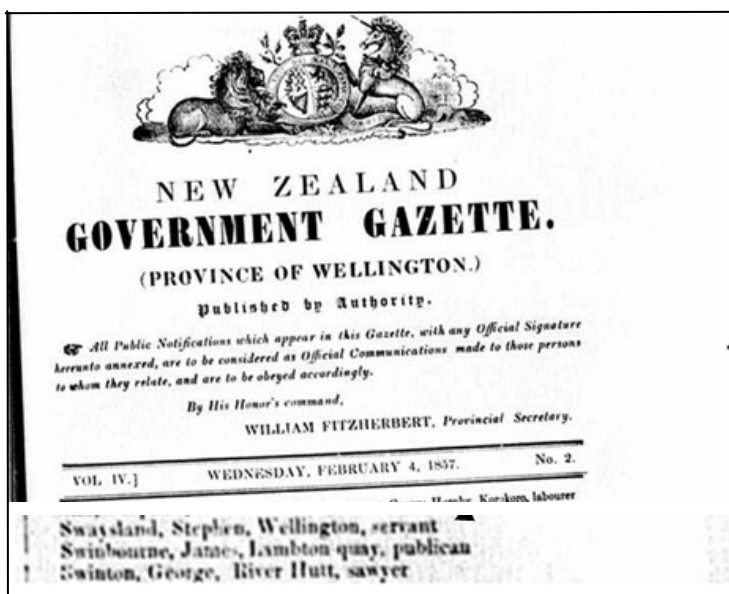
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[ ]

OFFICE.	NAME.	Date of Appointment.	By whom appointed, and under what Instrument.	Annual Salary in British or Army Sterling.	From what Fund the Salary is paid.
<i>Post-Office, continued</i>					
Letter Carrier	Joseph Brown	1 Sept. 52	His Excellency	102 6	General
"	James Walker	16 Nov. 53	"	102 6	"
"	John Hamilton	1 Feb. 54	"	102 6	"
"	D. Wellington	3 " 55	"	102 6	"
"	S. Swaysland	1 Sept. "	"	102 6	"
"	John Kelly	27 "	"	102 6	"

There is evidence that his Annie Swaysland was still with him at this point. It was not until 1856 that he did a disappearing act and moved to New Zealand.

Stephen A Swaysland arrived on the ship *Mimmie Dyke* as an emigrant under the Vogel Provincial Government Scheme. As he signed a promissory note, agreeing to pay back money for his voyage, he must have been short on funds!



Left is the 2nd edition of the New Zealand Government Gazette. Stephen Swaysland is listed as a servant. This would be a servant of the crown. In view of this, I suspect he once again he became a policeman as the newspaper report below suggests.

I contacted the New Zealand Police Archivist but she advised that there was no record kept of Wellington Policemen at this stage.

Monday, 31st December.  
Levy v. Buck—Debt £6 12s. 8d.  
Judgment by consent for amount.  
Silk v. Judd—Breach of the Constabulary Force Ordinance, Cautioned and discharged.  
Swaysland v. Johnston—Charged with drunkenness. Fined 5s.

Right: Resident Magistrates Court. *The Wellington Independent*, 4 January 1861

Stephen Adolphus Swaysland was an educated man and this would have put him in good stead when it came to getting what would be defined as a good job in Australia and New Zealand.

Over the ensuing years, until he left his family in about 1870 he appeared on numerous electoral rolls and at one stage lived in Mulgrave Street in Wellington—the current home of Archives New Zealand. By 1861 he had moved to the Hutt Valley and become a gardener. Ironically the last electoral roll he was on prior to death was for Thames NZ and listed as a gardener at the hospital. I am sure it was his life-style that was his downfall in life and not because he was a bad person.

DEATH. | |

SWAYSLAND.—On the 14th instant at the Old Men's Home, Stephen Swaysland, aged 64.  
The Funeral will leave the Hospital at 2 o'clock THIS DAY

Above: *The Thames Advertiser*, 15 December 1888

## Edward John Swaysland

Having accounted for all of Stephen A Swayslands siblings throughout my research, I had still not worked out what exactly happen to Edward. I began to realise that Edward John Swaysland was in fact more than likely, John Swaysland who had settled and married in Australia.

