

Warning Warning: Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common Family History Mistakes

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www.shaunahicks.com.au/shhe-genie-rambles/

Diary of an Australian Genealogist

<http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com/>



Introduction

- ◆ Understanding the golden rules
- ◆ Ignoring golden rules
- ◆ Creating brick walls
- ◆ Breaking down brick walls



Golden Rule No 1

- ◆ Always work backwards from the known (yourself) to the unknown (forebears)
- ◆ Do you really know your parents, grandparents, other relatives?
- ◆ Are there any surprises out there?



Golden Rule No 2

- ◆ Never believe everything on a birth, death or marriage certificate
- ◆ Information is only as good as informant's knowledge
- ◆ Birth & Marriage certificates perhaps more reliable than Death certificates



BIRTH

B 55253

MARRIAGE

A 49690

BIRTH in the District of **BRISBANE** in the State of Queensland,

1934 Registered by **George Porter** Registrar-General

Marginal notes (if any)	Column	
	1 Number	43401
CHILD.		
	2 When and where born	10 July 1934 Lady Bowen Hospital
	3 Name	Mervyn John
	4 Sex	Male
PARENTS.		
Father—		
	5 1. Name and surname of father	John Martin GUNDERSON
	2. Profession, trade or occupation	Labourer
	3. Age. 4. Birthplace	25 years Brisbane Queensland
	6 1. When and where married	3 February 1934 Brisbane Queensland
	2. Issue—living and deceased	Living years Deceased
Mother—		
	7 1. Name and maiden surname of mother	Kathleen May formerly Carnegie
	2. Age. 3. Birthplace	23 years Brisbane Queensland
INFORMANT.		
	8 Signature, description, and residence of informant	Certified in writing by K.M. Gunderson, Mother, 186 Juliette Street, Greenslopes
WITNESSES.		
	9 1. Medical attendant	Nurse Brown
	2. Nurse	
	3. Other witness to birth	
REGISTRAR.		
	10 1. Signature of Registrar	G. Porter
	2. Date. 3. Place of registration	16 July 1934 Brisbane
	11 Name, added after registration of birth	

I, **Harold William Tesch**, Registrar-General,

do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an entry in a register of births kept in the General Registry Office, Brisbane, and I further certify that I am a person duly authorised by law to issue such certificate.

Extracted on 19 May 1977

HW Tesch
Registrar-General.

MARRIAGE solemnised in the District of **BRISBANE** in the State of Queensland,

19 06 Registered by **Thornhill Weedon** Registrar-General

Marginal Notes (if any)	Column		
	1 Number	4746	
	2 When and where married	11 July 1906	Brisbane
	3 Name and surname	Bridegroom James CARNEGIE	Bride Mary FINN
	4 Condition	Bachelor	Spinster
	5 Birthplace	Brisbane Stanley Queensland	Nambour Canning Queensland
	6 Profession, trade or occupation	Seaman	
	7 Age	25 years	20 years
	8 Usual place of residence	Brisbane	Bowen Terrace Brisbane
	Parents—		
	9 Father's name and surname. Mother's name and maiden surname	John Carnegie Ellen Stratton	John Finn Sarah Fegan
	10 Father's rank or profession	Sailor	Laborer

Married at **Dora, Gotha Street Brisbane** This marriage was solemnised between us)
J. Carnegie
Mary Finn

according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church In the presence of us)
Thos.M. Cronin
Rosie Finn

Date of registration 14 July 1906

By me **James B. Breen**
Officiating Minister or Registrar

SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR

I, **Harold William Tesch**

Registrar-General, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an entry in a Register of Marriages kept in the General Registry Office, Brisbane, and I further certify that I am a person duly authorised by law to issue such certificate.

Extracted on 28 July 1977

Exd. by *HW Tesch*

CAUTION.—Whoever shall unlawfully alter any certified copy or otherwise, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment by law provided in that behalf. (Vide Sec 100 of the Criminal Code, 1917.)

CAUTION.—Whoever shall unlawfully alter any certified copy or otherwise, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment by law provided in that behalf. (Vide Sec 100 of the Criminal Code, 1917.)

