

Demolishing Brick Walls: Tips & Tricks

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Introduction

- What are brick walls?
- Did you create the wall?
- Golden rules of genealogy
- Serendipity
- Online resources
- Keeping up with what's new
- More resources
- Last thoughts



What Are Brick Walls?

- ▶ Where you simply cannot go back any further
- ▶ Information just not there – blank fields on certificates
- ▶ Missing information, missing records
- ▶ Someone disappears
- ▶ Someone just appears
- ▶ Too many suspects (common names)
- ▶ Anything that stops you progressing



First Questions

- ▶ Did you build the brick wall yourself?
- ▶ Are you following the golden rules of genealogy?
- ▶ Are you just using indexes & transcripts?
- ▶ Need to look at certificates & original documents
- ▶ People make mistakes!



Golden Rules No 1 & No 2

- ▶ 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?
- ▶ 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 – but not always!



BIRTH

B 55253

MARRIAGE

A 49690

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

1934 Registered by George Porter Registrar-General

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

Registrar-General.

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

19 06 Registered by Thornhill Weedon Registrar-General

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

Golden Rules No 3 & No 4

- ▶ Never completely trust the spelling of surnames, place names etc
- ▶ Always check given name and surname variants when researching
- ▶ Possibly the most common reason why ancestors cannot be found



Name Variations

- ▶ Both given names and surnames
- ▶ Abbreviations – Wm, Thos, Margt etc etc
- ▶ Nicknames – my Pearl turned out to be Maria!
- ▶ Aliases and de facto relationships
- ▶ Maiden names for children's birth entries

