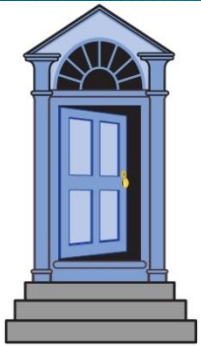


Sources for Identifying Photographs

Shauna Hicks

www.shaunahicks.com.au



Introduction

- ▶ Background
- ▶ Dating by
 - Type of photograph
 - Photographer & studio backgrounds
 - Costume
 - Family members
 - What's in the Background
- ▶ Caring for photographs
- ▶ Picasa, facial recognition, tagging,
- ▶ Further reading



FORENSIC GENEALOGY



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WHAT IS FORENSIC GENEALOGY?

Forensic scientists and genealogists share the same goal—to find out who was who, and who did what and when. In explaining how to analyze photographs, to mine databases, and to use DNA analysis to reveal family history, *Forensic Genealogy* emphasizes the creative parts of an investigation over the mechanics.

[Read CNN Justice Jan 10, 2012: DNA Links 1991 Killing to Colonial Era Family](#)
=> **[Read how Colleen's Forensic Genealogy helps Kings Co. Sheriff Department with investigation of 1991 Cold Case](#)** <==



[About Colleen](#)

Colleen Fitzpatrick featured as The DNA Detective in *More Magazine*, May 2010. *A former nuclear physicist, Colleen Fitzpatrick once designed equipment for NASA to send to Jupiter. Now she scours the earth for missing persons, dead or alive.* Read [More](#).

Read Orange County Register Interviews with Colleen October 5-8, 2009 about her work on identifying Benjamin Kyle (A four part series about Forensic Genealogy.) Click [here](#).

RTE Ireland Nationwide TV interview with Colleen and other members of the team that identified the remains found in the 1948 Alaskan plane crash. Click [here](#).

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weekly photo-quiz!



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click [here](#).

See what's new on our blog!
Click [here](#).

www.forensicgenealogy.info



The Dead Horse Investigation – Update

Posted on [November 26, 2010](#)

<http://identifiers.wordpress.com>

★★★★★ 4 Votes



The Famous Sheboygan Dead Horse Picture

<http://identifiers.wordpress.com/2010/11/26/the-dead-horse-investigation-update>



What's on the Back?

- ▶ Turn the photograph over
- ▶ Check for any clues
- ▶ If names are given eg to Mum from Alice – who were they?



Types of Photographs

- ▶ Daguerreotype 1839–1860
- ▶ Ambrotype 1851–1880
- ▶ Stereograph 1854–1910
- ▶ Carte-de-visite 1857–1890
- ▶ Tintype 1852–1900
- ▶ Sennotype 1863–1865
- ▶ Cabinet 1866–1905
- ▶ Panel 1875–1920
- ▶ Opalotype 1882–1900
- ▶ Snapshot 1888–
- ▶ Postcard 1905–1940s



Dating by type of photograph

- ▶ Different types give broad date range
- ▶ Photographer's studio
- ▶ Studio backgrounds
- ▶ Online gateway sites
 - Cora Num's *Web Sites for Genealogists*
 - Cyndi's *List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet*



Studio Backgrounds

- ▶ 1860s substantial pieces of furniture, support aids, subjects seated/standing full length, neutral background, classical features eg columns and arches
- ▶ 1870s elaborate chairs often for leaning on, basic outdoor sets
- ▶ 1880s elaborate outdoor sets, oriental themes
- ▶ 1890s exotic sets, vignettes (head & shoulders), pot plants, bicycles