Golden Rules No 3 & No 4

- ◆ Never completely trust the spelling of surnames, place names etc
- ◆ Always check surname variants when researching
- ◆ Possibly the most common reason why ancestors can't be found



Name Variations

- ◆ Both given and surnames
- ◆ Nicknames
- ◆ Unusual names
- ◆ Aliases
- ◆ Maiden names for children's birth entries



Spelling Variations

- ◆ People were illiterate
- ◆ Difficulties with accents
- ◆ Indexing errors
 - Poor handwriting
 - Old styles of writing
 - Judy Webster – *Using and Compiling Indexes*
 - www.judywebster.gil.com.au/methods.html



Anglicised & Foreign Names

- ◆ Both given and surnames
- ◆ Can be any non English speaking culture
 - European or Chinese common in Australia
- ◆ Chinese look under A for Ah – but also check under the other initial – not consistent



Golden Rule Nos 5 & 6

- ◆ Always have at least two separate sources of proof for each event
- ◆ Remember that everything is only speculation until verified



Citing Your Sources

- ◆ Record in detail where you find information – original records, published information & websites
- ◆ Cite it clearly so that others can also find it, either now or in the future
- ◆ You won't remember where in a few years/decades time

Golden Rule No 7

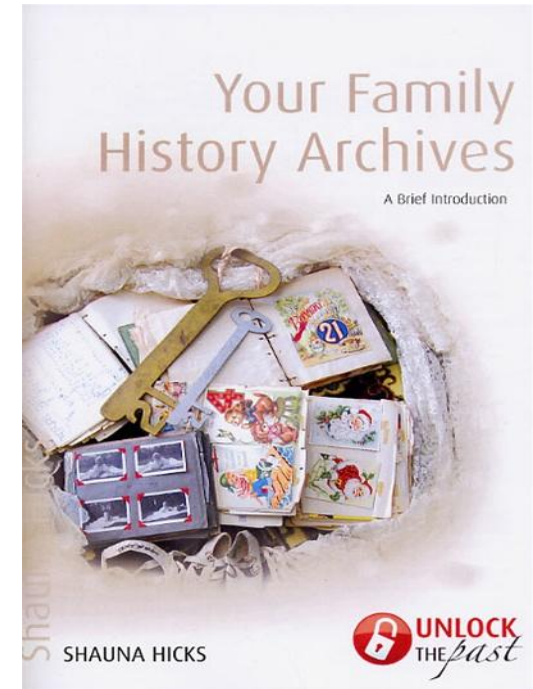
- ◆ Always photocopy or digitise certificates and important documents and leave the originals in a safe place
- ◆ Multiple copies means greater safety for your research



Back Up Your Family History

- ◆ Paper
- ◆ Photographs
- ◆ Memorabilia
- ◆ Digital
- ◆ Personal Continuity Planning

www.rimpa.com.au/assets/2011/01/Personal-Continuity-Plan.pdf



Shauna Hicks
History Enterprises

PERSONAL CONTINUITY PLAN

for Household/Personal Records

This document is intended as a guide for the maintenance and protection of personal records in the prevention of, or reduction in loss of important information should a disaster occur. It is intended for use by members of the general public regardless of record keeping experience.

There are many personal documents that can be considered important. A checklist has been provided for your convenience containing documents which are essential and documents which are important but not essential. Further to this are a number of suggestions for storing your personal records, these suggestions range in complexity and cost and it is up to the individual to choose the method which will best suit them and their personal situation, however in all cases some commitment is required to maintain the records to ensure you have current and complete documentation stored.

Personal Records Checklist

IDENTITY RECORDS

Copies (photocopy or scanned image) of these records will not be valid but will at least contain all of the necessary information to obtain replacements.

- Birth Certificates for each family member
- Marriage Certificate
- Certificate of Divorce
- Death Certificates
- Drivers Licences for each family member
- Passports for each family member

FAMILY RECORDS

Essential

- Insurance Policies
 - Vehicle/s – Cars, Boat, Caravan, etc
 - Personal liability
 - Property – House and House Contents
 - Specific Property eg Jewellery, Equipment
 - Life
 - Health
- Health Records or Physicians' names and addresses who have records of each family member.
- Licenses to practice
- Family Court documents eg custody arrangements, etc

PROPERTY RECORDS

Essential

- Contract or Lease for current Domicile (if renting)
- Titles for any property/ies owned
- Vehicle - Certificate of title and bills of sale, proof of registration

Non Essential

- Guarantees and warranties - Provides proof of date of purchase to determine service and parts guaranteed
- Household inventories - For insurable items, maintain an up-to-date list. Record item, cost and date of purchase or sale

Storage Suggestions for Safe Keeping of Family Information & Records

It is highly recommended that in every suggested scenario below a list of enclosed documents is included which specifies every document that should be in the box, folder, CD, etc. Particularly in the case of the archive box or concertina file should a document have been removed eg your son's birth certificate when he applied for his driver's license, and not replaced you will at least know that it is missing because a note was made of it on the list.