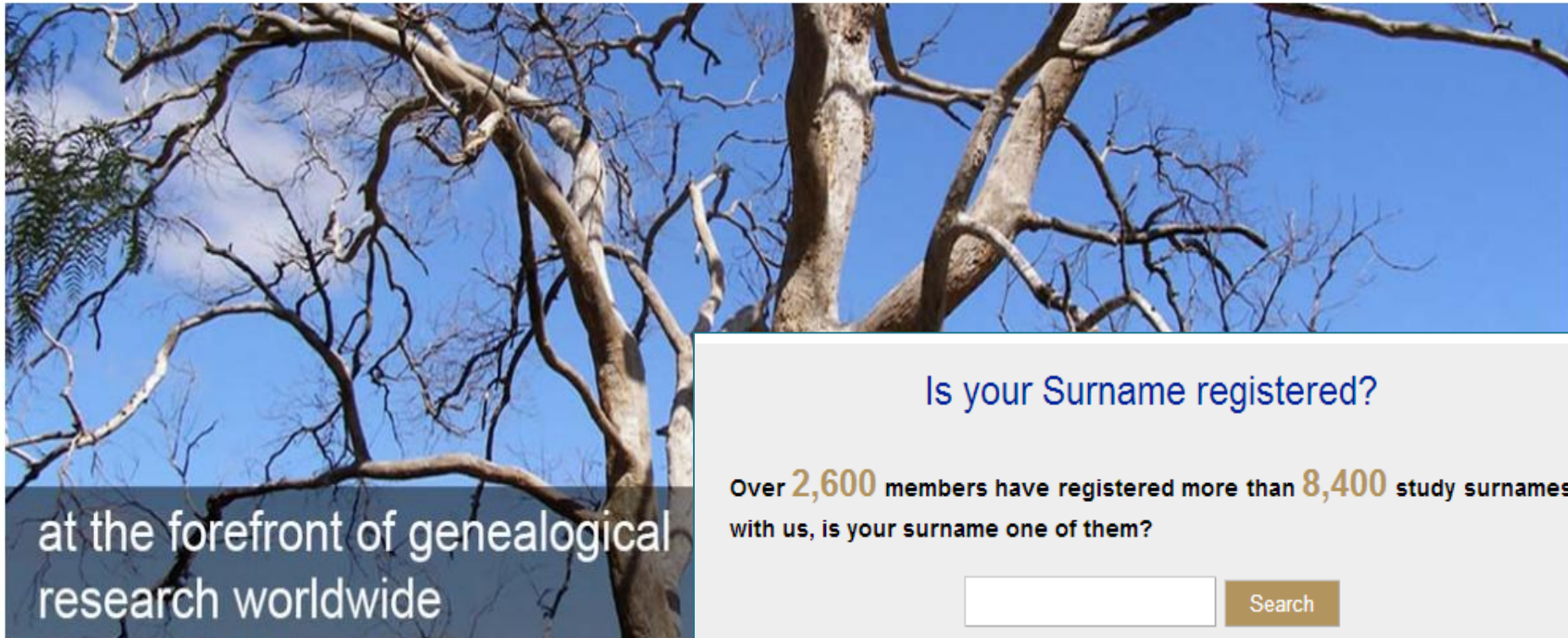


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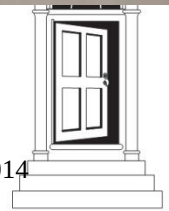
How to Join

About the Guild

<http://one-name.org>

Shauna Hicks
History Enterprises

Norfolk Island Oct 2014



Variants: This study is registered for the variants Peplar, Peplow, Peploe, Peppler and Peplo. I also consider Pepelowe, Pepplow, Peplor, Peplowe, and anything that has 2 P's separated by a vowel and followed by an L. I do rule out those names that end in 'ski' and Peplaus are on the fence. Because there is such a variation even in the life events of a single individual, I have a tendency to refer to the name as Peplx. I am always surprised by the suffix .

Distribution: Peplx are everywhere but usually in small numbers. There appear to be both Peplows and Peplers from the beginning of surnames in both the British Isles and Germanic regions. Groups migrated from both countries to the Americas and Australia. One Germanic Pepler wandered down to South Africa very early and nearly all of that name there can be traced back to him. The large question unanswered is if there is a connection between the British and Germanic families. The earliest Peplers in Britain are around Wiltshire and London, the earliest Peplo??s around Shropshire and London. In Germany, Peplo??s are in Pommern near Ruegan and Peplers are more in the Baden area.



Anglicised & Foreign Names

- ▶ Both given names and surnames
- ▶ Non English speaking cultures – Europe, China etc
- ▶ Chinese look under A for Ah – but also check under the other initial – not consistent
- ▶ My Norwegian Aose died as Mary and Andreas as Andrew



Spelling Variations

- ▶ People were illiterate, difficulties with accents (Union turned out to be Onion)
- ▶ Indexing errors
 - Poor handwriting
 - Old styles of writing
 - Judy Webster – *Using and Compiling Indexes*
- ▶ Remember to use wildcards



Using and Compiling Indexes

Revenue from ads goes to
[Kiva](#)

[Why I use FindMyPast](#)

"Judy Webster, a keen family historian, has compiled and published many indexes. She has also been employed by Qld State Archives to help with guidelines and data entry/checking for their indexing projects. On this page she shares practical tips based on her own experience."

- How to avoid the [traps involved in using indexes](#).
- How to [compile a good index](#) (advice for individuals, genealogical groups, family history societies, historical societies and local studies librarians who want to index various types of material).
- How to [publish and promote your index](#).

Traps involved in using indexes

These **rules for using indexes** have been selected from a list reported to be from the 'Genealogy Week' section of *Antique Week* and attributed to James L. Hansen of the State Hist. Soc. of WI, USA.

- An index is only an index. It is not a substitute for the record being indexed.
- It doesn't matter how you spell the name, it only matters how the indexer spelled it.
- In a given record, any vowel may at any point be substituted for any other vowel or consonant.
- If you haven't found it in the index, you can only conclude that you haven't found it in the index. You cannot conclude that it's not in the record.
- Sometimes it is best to ignore the index altogether.

To that list I would add:

www.judywebster.com.au/methods.html

Family Tree Diagrams

 [myheritage.com/Fa...](#)

Create Your Family Tree
Free Today! Free and
Easy to Publish and
Print.



Find Your
Genealogy.



Spelling Didn't Matter To Our Ancestors — Wild Cards to the Rescue

Our ancestors often used a variety of spellings for their first names and surnames. You can use wildcards with the Exact filter selected to find unusual spellings of names.

There are two wildcard characters:

- ? (question mark) : matches one character which can be anything
- * (asterisk) : matches 0 to N characters

So if you enter Sm?th* you can match Smith, Smyth, Smithe and Smythe

Ann* will match Ann, Anne, Anna, and Annabelle

My maiden name is Gillespie, and it is very often spelled: Gillaspie, Gillispie or Gillespie or even Gillespy.