Photographs & Memories » Dating Photographs

18 Links

- [Ancestry.com - Clues in Military Photos](#)
Article by Maureen A. Taylor.
- [Ancestry.com - Your Female Ancestors in Photographs](#)
Article by Maureen A. Taylor.
- [Cartes de Visites](#)
U.K.
- [Date A Photograph](#)
U.K.
- [Date Old Photographs](#)
- [Dating 19th Century Card Mounted Portraits](#)
- [Dating Old Photographs](#)
Article by Halvor Moorshead.
- [Every Picture Tells a Story](#)
Article by Maureen A. Taylor.
- [Family Chronicle's Dating Old Photographs](#)
Book for sale from Family Chronicle Magazine.
- [Genealogy.com - Follow the Clues — Dating Your Photographs](#)
Article by Maureen Taylor.
- [How To Be a Photograph Detective](#)
U.K.
- [Identifying Family Photographs](#)
Monthly online column from Maureen Taylor in Family Tree Magazine.
 - » [Identifying Family Photographs - Index](#)
Past columns



www.cyndislist.com/photos

Photographs & Memories » Identifying Photographers

27 Links

- [19th Century Photographers in Ayrshire](#)
Scotland.
- [19th Century Photographers on the Isle of Man](#)
United Kingdom.
- [A List of Photographic Studios for some parts of England and Wales in the Year 1868](#)
Includes Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, & Wales.
- [A to Z List of Photographers Working in the City of Bristol, U.K. \(1852 - 1972\)](#)
England. Extracted from annual trade directories.
- [Camera Workers: British Columbia, Alaska & Yukon 1858-1950](#)
Documents photographers in British Columbia and the Alaska and Yukon territories. Useful in old photo identification.
- [Daguerreian Registry](#)
Online version of Craig's Daguerreian Registry, the acknowledged resource for collectors, dealers and historians interested in the pre-1860 period of American photographic history.
- [Dementi Studios](#)
Online searchable index of over 30,000 surnames of people who have been photographed by Dementi Studio in Richmond, Virginia since 1924.
- [Early Swansea Photography](#)
Wales. From the National Library of Wales.
- [Fargo, North Dakota Photographers](#)
- [History of Photography in Edinburgh](#)
Scotland.
 - » [Professional Photographers 1840 to 1940](#)
- [Index of UK photographers up to 1950](#)
 - » [Biographies of UK Photographers](#)



Dating by photographer

- ▶ Is there a photographer's name on the photo?
- ▶ Who was the local photographer?
 - Almanacs & directories
 - Newspapers & advertisements
 - Narrow down when photographer was in that place
- ▶ What if it's not a commercial photographer?
- ▶ Trickier!
- ▶ Where did photos come from, which family member?



Photographers

[Marcel Safier's Homepage](#) includes details of early photographers of southern Queensland; 19th century photographers of Victoria including 19th century photographers of Geelong. There are details of 19th century card photographs in Australia & New Zealand and gem and carte de visite tintypes plus other relevant information.

[Photohistory SA](#) A site dedicated to the history of South Australian photography from 1845 to around 1915 by R J Noye. Includes information on all aspects of photography including photographers, camera clubs, magic lantern, hand colouring, daguerreotypes and much more.

[Finding Photographers](#). This site offers a worldwide index of books and websites, including Australian, that list photographers and when they worked.

[Geelong & District Photographers](#) by Susie Zada. This alphabetical list records photographer, studio, location, dates, notes and links where available.

[Photographers of Great Britain & Ireland 1840-1940](#). This site records the names and addresses of tens of thousands of photographers. There are pictures of over 5,000 named sitters who could be your ancestors plus information on census and other internet based research into photographers.

www.coraweb.com.au/occsites.htm





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South Australian photographers

Many people mistakenly think that the photography process has been around for a very long time. This is of course untrue and indeed the pictures in your 19th century album are unlikely to predate the 1860s. Photography was very expensive and largely restricted to studio portraits in the early days. The advent of the Brownie camera and celluloid film in the 1890s was the dawn of home snap shots and unfortunately the end of the attributes in photographs that allow quite accurate dating of your collection.