SCANNING

Essential records could be scanned and saved on a CD or DVD. With the exception of Identity Records in most cases an electronic copy is sufficient for proof. If you do not own a scanner there are companies who will scan your information for you for a reasonably low cost.

Make a couple of copies and keep them in separate locations for example keep one at home in a location that allows it to be grabbed quickly in an emergency and then another copy in one of the following:

1. Ask a trusted friend or relative to store one
2. Keep one in a safety deposit box
3. Keep a copy securely at work

SECURE BANK SERVICES

Essential records could be stored, for an annual fee, in a bank using a Safe Custody Service (packet storage) or in a Safe Deposit Box.

HARDCOPY RECORDS STORAGE

A simple and relatively inexpensive solution is to store your records at home in a safer way, such as:

- Keep important records together
- Store them in a custom polypropylene archive box (water resistant, mould retardant and being poly-propylene do not give off a toxic gas as the plastic breaks down which in turn damages the records)
- Store the archive box in a location which is within the main home, at least one metre (3 feet) off of the ground and can be easily accessed during an emergency evacuation of your home

Golden Rule No 8

- ◆ If a document exists, read it!
- ◆ So obvious, yet people miss vital clues eg witnesses, addresses
- ◆ Re read later as it may mean more when you know more



Golden Rule No 9

- ◆ Join at least one family history group, genealogical society or historical society
- ◆ Either near where you live or where your ancestors lived
- ◆ Why – many benefits of membership



Membership of Societies

- ◆ Many benefits
 - Access to a library/ subscription databases
 - Knowledgeable volunteers/ members
 - Regular meetings, guest speakers
 - Seminars, workshops, conferences
 - Newsletter/journal
 - Website



TOOWOOMBA AND DARLING DOWNS FAMILY HISTORY NEWS

FAMILY HISTORY NEWS AND NOTES FROM TOOWOOMBA AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

WELCOME

Welcome to the News Website of the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society.
We will be posting regular updates of Society News and other Local Family History items.
Check down the left hand side of the page for links to some great Society resources and past news items.

OUR UNIDENTIFIED PHOTOS GALLERY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011

New Photo Album



TDDFHS UNIDENTIFIED PHOTOS

OUR LIBRARY HOLDINGS

[Members Mailing List](#)

[TDDFHS Main Website](#)



<http://tddfhs.blogspot.com/>

Toowoomba Aug 2011

Shauna Hicks
History Enterprises

Golden Rule No10

- ◆ Share your information and documentation (copies only) with other researchers
- ◆ Ensures your research is not lost or forgotten
- ◆ Who inherits your family history research?



Your Family History Archives

A Brief Introduction



SHAUNA HICKS

Family Tree Tips

WRITING INTERESTING

FAMILY HISTORIES



CAROL BAXTER

HOW TO write and PUBLISH YOUR family STORY

in 10 easy steps

Noeline Kyle



Writing & Publishing Your Family History

a labour of love



Leslie Berry
LESLE BERRY



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Articles and free downloads:

[Writing Family History Made Easy - Tips](#)

[Women & Emigration to NSW](#)

[Her Natural Destiny Leaflet finding women in Education Records](#)

[Mad Aunts, Illegitimate Children and Royal Bloodlines! Family, Women and History in 2008](#)

[The Songs My Father Sang to Me: Irish influences on the life and music of Slim Dusty](#)

[Strategies to get you started](#)

[Checklist for editing](#)

Check out the ancestry.com library for relevant articles-

<http://www.ancestry.com/learn/>

[Researching Nurses, Midwives and Health Professionals in NSW Records](#)



Check [Writing Centre Websites](#) and Adult Education Courses for programs/courses on writing, editing, publishing and computing

www.writingfamilyhistory.com.au

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What Are Brick Walls?