The more information the UK researcher sent me, the more intrigued I became. It would appear that on 11 September 1851, aged 13 years 6 months, Edward J Swaysland, Stephen's brother, was enlisted on the HMS Victory as a "School Apprentice". His date of service was from 11 September 1851 to 18 July 1852. Edward was only to serve about eight months on the HMS Victory, as he took ill and was discharged from the Navy Hospital *Haslar* on 18 July 1852, having spent two and a half months of his service in the Navy hospital.

Below are just some of the names on the Haslar Hospital Patients list. Edward J Swaysland from the *HMS Victory* is the first on the list and listed as a 'Boy'. He was certainly in interesting company judging by the nature of the ailments of numerous other sailors; syphilis, gonorrhoea to name a couple!

The disease Edward was suffering from was Pleurodynia. This day and age the disease is listed as uncommon complication of coxsackievirus B infection and is defined as the sudden occurrence of lancinating chest pain attacks, commonly associated with fever, malaise, and headaches. Coxsackievirus B is an RNA Enterovirus, which usually causes an asymptomatic or brief upper respiratory tract or gastroenteric infection. In rare cases, other severe sequelae of coxsackievirus B infection develop, including meningitis and carditis. Coxsackievirus B infection occurs most commonly in children younger than 15 years. In any event, he must have been very ill.

Current Number.	No. on the Ship's Books.	From whence Received.	Persons' Names.	Quality.	When Received.		Nature of the Disease, or Hurt.
					Date.	Month.	
121	27 <sup>th</sup>	Victory	Edw. J. Swaysland	Boy	✓	1852 6 May	Pleurodynia
	495 <sup>th</sup>		John J. Smith	Ab.	✓		Syphilis
	16	Winchester	John Davies	Boy	✓		Variola
	326	Queen	Pat. Rogers	Ab.	✓	7	Gonorrhoea
	628		John Elsher	"	✓		Rheumatism
	778		W. J. Sizing	Ord. 2 <sup>d</sup>	✓		Do
	43 <sup>rd</sup>	Victory	W. Duddy	Boy	✓	8	Syphilis
✓	115	Encounter	W. Padwick	Sub. 1 <sup>st</sup>	✓		Pneumonia
	226	Blenheim	W. H. Reed	Ord. 2 <sup>d</sup>	✓		Concussion Fract. of Femur
		Admiralty Order	John Down	Scaman			Dysentery
8 <sup>th</sup> Victory	159	Bicharua	John M. Dougall	Invalid		9	Bronchitis

Edward Swaysland's illness was not to be life threatening as after being discharged from *Haslar Naval Hospital* and the *HMS Victory*, Edward returned to the Royal Navy joining the *HMS Rolla* and then the *HMS Brisk* of London. Edward was recorded as aged 17 and an "Ordinary Seaman" on board the *HMS Brisk* on a voyage from August to December 1853 on a voyage from London to Newcastle and then Constadt (really spelt Cronstadt) a Baltic port.

After his discharge from the *HMS Brisk*, Edward Swaysland was to sign up on a ship called the *American Lass*. This was a British ship, registered at Glasgow. The *American Lass* departed London on 28 January 1854 arriving back in Glasgow on 26 February 1855. The ship had completed a round trip to Australia. Edward Swaysland, *Ordinary Seaman*, aged 17, born in Brighton, was discharged from the ship *American Lass*, at Sydney Australia on 17 June 1854.

Below: The record of seaman's tickets. Edward Swaysland is below his brother, Charles Frederick Swaysland. This record is rather difficult to read, but records Edward Swaysland as being on the ship *HMS Brisk* in 1854, prior to sailing for Australia on the *American Lass* on 28 January 1854. He disembarked in Sydney 17 June 1854

NAME AND DESCRIPTION	Age	VOYAGES										Remarks	
		1853		1854		1855		1856		1857			
		Out	Home	Out	Home	Out	Home	Out	Home	Out	Home		
George Swaisland Born at London	27												76
Charles F Swaisland Born at Brighton	22												77
Edward Swaysland Born at Brighton	17												78

Another compelling reason I was convinced that Edward John had called himself John on arrival in Australia was that like his brother Stephen, his children were given the family names Stephen, Thomas, Edward John, Charles and Henry.