When dating photographs there are a number of points to consider:

1. The type of photograph.
2. The mount.
3. The information on the reverse of the photograph.
4. The pose and costume of the people depicted.
5. The furnishings, foreground and background depicted in the photograph.

The reverse of photographs often contain details about the photographer and by matching the address against commercial directories we can often get a fairly precise date. Photographers in the main street usually rented premises and jockeyed for the best spots and this means they often changed address.

The following searchable database can aid your research.

Photographer's Name or place of business:

Search



www.jaunay.com/photographers.html



Catalogue and site search [More search options](#)

Need help?
Ask a question

Digital Library home > Photographers database


Photographers database

A free photographers database provided by Auckland Libraries.

 [print this page](#)

The photographers database is an index to photographers who have worked in New Zealand from the 1840s to the present day.




Subjects: [arts](#), [Auckland](#), [Auckland Libraries](#), [heritage](#), [New Zealand](#), [photography](#), [Special Collections](#)

Restrictions: 

[Search the Photographers database](#)

Sources include advertisements, newspapers, electoral rolls, published articles, and trade directories.

- Contents in Digital Library:
- Search
 - Most popular
 - A - Z listing
 - News and updates
 - Digital Library help

-  External/home access requires a library card barcode and PIN
-  Library created - No login required
-  Access from within a library only

See also:

Press Display

Read newspapers online from around the world: over 500 newspapers, in 37 languages.

Sources include advertisements, newspapers, electoral rolls, published articles, and trade directories.

Each photographer record includes:

- Name
- Studio address
- Years of operation
- Source of the information
- Remarks / comments

www.aucklandcitylibraries.com/DigitalLibrary



Mounting Boards

- ▶ What's the photograph mounted on?
 - 1860s thin white card with square corners
 - 1870s cream card with rounded corners
 - 1880s thicker coloured card with rounded corners
 - 1890s sturdy bevelled edged card with rounded corners



Dating by costume

- ▶ Men, Women, Children
 - ▶ Weddings
 - ▶ Working clothes
 - ▶ Mourning clothes
-
- ▶ The Costumer's Manifesto

www.costumes.org/history/100pages/photodating.htm



The Costumer's Manifesto—COSTUMES.ORG

by Tara Maginnis, Ph.D.

The Costumer's Manifesto is proudly hosted by OnlineCostumeStore.com
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www.costumes.org/history/100pages/photodating.htm

Links for Dating Old Family Photographs using Fashion History and styles of Photo-mounts

Google™

These links are provided so you can teach yourself to do this for yourself. Please note, the author of this site does not accept commissions to do this, paid or unpaid, so please don't email me attachments of your old photos with this sort of question.

- [Victorian and Edwardian Photos](#)
 - [Date an Old Photograph](#)
- [Dating Photos](#)
- [Old Photo Guide](#)
- [BBC History, Your Family History - Old Photographs](#)
- [19th Century Photography](#)
- [Dating Fashions in Antique Photo](#)
- [Family Chronicle - Dating old photographs](#)
- [Your Female Ancestors in Photographs](#)
- [Family Tree Magazine Features: Identifying Photos](#)

- [Costume Detective - How to Date an Old Photograph](#)
- [How to Date Old Family Photographs by the Costume Worn](#)
- [Photo Dating Calculator](#)
- [Dating Card Mounted Photographs](#)
- [Cycleback: Print and Photograph Examination and Research](#)
 - [Guide to Identifying and Dating Photographs](#)

Online Costume References

- [The Costumer's Manifesto](#) (This site)
 - [Timeline of Costume History](#)
 - [Costume History Links by Period](#)
 - [Dating Two Victorian Danish Photos](#)
- [The Costume Gallery](#)
 - [Online Photo-dating Service](#)
 - [The Costume Gallery's Research Library](#)