- ◆ Where you can't proceed
- ◆ Missing the information
- ◆ Information isn't there
- ◆ Someone disappears
- ◆ Someone just appears
- ◆ Anything that stops you progressing



Skeletons in the Family

- ◆ Everyone has them
- ◆ Places to look
 - Court of Petty Session records
 - Gaols and prisons
 - Asylums and hospitals
 - Insolvency and bankruptcy
 - Inquests (suicides, murders)



Demolishing Brick Walls

- ◆ Advertise your brick wall
 - Family history newsletter, journal
 - Listserv, forums
 - Nings, websites, blogs
 - Talk to others
- ◆ Explore collateral lines
 - Photos and other family memorabilia



New Indexes, Databases

- ◆ How to find out and keep up with new info
- ◆ Social media – Facebook, Twitter
- ◆ Listservs, forums, blogs, RSS
- ◆ Family history/genealogy societies journals and newsletters
- ◆ Google



Online Australian Resources

- ◆ FindMyPast Australasia
 - <http://www.findmypast.com.au>
- ◆ Ancestry.com
 - <http://www.ancestry.com.au/>
- ◆ TROVE
 - <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>



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www.findmypast.com.au

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90,355,724 PEOPLE ADDED TO FAMILY TREES
248,336 FAMILY STORIES SUBMITTED

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3,082 comments added this month

36 works merged or split this month

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News

It's NAIDOC Week 3 8 July

Get in the mood for a bushwalk

The Miles Franklin Literary Award 2011

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Books 	Pictures, photos, objects 	Music, sound and video 	Maps 
Diaries, letters, Archives 	Archived websites (1996 - now) 	People and organisations 	Lists 

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

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Toowoomba Aug 2011

Library news

Winter Tales

Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann MP will be the next speaker in the National Library's Winter Tales series.
-- posted on: 12 July 2011

Australian photography in focus

Hear Harold White Fellow Dr Martyn Jolly talk about the Photograph on the Page: Australian Photography as it was Reproduced in Print from the 1950s to the 1970s, on 26 July.
-- posted on: 12 July 2011

Read All About It - last weeks

The popular Read All About It: Australian Newspapers 1803-1954 display closes soon.
-- posted on: 12 July 2011

Behind the Scenes tours

Take a tour and see a side of the Library most visitors never experience.



Explore our digital collections

Access more than 160,000 collection items including pictures, maps, books, journals, printed music, manuscripts and oral histories.

Bookshop

For Australian writing & gifts

What's on

Fri 3 December 2010 – Sun 31 July 2011
[Read all about it!](#)

Fri 15 July 2011 – Fri 15 July 2011
Reader education - Getting started @ the National Library

Using the library

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[Ask a librarian](#)

[Frequently asked questions](#)

[Subject guides](#)

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eResources

Find indexes, databases and full-text e-journals

Discover Australia's collections

 **Trove**
Explore Australian collections and worldwide online sources

 **Picture Australia**
Images of Australiana

 **PANDORA**
Australia's web archive

 **Music Australia**
Australia's Music: Online, In Time

 **Australia Dancing**
Australian dance resources directory

 **Australian Newspapers**

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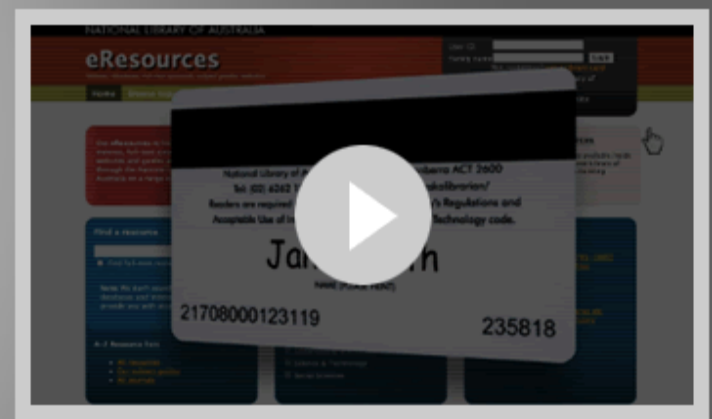
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- Home
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- A-Z Resource lists
- Feedback
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Watch our screencast



Use eResources to locate indexes, full-text ejournals, websites and guides available through the National Library of Australia on a range of topics.

Freely available resources



Websites freely available to anyone over the Internet

Licensed resources



Databases available by logging in with your library card

Onsite resources



Resources available inside the National Library of Australia building

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources/

Find a resource

Go!

Find full-text resources only

Note: We don't search within the external databases and indexes for you, but we do provide you with access.