I can use wildcards to match a variety of combinations.

Search / Census & Voter Lists

1910 United States Federal Census

Search

Hide Advanced

☐ Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

gill?sp*

Use default settings ▼

Restrict to exact ▼

About the Ancestry.com.au blog

Here you will find informational, and sometimes fun, posts from the folks behind the scenes here at Ancestry.com.au. We hope you'll notice just how passionate we are about family history and about the products we're building to help connect families over distance and time.

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<http://blogs.ancestry.com/au/2014/03/20/spelling-didnt-matter-to-our-ancestors-wild-cards-to-the-rescue>



Golden Rule Nos 5 & 6

- ▶ Always have at least two separate sources of proof for each event
- ▶ Don't blindly trust other people's research – always check it yourself
- ▶ 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 you and others can also find it, either now or in the future
- ▶ You will not remember where in a few years/decades time



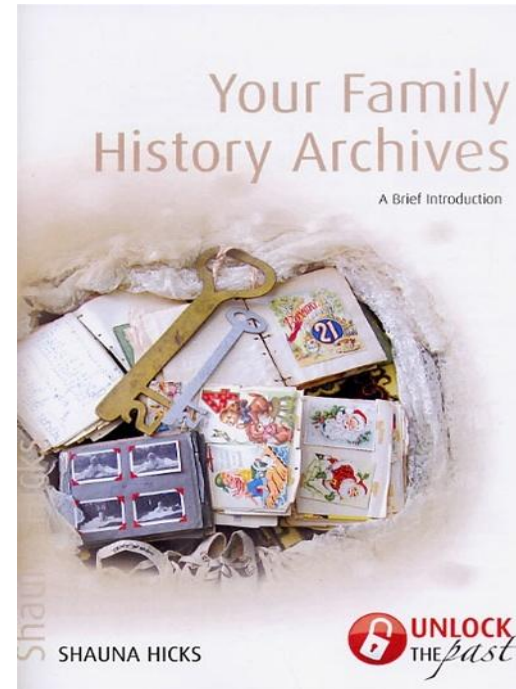
Golden Rule No 7 & No 8

- ▶ Always photocopy or digitise certificates and important documents and leave the originals in a safe place – multiple copies means greater safety for your research. Backup, backup, backup!
- ▶ If a document exists, read it!
- ▶ So obvious, yet people miss vital clues eg informants, witnesses, addresses, significance of dates etc
- ▶ Re read later as it may mean more when you know more



Backup Your Family History

- ▶ Paper
- ▶ Photographs
- ▶ Memorabilia
- ▶ Digital



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
 - Members only services
 - Access to a library/ subscription databases
 - Knowledgeable volunteers/ members
 - Regular meetings, guest speakers
 - Seminars, workshops, conferences
 - Newsletter/journal
 - Website



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?



Common Search Mistakes

- ▶ Start with yourself and work back, step by step, certificate by certificate
- ▶ Otherwise you may end up tracing the wrong person
- ▶ My great grandmother was Elizabeth Judge, she married under that name but it was not the name she was born with!

www.shaunahicks.com.au/old-research-new-resources-fresh-eyes



Someone Disappears

- ▶ 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)



Someone Appears

- ▶ Probably skeletons again
- ▶ Hiding a convict background
- ▶ Hiding an illegitimate birth
- ▶ Fostering or adoption
- ▶ Deserted a wife and family someplace else



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



Online Resources

- ▶ Ancestry.com Australia
- ▶ FindMyPast Australia & New Zealand
- ▶ FamilySearch
- ▶ Trove (National Library of Australia)
- ▶ Changing all the time!