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- [Fashion Theory](#)
- [Free eGroup](#)
- [Free Stuff](#)
- [Halloween](#)
- [\(Costume\) History](#)
- [How-To](#)
- [Kinky Clothing](#)
- [Major Sites](#)
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- [Movie Costumes](#)
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- [Religious Dress](#)
- [Theatre History](#)
- [Travel for Costumers](#)
- [Unite!](#)
- [Vintage Clothing](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Weird Clothing](#)



Dating by family members

- ▶ Is someone known in the photo?
- ▶ Any suspects?
- ▶ Work out dates of birth, death – narrow down possibilities





Ca 1912



Family Albums

- ▶ Are there other photographs of the same person, family?
- ▶ Are photos consecutive ie from childhood through to adulthood?
- ▶ Any living family members who can help?
- ▶ Remember distant cousins may also be able to help?





Check with other family members where you can to avoid misidentifying someone!

This photo was in my grandfather's collection and because it looks like him, I had thought it was his father, my great grandfather.

After writing a blog on my family, a distant cousin contacted me and said this man was his great grandfather, the brother of my great grandfather, so I still don't have a photo of mine!



Dating by Background

- ▶ Is it a house? Other building?
- ▶ Pets?
- ▶ Working environment? A mine?
- ▶ A place, street or town scene
- ▶ Social activity eg picnic, Sunday school, sporting event etc



Picture Australia & Facebook

- ▶ For comparing places, streets
- ▶ For dating eg costumes, uniforms
- ▶ Unidentified Photos Australia – Carmel Reynen from Ballarat





- ❖ Search great cultural institutions for Australian images.
- ❖ See pictures of Australia's past and present including: photographs, objects, maps and works of art.
- ❖ Request print quality copies.

Find pictures of

search

[more search options](#)

Indigenous Australians are advised that Picture Australia may include images or names of people now deceased.



Picture Australia with a new lens

in anticipation of the full integration of Picture Australia contributions of image collections are now being made through [Trove](#).

See the [Latest News](#) link on this page for more information.

Picture trails

Flip through our [themed albums](#).



Slideshow trails Art & culture

Latest News

Major change coming!

[Picture Australia with a new lens](#)

[More news](#)

Add your images

[Upload your photos into Flickr](#) and then see them on [Trove!](#)



www.pictureaustralia.org

30 June cut off date for this URL





Advertisement for evening gowns from Allan & Stark's, 1900
State Library of Queensland



Advertisement for women's fashion at McWhirters, 1941
State Library of Queensland



Advertisement for women's felt hats from Finneys' department store, 1941
State Library of Queensland



Angleterre - it's a long way to Tipperary
State Library of Victoria



Annie Foot of Nalcoombie posing for a studio portrait, 1900-1910
State Library of Queensland



Assortment of ladies' shoes on display in a shop window, 1930-1940
State Library of Queensland



Bathing Costume - Black Lance, Blue Wool, circa 1940-1959
Museum Victoria



Bathing Costume - Edna, Liberty, Green, circa 1957
Museum Victoria



Search term - female costume





[View of country town from wide dirt street]

State Library of Victoria

Collection or
series

Hodgkinson collection.

Collection or
series

Views of Gippsland, Hobart, Sydney, Omeo, Jamieson and Bairnsdale, ca. 1880-1900.

Date or place

[ca. 1880-ca. 1900]





Unidentified photos Australia

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Carmel Reynen

Crowning ceremony at Arthurs Creek



Like · Comment · Follow Post · April 15 at 10:59am



Carmel Reynen I have a number of Photographs from my Grandmother (standing right) and we have often wondered what they were about. I am now finding newspaper articles describing these photographs! the lady standing on the left is Mary Lodge a lifetime friend of Nana's and the boy sitting to the right of Nana is her younger brother Ben. Yah for Trove!

April 15 at 11:01am · Like · 2



Colleen Jennifer Ellis Oh Carmel what a wonder you are, you amaze me with your dilligence and continual delving into the Family Tree... Amazing attire on all, love my young Dadda, Ben here.....Nana looks a lot like my niece Brianna, Peter`s grand daughter.....Yay for you!