A-Z Resource lists

- [All resources](#)
- [Our subject guides](#)
- [All journals](#)

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- Arts & Humanities
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- Communications & Media
- Encyclopedias & Dictionaries
- Genealogy
- Law & Politics
- Librarianship & Archives
- Science & Technology
- Social Sciences

Featured resources

-  [Mobile Access to eResources](#)
-  [Irish newspaper archives](#)

Popular topic categories

- [Encyclopaedias, Dictionaries etc](#)
- [Genealogy and Family History](#)


Browse category

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- Genealogy
 - Genealogy (ACT)
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 - Genealogy (NT)
 - Genealogy (NZ)
 - Genealogy (O/seas)
 - Genealogy (QLD)
 - Genealogy (SA)
 - Genealogy (Tas)
 - Genealogy (Vic)
 - Genealogy (WA)
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- Social Sciences


155 resources found

Displaying page [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) ... [16](#)


1.  [Old Register: one to nine: the registers of assignments and other legal instruments \(NSW\)](#)

 State Records NSW: This is a new Index to the nine old Registers created to record land transactions, and much more, in New South Wales between 1802 and 1824. The Index has been compiled from copies of the original nine Registers in the custody of the Registrar General and includes many previously unindexed entries. The "Old Register" was transferred from the Department of Lands to State Records NSW in 2008. They form the series NRS 5604, Register of Assignments and other Legal Instruments, 6 March 1802-15 May 1824


2.  [Free passengers to NSW 1826-1837](#)

 Society of Australian Genealogists: Contains a searchable database of 36,000 names of free passengers, crews & military arriving by passenger, merchant or whaling vessels to New South Wales between 1826 and 1837.


3.  [Index to Colonial movements 1827-1853](#)

 Descendants of Convicts' Group, Inc: Index to approximately 10,000 convict movements in the Colony of New South Wales (covering present day New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania and Victoria. Entries comprise convict's names or alias, the date of the movement, and the place from which the convict was moved.


Our subject guides

 ["Cemetery records: print resources"](#)

The National Library has a large collection of cemetery records for regions throughout Australia.

 ["Australian family history and genealogy: selected websites"](#)

This resource contains links to a variety of information relating to family history and genealogy including guides, indexes and digitised images of documents. It also provides links to other informative sites and contact with other family historians via indexed family trees, mailing lists and bulletin boards.

 ["Australian birth, marriage and death records at the National Library of Australia"](#)

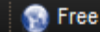
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Resource item view

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Times Digital Archive [1785-1985]

Type	website
Publisher	Gale Group
Description	The Times Digital Archive has millions of articles from the London Times. The entire newspaper is captured, with all articles, advertisements and illustrations/photos divided into categories to facilitate searching.
Coverage	1785-1985
keywords	Engl, , English, United Kingdom, UK, Newspapers, Times London

How do I access this resource?

Access to this resource is restricted to National Library of Australia registered users and/or users located in the NLA building. If you have a library card, try logging in. How do I [get a library card?](#)

Brick Wall Inspiration

◆ Blogs

■ Brick Wall Solutions (*Unlock the Past*)

- <http://www.unlockthepast.com.au/blog/category/brick-wall-solutions>

◆ Nings

■ Genealogy Wise

- <http://www.genealogywise.com/>

■ Looking 4 Kin

- <http://looking4kin.ning.com/>



Hit a Brick Wall?

When all else fails . . . here are ideas for a few things to keep you busy while you look for the next research avenue to follow.

Related Categories

- [Chat & IRC](#)
- [Female Ancestors](#)
- [Handy Online Starting Points](#)
- [Magazines, Journals, Columns & Newsletters](#)
- [Newspapers](#)
- [ROOTS-L & RootsWeb](#)
- [Societies & Groups](#)
- [Surnames, Family Associations & Family Newsletters](#)
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[Enter for a chance to win \\$20,000 Ultimate Family History Journey™](#)

- [500 Brickwall Solutions to Genealogy Problems](#)
A book by the Publishers of Family Chronicle Magazine.
- [About.com Genealogy - Brick Walls - How to Get Through Them](#)
- [Ancestry.com - Learning Center - Learn More](#)
Thousands of FREE, searchable how-to articles from Ancestry.com publications such as Ancestry Magazine, the Ancestry Weekly Discovery and the Ancestry Monthly Update.
 - [Explaining Your Brick Walls Can Bring Them Down](#)
 - [Finding Your Own Genealogical Muse](#)
Article by Drew Smith.
 - [Follow Every Thread](#)
 - [A Fresh Start on an Old Problem](#)
Article by Juliana Smith.

www.cyndislist.com/



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Brick Wall Strategies for Dead-End Family Trees

By Kimberly Powell, About.com Guide

Free Genealogy Newsletter!