Left: Edward John (John) Swaysland, Stephen Adolphus Swaysland's youngest brother (standing) with sons L to R John and Stephen




I found a rather telling report, as seen on the next page, in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 12 June 1854. It is because of this report that I thought Edward may have decided to change his name to John.

Below: From *The Sydney Morning Herald* 14 June 1854

**Edward** Swaysland, a young and intelligent-looking lad, belonging to the *American Lass*, was brought before the Court on the charge of absenting himself without leave. Constable Cassidy deposed that on the previous evening, about 5 o'clock, he saw the prisoner running up George-street with his head bare and his face covered with blood. Upon asking him what was the matter, the lad replied that the mate had knocked him down and threatened to kill him, and he (the prisoner) was then in the act of going to the Water Police Office to lay a complaint. In a few minutes after the captain of the vessel came up and gave the boy into custody for absenting himself without leave. Captain M'Kellar, master of the *American Lass*, deposed that about half-past 4 o'clock on the previous day he heard a noise on deck, and going up he saw the mate and the boy bleeding, and the latter kicking the former. The boy immediately made his escape, and witness followed and gave him into custody; did not know the origin of the quarrel, but believed the boy was intoxicated, an offence of which he had been guilty on several occasions lately. The bench discharged the prisoner on the ground that he had a perfect right to come to the Police Office, and make a complaint if he thought proper. His worship added that if the boy felt so disposed he was quite at liberty then to take out a summons against the mate.

This is the last report I have about Edward John Swaysland until his marriage in 1860. Now known as John, he married Eliza Lewin. Their children were:

- John Swaysland b: 1863
- Stephen Swaysland b: 25 Jan 1868
- Edward Swaysland b: 1874
- Elizabeth (Betsy) Swaysland b: 1870
- Anne Swaysland b: 1872
- Martha Swaysland b: 1880
- Thomas Swaysland b: 1885
- Charles Swaysland b: 4 Dec 1887
- Henry Swaysland b: 1893



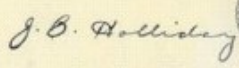
CERTIFIED COPY FURNISHED UNDER PART V OF THE  
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES ACT, 1973.

MARRIAGE REGISTERED IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.

No.	Date and place of marriage	Names and surnames of parties	Conjugal status	Birthplace	Usual occupation	Age	Usual place of residence	Father's name, mother's name and maiden surname	Father's occupation
2688	13 <sup>th</sup> November 1860 Broun Sydney	John Swaysland Eliza Lewin	Bachelor Spinster	Edinburgh England Newry Ireland	Married	21 16	Northon Sydney Northon Sydney	Joseph Swaysland Eliza Lewin	OFFICER in the Army FARMER
Married in the According to the ceremony of the Church of England					This Marriage was solemnized between us John Swaysland Eliza Lewin In the presence of us Joseph Lepp William Clark By (or before) us Samuel Lee, Officiating Minister or Registrar.				

I, JOHN BRETTLE HOLLIDAY, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF PARTICULARS RECORDED IN A REGISTER KEPT BY ME.

ISSUED AT SYDNEY, 10TH MARCH, 1980.

  
 J. B. Holliday  
 PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR.

Above: the marriage certificate of John (Edward John ) Swaysland. John advised that his father was an *officer in the army*. It is interesting to note that the information written under the headings *birthplace* and *Father's occupation*, has been entered by a different person than the person writing the original document. Was it because this information was provided later—and what can we read into this? John would not have known his father Thomas Augustus Swaysland as he died when he was only a year old. Because he had three brothers in the army at one time maybe he thought this was the case. We will never know why this entry was made.

What we do know now is that DNA has given us some answers!