April 15 at 11:19am · Like · 3



Carmel Reynen I have added this to Ancestry as well Colleen Jennifer Ellis

April 15 at 11:21am · Like · 1



Meryl Naismith Is this anything to do with Maypole or similar. I saw something on Antique Roadshow about crowns

April 15 at 2:45pm · Like



Carmel Reynen No it was in April and they crowned the Queen of Arthurs Creek

April 15 at 3:01pm · Like · 1



Meryl Naismith lol Thanks for clarification

April 15 at 3:59pm · Like



Erin Johnno So who is being crowned? Do we know?

May 4 at 7:59pm · Like



Carmel Reynen Name in the article but not a name I know

May 4 at 11:19pm via mobile · Like





Samantha Buckley

Does anyone think these two photos are of the same person?
I know who the old lady is but am having trouble identifying the young lady.
I think they look similar but would like your opinion.



Help with trying to identify
if older person is same as
younger person

Trying to return photo
to family members



Garry Chapman

I acquired this wonderful photo of a proud father and his two soldier sons when I bought an old picture frame in a second hand goods store over a decade ago. It is dated August 14, 1917. There is no other writing. If I could ever locate the family of these men I would happily give the photo back to them.





Roy French

Photo was taken in Roma, Queensland, late 1800s or early 1900s. The family is from Co. Armagh, Ireland. All it says on the back is "Aunt Margaret & family in Australia". Surname could be one of many.



Linda Ottery was at Bendigo, Vic.; Melbourne Vic; Adelaide SA.



Like · Comment · Follow Post · February 4 at 7:47pm

Beryl Martin likes this.



Carmel Reynen another aussie pic, there are the gum trees again

February 4 at 9:39pm · Like · 1





17858 Surnames | 107851 Records | 2200 Reunions

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Edmondson, Henry
Normanton,
QUEENSLAND



Edmondson, Hilda
Normanton, QUEENSLAND



Egan, May
Moree, NSW



Fyfe, William
Beechworth,
VICTORIA



Giles, Minnie
NSW



Heiffor-hill, Allen
Berwick,
VICTORIA



Purcell, Sr. Mary
Rockhampton,
QUEENSLAND



Reid, Lillian
Melbourne,
VICTORIA



Sadleir, John
Melbourne,
VICTORIA



Scholz, Herman
Fern Tree
Gully,



Beckman, Albert
Healesville
Victoria,



Checklist (see Jaunay pp 11–13)

- ▶ Type of photo
- ▶ Date of photo (from the type)
- ▶ Subject
- ▶ Photographer
- ▶ Studio or other location
- ▶ Taking the picture
- ▶ Picture as artefact
- ▶ Picture in context
- ▶ Interpretation
- ▶ Personal angle – is it a relative?



Caring for Photographs

- ▶ Storage & care of old photographs
- ▶ Online resources
 - AICCM
 - NAA
- ▶ Archival supplies
 - Albox
 - Archival Survival
 - Zetta Florence
- ▶ Digitising – sharing & back up copies





AICCM Home ▶ About Conservation ▶ Caring for Collections ▶ Photographs, film and audiovisual material

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Photographs, film and audiovisual material

Links to online resources about caring for photographic and film-based collections.

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www.aiccm.org.au





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Looking after your family archive

Most family historians start their research at home, with the documents and photographs in their own family archive.

Family documents typically include birth and marriage certificates, letters, greeting cards, diaries and journals. Family photographic collections can include historic studio portraits, 20th-century happy snaps and digital images.

Advice from the National Archives

The following advice has been prepared by specialist conservators at the National Archives.