Who		When	Where		
First Name	Last Name	Search between these dates		Collections from	Optional keywords
	burstow	From	To	Australasia	
☒ name variants	☒ name variants				
					Keywords can limit search results
					Search
					Clear search
					Save search

Filter your search

Country
☐ Australia (2,211)
☐ USA (764)
☐ Canada (737)
☐ New Zealand (383)
☐ South Africa (258)
☐ India (112)
☐ Gibraltar (77)
☐ Kenya (65)
☐ China (31)
☐ Egypt (29)
☐ Canary Islands (27)
☐ Sudan (27)
☐ Madeira (26)
☐ Round Voyage (26)
☐ Singapore (26)
☐ Argentina (22)
☐ Nigeria (22)
☐ France (21)

How to discover your ancestors

- 1 Enter some information about who you are looking for above
- 2 Use the filters on the left to narrow your results
- 3 Browse the results to find matches for your ancestors
- 4 Choose a payment option to view a historical record

www.findmypast.com.au

Your search returned **5,109** results

Order by

Page 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 > >>

Social history

Foxs History of Queensland

Collections from

Australasia

State

Queensland

Page Number

603

View:



Country

Australia

Year

1919

Contents

ranging over a wide field of modern works. He was married in 1897 to Helena Agnes, third daughter of the late William Grieve, grazier, of New South Wales and Queensland, and has a family of four sons. Alderman THOMAS STEPHEN **BURSTOW**, J.P., is a son

Alfred Ernest Burstow

Queensland funeral records

Collections from

Australasia

State

Queensland

Age

64

View:



Country

Australia

Year

1960

Phyllis Jean Burstow

Collections from

State

Age

View:



Make a Difference

Volunteer to make historical records searchable online.

Learn more



Fan Chart



Photos



Family Tree



Search



Indexing



Family Booklet

<https://familysearch.org>



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Last Names

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Country

State or Province

Search with a life event:

[Birth](#) | [Marriage](#) | [Residence](#) | [Death](#) | [Any](#)

Birthplace

Birth Year (Range)

Search with a relationship:

[Spouse](#) | [Parents](#) | [Other Person](#)



[Browse All Published Collections](#)



Filter by collection name

Collection name

Place

▼ Australia & New Zealand (14)

▼ Australia (14) x

No further place filters found

Date

- ▶ 1750 - 1799 (2)
- ▶ 1800 - 1849 (13)
- ▶ 1850 - 1899 (12)
- ▶ 1900 - 1949 (13)
- ▶ 1950 to present (11)

Collections

- ▶ Birth, Marriage, & Death (8)
- ▶ Probate & Court (1)
- ▶ Migration & Naturalization (2)
- ▶ Other (3)

Availability

- ☐ Only collections with images

Historical Record Collections

14 collections

*= Recently added or updated

Title ^

Records

Last Updated

[Australia, Births and Baptisms, 1792-1981](#)

530,567

09 Mar 2012

 [Australia, Cemetery Inscriptions, 1802-2005](#)

[Browse Images](#)

03 Apr 2014

 [Australia, Cemetery Inscriptions, Sydney Branch Genealogical Library, 1800-1960](#)

160,949

04 Jan 2013

[Australia, Deaths and Burials, 1816-1980](#)

103,200

06 Apr 2010

[Australia, Marriages, 1810-1980](#)

161,139

20 Mar 2012

 [Australia, Miscellaneous Genealogical Records, 1776-1980](#)

3,418

25 Feb 2013

 [Australia, New South Wales, Alphabetical Index to Newspaper Cuttings, 1841-1987](#)

50,488

21 Mar 2014

 [Australia, New South Wales, Index to Bounty Immigrants, 1828-1842](#)

50,981

21 Mar 2014

 [Australia, Queensland Cemetery Records, 1802-1990](#)

63,786

28 Dec 2012

 [Australia, Queensland, Maryborough Public Records, 1847-1989](#)

[Browse Images](#)

12 Apr 2013

 [Australia, Tasmania, Civil Registration, 1803-1933](#)

[Browse Images](#)

18 Jun 2014

 [Australia, Tasmania, Correspondence of the Immigration Office Concerning the Nomination, Arrival and Settlement of Migrants, 1920-](#)

[Browse Images](#)

14 Apr 2014

<https://familysearch.org>

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Norfolk Island Oct 2014



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▼ Availability

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► Decade

► Language

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No results

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DEATH OF J. H. TREVASKIS.

Western Argus (Kalgoorlie, WA : 1916 - 1938) Tuesday 13 March 1923 p 9 Article

... *James Henry Trevaskis*, which occurred on the Golden ... 1303 words

WINE FATALITY INQUEST DEATH OF J. H. TREVASKIS.