[Discuss](#) in my Forum

Filed In: [Begin a Family Tree](#) > [Basics & How To](#)

When it comes to family trees things are rarely straightforward. Families often disappear between one census and the next; records are lost or destroyed through mishandling, fire, war and flood; and sometimes the facts you do find just don't make sense. When your family history research hits a dead-end, organize your facts and try one of these popular brick wall busting tactics.

Review What You Already Have

I know. It seems basic. But I can't stress enough how many brick walls are breached with information that the researcher already had tucked away in files, boxes or computer disks. Information that you found a few years ago may include names, dates or other details that now provide clues given new facts that you've since uncovered. Organizing your files and reviewing your facts may uncover just the clue you're looking for.

Sponsored Links

[Free Genealogy](#)

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and see what you can do.
One environment. One simple way to care for it.®

<http://genealogy.about.com/>

RECENT BLOG POSTS

- What English counties do you have research in... - 21 Jun
 - Unlock the Past NSW Expo (Coffs Harbour) Phot... - 10 Jun
 - Why you shouldn't miss an Unlock the Pas... - 10 Jun
 - Calling all Genealogy, History & Heritage... - 27 May
 - [video] History & Genealogy Cruise - Marc... - 20 May
 - What Welsh counties do you have research inte... - 19 May
 - What Scottish counties do you have research i... - 5 Apr
- [more...](#)

HISTORY, GENEALOGY AND HERITAGE EVENTS

- 16 Jul - Customised Heritage Tours - Ireland July... - OS
 - 19 Jul - Yesterday's News - NSW
 - 19 Jul - Advanced ArchivesSearch - Qld
 - 20 Jul - Colonial Secretary - Family Historian... - NSW
 - 22 Jul - Unlock the Past South Australia &... - Vic
 - 23 Jul - Death records and family history research... - NSW
 - 24 Jul - Toowong (Brisbane General) Cemetery 140th... - Qld
- [more...](#)

COMING UNLOCK THE PAST EVENTS

- SA & Vic Border Expo (Mt Gambier) - Jul 2011
- Victorian Expo (Geelong) - Sep 2011
- Scottish & Irish Theme Cruise - Nov 2011
- War Comes to Australia Tour - Feb 2012



Brick Wall Solutions

SEARCH FOR HENRY SPENCER ENDS

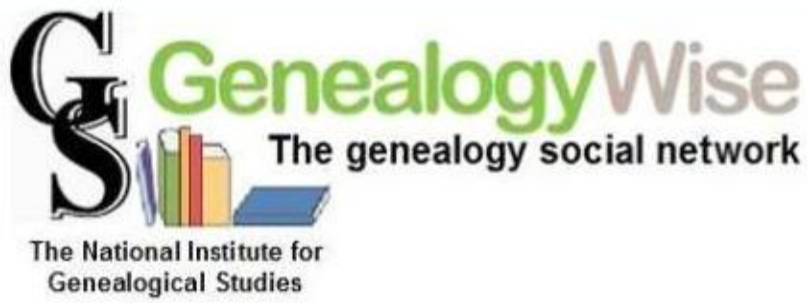
Posted 7 Sep 2010

My partner Max's grandfather was a real mystery man. Unfortunately Max's father knew very little about his father so we only had vague family stories to follow.

What we did know was that Max's grandfather, Henry Spencer was from West Bromwich in Staffordshire and it was relatively easy to identify him and his parents and siblings in English census records and to trace them further back. Where we had a brick wall was how and when Henry came to Australia and where he died.

[Shauna Hicks's blog](#) [3 comments](#) [Read more](#)



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Brick Walls we all have them

Created by [Carmel M Reynen](#)

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Information



who has pulled down a brick wall and how was this done/ Who has hit a brick wall?

Members: 170

Latest Activity: Apr 26

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Members (169)



Discussion Forum

www.genealogywise.com

Toowoomba Aug 2011

Shauna Hicks
History Enterprises

Comment Wall

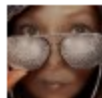
Comment

You need to be a member of Brick Walls we all have them to add comments!



Comment by [Carmel M Reynen](#) on April 9, 2011 at 8:26pm

I have had a number of brick walls and still have many more by if you are wanting to see what I have used in the past try looking at my blog <http://myfamilyhunt.blogspot.com/>



Comment by [beverley folckemer](#) on April 9, 2011 at 7:36pm

My brick wall is James(john) thompson married to hannah parker dec 3 1772 in philidelphia pa may have lived in essex nj at time of death his son william john thompson(spelled his name without the p)he was born after his fathers death and raised by his step father issac doney)born 1777 manalapin twp new jersey died in nobel county ohio is my grandfather looking for a death certificate for james or any info on james and his children



Comment by [Randy Majors](#) on December 15, 2010 at 9:23pm

I have recently solved a long-time brick wall in my family tree. I broke it using clues from conversations, theories, some interesting search techniques, and sealed the deal with DNA testing.