## And so to DNA Testing

In December 2011, I received an email from Clive Charles Swaysland in Australia. Clive said he was off to a seminar about DNA and would let me know the outcome. True to his word, Clive got back to me with the particulars of a company called Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) in America. There are a number of organisations who perform DNA testing for genealogical purposes but FTDNA have a large data base and is growing all the time. Clive said to prove our common ancestor, we need to have a male from the family to test the Y-DNA. With both of us being very new at this DNA 'business', I asked my brother Leith to test. He was happy to oblige and we duly arranged the sample and posted it off to Texas. However, it wasn't long before Clive came back and said sorry, we actually need a Swaysland male and did I know anyone?

The only Swaysland male I had met at that point was Ivan Swaysland in the Hutt Valley. When I was writing the family history, I visited Ivan and he provided me with a lot of information for the book. I then remembered Ivan's son Michael (Mike) Swaysland. Mike had requested several books from me so I hoped that he would be interested. I should add that up until then I had never met or spoken to Mike.

So I plucked up courage and rang Mike! You can imagine how dubious it must have sounded, this strange woman ringing and asking to have his DNA tested. I could tell he was a suspicious and then it dawned on him who I was! He said "Are you the person who wrote the family history?" "Yes" I said. "Of course I will," came the reply, "mum would kill me if I didn't!" Sadly Mike's mother Shirley died in 2005. Having been an ardent genealogist, she would be right behind our DNA 'project'.

I have since met Mike when he and his wife Katrina came down from Napier and dropped in to pick up the kit I had organised for Ivan, Mike's father, to test—yes Ivan agreed to test too. We chuckled about my phone call and he said all sorts went through his mind until it dawned on him I was the person who wrote the family history.

DNA is a very complex subject and what it boils down to is at the moment there are three main tests that are carried out depending on what you want to achieve – yes an expensive hobby! But as I point out to those who ask, no more expensive than yearly golf subs and far less expensive than overseas trips. I have included the link to the FTDNA company. This will explain what DNA testing involves.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/>

**The three basic Genealogy DNA tests are:**

**Y-DNA** - can only be taken by a male and only shows the father line. Your father, his father, his father and so on. This is the test that Clive, Ivan and Mike Swaysland took to prove we had a common ancestor in Thomas Augustus Swaysland. I need to point out at this stage, Y—DNA cannot say categorically that Thomas was the exact person. To do that he would have to be living and take a paternity test. However, given the research and results it is unlikely to be someone else!

**MT-DNA** - (mitochondrial) can be taken by either men or women, is inherited from your mother but only shows your mother's line. i.e your mother, her mother, her mother and so on. It shows the early migration patterns. However the mutation is so gradual that it only shows very deep ancestry, thousands of years ago. Since you can't tell if a match is 3 generations or 23, this test is not generally useful for genealogy.











See next page for third test type.

**Autosomal DNA:** This test can be taken by either sex and potentially shows all ancestors (cousins) for up to 5 generations, and some ancestors even further back.

Having requested the **Y-DNA** results for Clive and Mike, they duly arrived and we were very pleased to see that the **Y-DNA** match was as we expected. Just to make certain, Ivan Swaysland, Mike's father also agreed to be tested. This provided the conclusive evidence we needed. *I had been vindicated; my genealogy and the family tree I had produced and the claim in my Swaysland Family History in 2008 proved to be correct.*

The below screen dump shows Ivan and Clive Swaysland's Y-DNA testing on Mike's results. The same would appear on Ivan's and Clive's. These results indicate that they share the common Ancestor.

