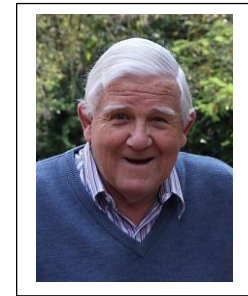
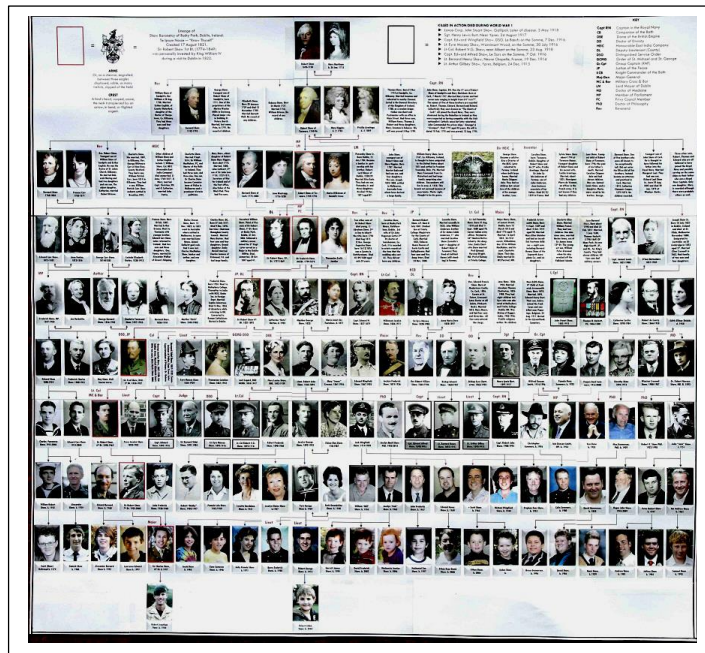


George Shaw's presentation 16/4/2016

George Shaw gave a fascinating insight into his 40 year's research into his family history to the Johannesburg Branch of the GSSA for their April 2016 meeting. George's approach to genealogy is not just lists of names, places and dates. Rather it is to collect documents and photographs and other items from the period, making up a detailed story of what was going on at the time

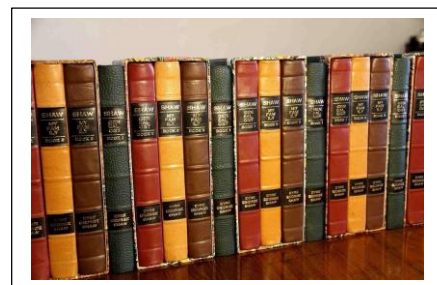


He started with a pictorial chart of his family tree covering 10 generations, discussing the more famous ones, including the playwright George Bernard Shaw.



He then went on to describe his research techniques and had a variety of case studies to illustrate how he had overcome "brickwalls" often taking years and sometimes solved by a chance remark.

Rather than using software like Legacy, he preferred to create Word documents which he found more convenient to assemble the multitude of facts and artefacts he had found. This led to a new problem – how to publish his discoveries. To this end he taught himself book binding, bringing with him a set of his achievements.



The grand finale of his presentation was showing a collage he had made based on relatives who died in World War I, complete with medals and citations. This included George's going to the National Archives at Kew and buying the regimental diaries and reading up on what the regiments or battalions were doing in the weeks and days preceding the deaths of the individual Shaws so that he could put it all into an accurate and proper context.