[Preservation overview](#)

[Preserving paper documents and artworks](#)

[Preserving photographs](#)

[Creating a scrapbook](#)

[Creating a time capsule](#)

[Recovering fire-damaged records](#)

[Recovering flood-damaged records](#)



www.naa.gov.au/collection/family-history/family-archive/index.aspx



Welcome to the 2012 Archival Survival catalogue

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We are delighted to present the 2012 catalogue. Our range continues to grow and we are pleased to advise that very low prices have changed in the past 12-18 months. Despite increasing competition from cheaper overseas imports, we continue to uphold our commitment to Australian-made products. The quality of our products is never compromised and with over 80% of our core products either made or converted here in Australia, we continue to offer competitive prices that allow us to support the Australian economy. At every opportunity we will source an Australian-made alternative where available.

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- Polypropylene & polyethylene sleeves
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Digital Photographs

- ▶ Born digital or digitised old photographs
- ▶ Picasa for facial recognition
 - Including census copies, army files etc
- ▶ Tagging
- ▶ Sharing online via blogs, Flickr, Facebook etc

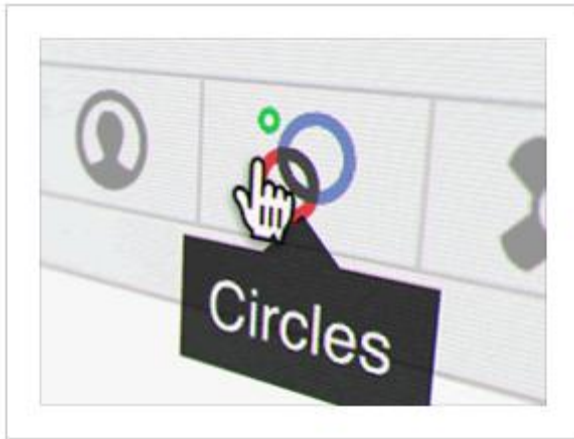


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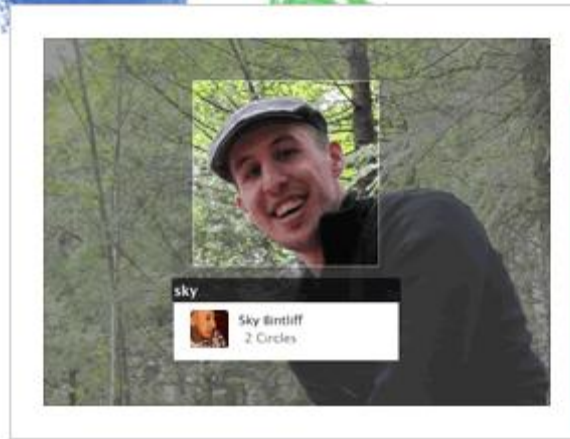
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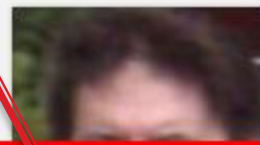
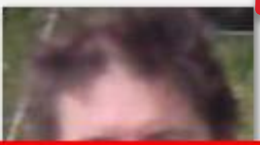
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- Evil Luke (1)
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- Jodie Spencer (12)
- Louise Spencer (2)
- Maren Conroy (6)
- Max Spencer (205)**
- Natalie Spencer (23)
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Max Spencer



236 suggestions



Do a quick check before confirming all!





Shauna Hicks



39 suggestions



Confirm all

Remove



People

Also in these photos:



Max Spencer



Adam Conroy



Val Gunderson



Rhian Meyer



Gunderson family
Friday, 15 April 2011

Sync to web

Share [dropdown]

Add a description



Army file WJ Whittaker
Monday, 11 April 2011

Sync to web

Share [dropdown]

Add a description

People

Unnamed groups of people:

-  Add a name
-  Add a name
-  Add a name
-  Add a name



<Unknown Person>



3 suggestions

Confirm all Remove

Press tick to confirm match, press "x" to ignore.



A grid of 8 photo suggestions for a man with glasses. The first row contains four photos: a plain face, a green party hat, a green party hat with a woman, and a red party hat. The second row contains four photos: a red party hat, a pink party hat, a pink party hat with a question mark, and a plain face. Each photo in the second row has a green checkmark and a red 'x' icon below it.