Kalgoorlie Miner (WA : 1895 - 1950) Saturday 10 March 1923 p 4 Article

... surrounding the death of *James Henry Trevaskis*, which occurred on the Golden Horseshoe mine on ... 1332 words

 Text last corrected on 12 May 2014 by knightscrossing

MINE FOREMAN KILLED.

The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929) Friday 9 March 1923 p 10 Article

MINE FOREMAN KILLED. PERTH, March 8. *James Henry Trevaskis*, timber foreman on

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



Refine your results:

▼ Format

Archived website (3) 

▼ Availability

Online (3)

Freely available (3)

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

Archived websites (1996 – now)

3 sites

Website: **First families 2001**
www.firstfamilies2001.net.au

Matching pages:

First Families Search Results - www.firstfamilies2001.net.au/f...askis1358823411 - 20/12/2004

... Family Member Details Surname: TREVASKIS Given Name(s): james henry Birth Details Birth County, Region...

Website: **Diary of an Australian Genealogist**
diaryofanaustriangenealogist.blogspot.com.au

Matching pages:

Diary of an Australian Genealogist: My F... - diaryofanaustriangenealogist...y-families.html - 10/1/2014

... Still Looking for James Henry Trevaskis (1839-?) WALKER – New South Wales and Middlesex, England...

Website: **Genealogy & History News : genealogy and history news and product announcements for Australians**
www.gouldgenealogy.com

Matching pages:

Unlock the Past Cruise Speaker Profile: ... - www.gouldgenealogy.com/2013/07...icks/index.html - 13/11/2013

... or future) would you most like to meet? Wow what a tough question – I would start with James Henry Trevaskis my...

Genealogy & History News » GeneralUnlock... - www.gouldgenealogy.com/categor...feed/index.html - 13/11/2013

Genealogy & History News » History and G... - www.gouldgenealogy.com/tag/his...feed/index.html - 13/11/2013

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Click on Family Member Name to find out more about them.

Matching Surname

SEE BELOW

RESEARCHER

TREVASKIS, DORCAS

FF

JONES, lorraine margaret

TREVASKIS, HENRY

TREVASKIS, james henry

TREVASKIS, JAMES HENRY

TREVASKIS, Susan Anne

FF First Family Name

D Name found in descendants

first families 2001

First Family Member Details

Surname: **WHITE**
Given Name(s): **HERBERT WILLIAM**
Occupation(s): **MINER**

Surname: **TREVASKIS**
Given Name(s): **DORCAS**

Birth Details

Birth Town: **FARLEY**
Birth County,
Region, Province: **WILTSHIRE**
Birth Country: **ENGLAND**
Birth Date: **1864**

Birth Details

Birth Town: **MOONTA**
Birth County,
Region, Province: **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**
Birth Country: **AUSTRALIA**
Birth Date: **1866**

Death Details

Death Town: **RICHMOND**
Death State/Territory: **QUEENSLAND**
Death Country: **AUSTRALIA**
Death Date: **1924**

Death Details

Death Town: **BRISBANE**
Death State/Territory: **QUEENSLAND**
Death Country: **AUSTRALIA**
Death Date: **1835**

Immigration Details

Year Arrived: **1886**

Descendants

Keeping Up With What's New

- ▶ Social media – Facebook, Twitter, Google +
- ▶ Listservs, forums, blogs
- ▶ Webinars, podcasts
- ▶ Family history/genealogy societies journals and newsletters



Case Study – Helen Carnegie

- ▶ The whole story is in a number of blogs recording my search over 32 years
- ▶ The breakthrough was in the *Queensland Police Gazettes* on Findmypast
- ▶ The final 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 ...	35	5 6½	Slight ...	Black	Black	Black	9 6	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 Rees ...	Longreach ...	13 ,, ...	Indecent exposure ...	14 June	2 months' hard labour or £4 1s. 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; another arm; slight blue scar right eye
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 under right knee.
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 mark on right temple.