Hopefully my approach to it can give others some ideas to try.

I've written a narrative of it at <http://randymajors.com>



Comment by [Spirit Baker](#) on November 18, 2010 at 4:51pm

Shirley, I have found Richard F Hunt
Fremont Cemetery
Bancroft
Shiawassee County
Michigan, USA

[http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=qr&GSln=Hunt&...;](http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=qr&GSln=Hunt&...)

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LOOKING 4 KIN GENEALOGY & FAMILY HISTORY NETWORK & CHAT

HELPING HANDS HELPING ONE ANOTHER WITH OUR FAMILY HISTORY & GENEALOGY RESEARCH.



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GENEALOGY CHAT



Please be sure you drop into
Looking 4 Kin Genealogy Chat

As a group the chatters in Looking

WELCOME TO LOOKING 4 KIN GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY NETWORK & GENEALOGY CHAT

Here you will find the genealogy links and the regional and special interest groups in which you can post your genealogy queries.

Aboriginal	England	New Zealand
Acadian	Europe	Scotland
Adoption	Home Children	United Empire Loyalists
African American	Ireland & NI	United States
Australia	Jewish Genealogy	Veterans
Brickwalls	Mennonite	Wales
Canadian	Mexico	Thank You
Channel Islands	Newspapers	

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Looking 4 Kin Genealogy &
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Do you plan on subscribing to a pay site?

The following sites pay small commissions that go towards the costs of running the site and chatroom. If you plan on subscribing or renewing with one of them please do so from a link here

www.looking4kin.com/

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Serendipity

- ◆ According to the Oxford Dictionary, the definition of serendipity is ‘the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy and beneficial way’.
- ◆ In other words, a fluke, luck
- ◆ Search every index/database – you just never know



Case Study – Helen Carnegie

- ◆ The whole story is in the Brick Wall Solutions blog – my search over 32 years
- ◆ The answer was in a 5 minute search of *World Connect*
- ◆ But how many people use it?



RETURN OF PRISONERS TO BE DISCHARGED FROM HIS MAJESTY'S PRISON, ROCKHAMPTON, DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1904.


Name.	Where Tried.	Date of Discharge.	Offence.	Date of Sentence.	Sentence.	Native of	Age.	stature.	Make.	Complexion.	COLOUR OF		WEIGHT.		Previous Convictions.	Remarks.
											Hair.	Eyes.	On Admission.	At time of sending in this return.		
Charles Anderson ...	Rockhampton	1904. 1 Aug.	Breach of the Railway By-laws	1904. 2 July	1 month's imprisonment or £1 8s. 3d. fine and fare	America ...	25	5 6½	Slight ...	Black	Black	Black	St. lb. 9 6	St. lb. 10 5	...	Vaccination-mark right arm; Ame
Ellen Chick, alias Ferguson	Barcaldine ...	6 ,, ...	Vagrancy ...	7 May	3 months' hard labour ...	Scotland ...	42	5 5	Stout ...	Fresh	Dark-brown	Brown	9 4	9 5½	...	Cataract on both eyes.
Catherine Kelly ...	Rockhampton	10 ,, ...	Drunkenness and obscene language	11 April	2 months' imprisonment or £2 fine on each charge (cumulative)	Ireland ...	37	5 0½	Medium	ditto	Auburn	Blue	9 0	8 8½	10	Scar left shin; tattooed ring on right hand.
Thomas Ees ...	Longreach ...	13 ,, ...	Indecent exposure ...	14 June	2 months' hard labour or £4 ls. 11d. fine and costs	Queensland	36	5 6½	ditto ...	ditto	Dark	Grey	10 2	10 5	15	Left arm broken and deformed—two fingers; two scars left at scar on top of left hip; anch arm; slight blue scar right eye Scar under right knee.
Eugene Forrest ...	Rockhampton	25 ,, ...	Stealing from the person ...	26 Feb.	6 months' hard labour ...	ditto ...	22	5 5½	ditto ...	ditto	Sandy	Hazel	9 1	10 3	...	Scar on back of head; scar over right temple.
John Barber, alias John Edward Barber	ditto ...	26 ,, ...	Unlawful destruction of property	27 June	2 months' hard labour ...	Victoria ...	39	5 11½	ditto ...	ditto	Dark	Brown	10 12½	11 7½	15	Scar on back of head; scar over right temple.