People

Also in these photos:



Val Gunderson



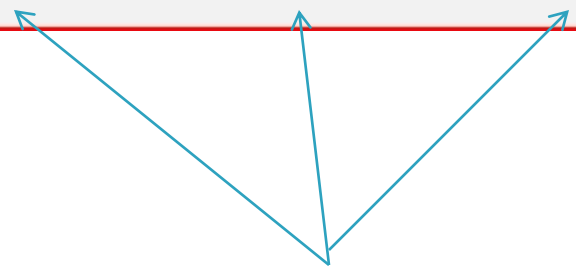
<Unknown Person>



<Unknown Person>



Shauna Hicks



Albums (1)
People (24)

- Rhian Meyer (5)
- Ron Johnson (12)
- Shauna Hicks (129)
- Steven Gunderson (8)
- Val Gunderson (12)
- Wayne Spencer (17)
- <Unknown Person> (12)**
- <Unknown Person> (2)
- <Unknown Person> (2)
- <Unknown Person> (2)
- <Unknown Person> (2)
- <Unknown Person> (9)

Person> (16)

14 pictures Saturday, 10 January 2004 to Saturday, 29 March 2008 11.3 MB on disk

<Unknown Person>

Press tick to confirm match, press "x" to ignore.

Search:

- * Jodie Spencer
- Adam Conroy
- Cassandra Spencer
- Evil Luke
- Maren Conroy
- Max Spencer
- Natalie Spencer
- Rhian Meyer
- Ron Johnson
- Shauna Hicks
- Steven Gunderson
- Val Gunderson
- Wayne Spencer

0 Photos in Picasa

Name: Jodie Spencer

Email(s):

Sync with Contacts and Web Albums

Revert

Delete Person New Person

Manage Online Contacts

OK Cancel





Unnamed people

Expand groups

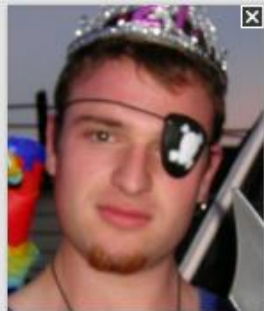
Show ignore

644 Group(s), 4131 Face(s)

Select someone you know and add a name or click the "x" to ignore that person.



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Add a name



Shauna Hicks





Samantha Gunderson





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in photos

Sign up now

or login with your ID:  

© by Susan NYC

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castlemaine

SEARCH



Sort: **Relevant** | Recent | Interesting

View: **Small** | Medium | Detail



From Helefran



From Windscre...



From ABC Open...



From urbanbicy...



From Melody...



From Tidalist



From paganknig...



From Windscre...



From



From Windscre...



From Windscre...



From Windscre...



From



From Mattinbgn



From spacountry



From spacountry



From Mattinbgn



From spacountry



From Tidalist



From Tidalist



From Looking...



From



From Chris&...



From spacountry



From taraonhol...



From Chris&...



From Chris&...



From ngunnawal...



From Chris&...



From Mattinbgn



From Mattinbgn



From Peter...

Wangaratta hotels

Further Reading

- ▶ Sandy Barrie – *Australians Behind the Camera: Directory of Early Australian Photographers 1841–1945*
- ▶ Colleen Fitzpatrick – *The Dead Horse Investigation: Forensic Photo Analysis for Everyone*
- ▶ Lenore Frost – *Dating Family Photos 1850–1920*
- ▶ Graham Jaunay – *Solving Riddles in 19th Century Photo Albums*



Conclusion

- ▶ Lots of resources online & offline
- ▶ Make copies of older photographs
- ▶ Identify both older & more recent photographs
- ▶ Scanning is boring but worthwhile
- ▶ So is sharing but once online, harder to control images
- ▶ Follow up today's tips & become your own photo expert
- ▶ Good luck!