QLD Police Gazette 1904

- Searched for death of Helen Chick in QLD BDMs online and purchased death certificate
- Gave reference to second husband Charles Wademoore Chick
- His unusual names led me to think about WorldConnect



SEARCH MILLIONS OF ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS

fold3

First Name

Last Name

State ▼

Search now

Search Family Trees at WorldConnect

Advanced Search

More than **640 million** names on file

Surname

Given Name

GO

or -- jump to a specific database

Database

GO

or -- find a database by keyword(s)

GO

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](#)
- [How to submit files via the mail](#)
- [RootsWeb's HelpDesk](#)

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

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RootsWeb's WorldConnect Project Global Search

Names: 688,225,774 Surnames: 5,821,133 Databases: 437,399

Results 1-1 of 1

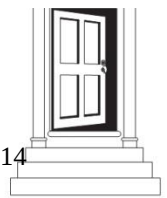
Name	Birth/Christening		Death/Burial		Database	Order record?	Other Matches
	Date	Place	Date	Place			
CARNEGIE, Helen	1862		23 DEC 1946	Brisbane, Qld - Reg. - 1946/BOO9756	kenalice3		Census Newspapers Histories
   Father: John CARNEGIE Mother: Helen STRATTON Spouses: Charles Wadmore CHICK , Alexander Miller FERGUSON							



Surname	carnegie	Exact v	Father	john carnegie
Given Name	helen	☐ omit living	Mother	helen stratton
Birth Place		☐ omit blanks	Spouse	
Birth Year		Exact v	Skip Database	
Death Place		☐ omit blanks	Updated Within	Forever v
Death Year		Exact v	☐ Has Descendants	
Marriage Place		☐ omit blanks	☐ Has Notes	
Marriage Year		Exact v	☐ Has Sources	
Fuzzy Search ☐ (uses soundex) Search Reset				



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More Resources

- ▶ CoraWeb *Helping You Trace Your Family History in Australia and Elsewhere*
- ▶ Cyndi's List *Genealogy Sites on the Internet*
- ▶ Google





Helping you trace your family history in Australia and elsewhere

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Shauna Hicks
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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.

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At some point, every family historian encounters a barrier in the
In **genealogy**, these barriers are known as **brick walls** and the

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Brick Wall Strategies for Dead-End Family Tre

genealogy.about.com › ... › Begin a Family Tree › Basics & How
by Kimberly Powell - But I can't stress enough how many **brick**
... to as "cluster **genealogy**," this research process can often
walls.

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Derek Davey

Jul 22, 2014 - Educating yourself to break down the B
Genealogy Societies One of the areas that I see the
participating in is the local ...

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Genealogy Records - Ancestry.com.au

Ad www.ancestry.com.au/Genealogy ▾

Trace Back Your Family To Its Roots Access Billions Of Records Online!

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Australian Genealogy & History Blogs | Unlock the Past

www.unlockthepast.com.au/australian-genealogy-history-blogs ▾

Below is a list of Blogs relating to **Genealogy** or History from **Australians**. A blog
about the frustrations, adventures, **brickwalls** and ultimately rewards of ...

Genealogy Search Australia - Free Genealogy and Family ...

www.searchwhateveraustalia.com.au/ ▾

Australian Genealogy and **Family History** Search Engine and Directory free search for
... more obscure or hard to find sites that may break down your **brick walls**.

Diary of an Australian Genealogist

diaryofanaustaliangenealogist.blogspot.com/ ▾

by Shauna Hicks - 1 day ago - The closure of State Records South **Australia's** reading
rooms took me by Labels: **brickwalls**, **family history**, **genealogy**, National
Family ...



Brick Wall Strategies for Dead-End Family Trees

By Kimberly Powell

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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.

Ads

Family Tree Builder

www.myheritage.com

The best genealogy program Free and easy to use

Australian death Records

www.findmypast.com.au

Find Death Records Online Now. Search Over 55million Records-free!

Find Your Ancestors.

www.familysearch.org

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.

Go Back to the Original Source

Many of us are guilty when transcribing information or recording notes of only including the facts we deem important at the time. You may have kept the names and dates from that old census record, but did you also keep track of other information such as years of marriage and country of parent's origin? Or,

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 myheritage.com

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What Are Patronymic Surnames?

http://genealogy.about.com/od/basics/a/brick_walls.htm



Last Tips

- ▶ Advertise your brick wall
 - Family history newsletter, journal
 - Listservs, forums
 - Websites, blogs
 - YouTube, Flickr, Pinterest
 - Talk to others
- ▶ Explore collateral lines
- ▶ Do a one name study!



Conclusion

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