**You may well have thought I stopped there but oh no, I now had the genealogy DNA bug—I was addicted.**

67 MARKERS - 2 MATCHES						
Steps	Name		Most Distant Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Terminal SNP	Match Date
1	 <a href="#">Mr. Ivan Richard Swaysland</a>	    Y-DNA67	Thomas Augustus Swaysland b 1797 d 1841	-		11/6/2012
3	 <a href="#">Mr. Clive Charles Swaysland</a>	    Y-DNA111	Thomas Augustus Swaysland, b. 1797 and d. 1841	R1b1a2a1a1b3c	L2	5/10/2012

Remembering that I asked my brother Leith to test first, I had not only requested the **Y-DNA** to be tested but also the **Autosomal DNA** as mentioned above. Imagine how excited Clive Swaysland and I were when the results showed that he and Leith were 'cousins'! **Our further proof that the Australian Swayslands and the New Zealand Swayslands were related! We were over the moon seeing the results!**

Of course now having become addicted, including myself, my sisters Kaye Mary Keighley, Marion Alice Gargiulo and my niece Dreenagh Maree Gargiulo all tested. Collectively we all brought in further proof of the Australian/New Zealand Swaysland relationship as indicated in the matrix below. These results are obtained by GEDmatch a site which offers comparison tools enabling you to also match against 'cousins' who have tested with other companies. In this situation, Clive Charles Swaysland's daughter Meaghan Heddle has tested with another company called 23andMe.

The matrix shows approximately how many generations we are apart.

Value shown is estimated generations to MRCA.

Kit	name	<a href="#">F223767</a>	<a href="#">F229196</a>	<a href="#">F256657</a>	<a href="#">F243574</a>	<a href="#">F248181</a>	<a href="#">F255298</a>	<a href="#">F230699</a>	<a href="#">F223609</a>	<a href="#">M195349</a>
<a href="#">F223767</a>	Leith Alan Kelly		1.2	1.2	1.6	1.3	3.3	4.6	4.0	5.1
<a href="#">F229196</a>	Janet Edith Kelly	1.2		1.2	1.5	1.2	3.4	6.9	6.6	
<a href="#">F256657</a>	Marion Alice Gargiulo	1.2	1.2		1.0	1.1	3.3	4.5	6.8	
<a href="#">F243574</a>	Dreenagh Maree Gargiulo	1.6	1.5	1.0		1.3	3.9	6.7	6.5	
<a href="#">F248181</a>	Kaye Mary Keighley	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3		3.3	6.8	6.1	7.1
<a href="#">F255298</a>	Ivan Richard Swaysland	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.9	3.3		1.0	6.5	7.7
<a href="#">F230699</a>	Michael Evan Swaysland	4.6	6.9	4.5	6.7	6.8	1.0		7.0	
<a href="#">F223609</a>	Clive Charles Swaysland	4.0	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.1	6.5	7.0		1.0
<a href="#">M195349</a>	Meaghan Heddle	5.1				7.1	7.7		1.0	

The above matrix also illustrates how random DNA can be. While we receive 50% DNA from each parent, 25% from a grandparent, 12.5% from a great grandparent and so on, it is not an exact science. This matrix illustrates that I did not get as much Swaysland DNA as my brother Leith or sister Marion but I will have more DNA from one of my many other ancestors than they do. Just one of the intrigues of DNA!

To date 20 relatives have been happy to be involved in my genealogy with DNA. It is all a work in progress as more people throughout the world test and are matched on your results and you theirs.

If you can imagine; everyone who tests has a list of 'cousins' on their results. These likeminded genealogist, have tested for the same reason as I have and are related through our ancestors (yes you too if you are reading this in NZ) who emigrated from Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland to America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The fun of the DNA matching is to share your information and working out how you are related. It can be intriguing and not always straight forward as there are many NPEs the DNA genealogical term for Non Paternal Events – every family has them!

There is a special group set up to help adoptees find their birth parents and there have been many success stories.

When registering for the testing, you also provide the family names that you know are in your family tree and also your email address to be contacted. I have made contact with many 'cousins' as we work through our family trees to find out exactly how we are related.

DNA testing for genealogy is an intriguing hobby. Not only does it help fill those gaps in your family tree, you can't help but learn about genetics. You have to be a bit of a sales person so that you can sell the idea of testing to your relatives, and if you ever fancied yourself as being a detective, this is the next best thing.

If you are inspired to understand more about DNA and genealogy, there are many websites on the Internet, just search on the words DNA Genealogy. **I can thoroughly recommend it!**