QLD Police Gazette 1904

Now open but previously closed.

Looked for death of Helen Chick in the QLD BDMs online, found reference and purchased death certificate. Gave reference to second husband Charles Wadmore Chick and it was him I was looking for when I searched WorldConnect – his unusual names.

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SEARCH MILLIONS OF ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS 

Search RootsWeb.com
First Name Last Name [By Keyword](#)

Search Ancestry.com
First Name Last Name [Advanced](#)


OVER 70 MILLION SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Getting Started

- [Getting Started at RootsWeb](#)
- [Ancestry Tour](#)
- [RootsWeb's Guide To Tracing Family Trees](#)
- [RootsWeb Review Archives](#) | [Subscribe](#)
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Search Engines and Databases

- [RootsWeb Surname List/RSL](#) (Surname Listings)
- [MetaSearch](#) (Multiple Databases and Files)
- [Social Security Death Index](#) (Deaths)
- [U. S. Town/County Database](#) (Locations)
- [WorldConnect Project](#) (Family Trees)
- [Index of All Search Engines and Databases](#)

Websites

- [Websites at RootsWeb](#)
- [Websites on RootsWeb's Freepages](#)
- [Requests for Web Space](#)

Other Tools and Resources

- [ROOTS-L Library](#) | [State Resources](#)
- [RootsLink URL Registry](#) | [Add A Link](#)
- [Blank Charts and Forms](#)
- [RootsWeb Graphics](#)
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Volunteering at RootsWeb

- [How to Volunteer](#)


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Search Millions of Original Source Documents

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- [Find a List Search](#)
- [Index](#) (Browse All Lists)
- [ROOTS-L Mailing List](#)
- [Surname List Finder](#)
- [Archives Search](#)
- [Archives Browse](#)
- [Requests for Mailing Lists](#) (New or Adoptable)

SEARCH MILLIONS OF ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS * [footnote.com](#)

Search Family Trees at WorldConnect

[Advanced Search](#)

More than **640 million** names on file

Surname
 Given Name

or -- jump to a specific database

Database

Submit Your Family Tree To WorldConnect

[Start Here](#)

[Also, go here to update or correct
your existing Family Tree](#)

[Click here](#) to access the old standard and advanced
tree upload and edit tools

[FAQs and HELP](#)

- [WorldConnect FAQs](#)
- [What is a GEDCOM?](#)
- [How to use WorldConnect](#)
- [Protecting the privacy of living relatives](#)
- [Contacting family tree submitter](#)

<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>




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Names: 607,286,062 Surnames: 5,269,405 Databases: 426,339

Nothing found matching your search criteria

Surname	<input type="text" value="carnegie"/>	Exact <input type="button" value="v"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>
Given Name	<input type="text" value="helen"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> omit living	Mother	<input type="text"/>
Birth Place	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> omit blanks	Spouse	<input type="text" value="alexander miller ferguso"/>
Birth Year	<input type="text"/>	Exact <input type="button" value="v"/>	Skip Database	<input type="text"/>
Death Place	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> omit blanks	Updated Within	Forever <input type="button" value="v"/>
Death Year	<input type="text"/>	Exact <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Has Descendants	
Marriage Place	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> omit blanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Has Notes	
Marriage Year	<input type="text"/>	Exact <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Has Sources	
Fuzzy Search <input type="checkbox"/> (uses soundex) <input type="button" value="Search"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>				

Results 1-1 of 1

Name	Birth/Christening		Death/Burial		Database	Order record?	Other Matches
	Date	Place	Date	Place			
CARNEGIE, Helen	1862		23 DEC 1946	Brisbane, Qld - Reg: - 1946/BOO9756	kenalice2		Census Newspapers Histories
  	Father: John CARNEGIE Mother: Helen STRATTON Spouses: Charles Wadmore CHICK , Alexander Miller FERGUSON						

Further Sources

- ◆ SHHE – Resources - Presentations
 - <http://www.shaunahicks.com.au/resources/>
 - Asylum Records
 - Behind Bars: Convicts & Criminals
 - Google Your Family Tree: Tips & Tricks
 - Online Trends in Family History



Conclusion

- ◆ Follow the golden rules
- ◆ Brick walls can be demolished
- ◆ Need time, perseverance, luck
- ◆ Keep rechecking new sources
- ◆ Share your story
- ◆ Don't give up!

