

### 31 Genealogy Activities for Researchers During National Family History Month August 2017

The activities are designed to suggest new avenues of research and to progress your family history and are in no particular order. You can choose to do as many or as few as you want. The activities also feature NFHM sponsors whose support is deeply appreciated as without our sponsors' assistance, AFFHO would not be able to host NFHM each year.

I will be blogging each activity myself throughout August and you can follow my blog SHHE Genie Rambles [www.shaunahicks.com.au/shhe-genie-rambles](http://www.shaunahicks.com.au/shhe-genie-rambles) for further suggestions.

Shauna Hicks - Prize sponsor and Voluntary Coordinator of NFHM on behalf of AFFHO [www.affho.org](http://www.affho.org)  
See [www.shaunahicks.com.au](http://www.shaunahicks.com.au) and Diary of an Australian Genealogist <http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au> for updates throughout NFHM August 2017

1	Visit the NFHM sponsors page and consider entering the prize draw for individuals <a href="http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors">www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors</a>	
2	Visit your State Archives and see what resources they hold and look at their fact sheets and guides. If distant, do a virtual visit. Remember to check out the National Archives of Australia <a href="http://www.naa.gov.au">www.naa.gov.au</a> - NFHM launch sponsor	
3	Visit your State library and see what genealogical information they hold. If distant, do a virtual visit. If you do not already have a State library card, apply so that you can use e-resources at home. Or visit your local library and explore the genealogy and local history sections.	
4	Check out YouTube for genealogy videos or conference sessions. Just search for genealogy and be amazed at the variety of options.	
5	Have a look at the Alaska genealogy cruise in 2018 with Unlock the Past <a href="http://www.unlockthepastcruises.com">www.unlockthepastcruises.com</a> - prize sponsor	
6	Have you thought about DNA testing for genealogy - both Ancestry <a href="http://www.ancestry.com.au">www.ancestry.com.au</a> and Living DNA <a href="http://www.livingdna.com/en-au">www.livingdna.com/en-au</a> have DNA kits as NFHM prizes	
7	Plan to attend a NFHM event in your area. If none, suggest to your local society or public library that they participate next year <a href="http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au">www.familyhistorymonth.org.au</a>	
8	Attend one of the online events in the NFHM web calendar <a href="http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/online-event">www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/online-event</a>	
9	Explore your surname in the MyHeritage Last Name Directory <a href="http://lastnames.myheritage.com/last-names">http://lastnames.myheritage.com/last-names</a> - major sponsor and prize sponsor	
10	Visit your local genealogy/family history society and see what resources they hold. If you are not a member, think about joining or perhaps join a society near where your ancestors lived	
11	Visit the NFHM Facebook page for updates throughout August <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Family-History-Month/208048719235109">www.facebook.com/pages/Family-History-Month/208048719235109</a> Have you Liked our page yet?	
12	Do you have Queensland ancestors? Check out the Queensland Registry of BDMs <a href="http://www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/family-history-research">www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/family-history-research</a> and enter the individuals prize draw to win 5 Queensland images to boost your Queensland research	
13	Download the free August genealogy ebook from genEbooks <a href="http://www.gen-ebooks.com">www.gen-ebooks.com</a> - prize sponsor	

14	Check out Twitter <a href="https://twitter.com">https://twitter.com</a> to see the latest genealogy news - use the hash tags #genealogy or #familyhistory #NFHM2017	
15	Why not do a photo book on a person or family? Momento have some great ideas <a href="http://www.momento.com.au">www.momento.com.au</a> - major sponsor and prize sponsor	
16	Attend/listen to a webinar or Google + hangout - why not join Google + and see what other Aussie genealogists are doing?	
17	Early NSW ancestors? - have a look at the Biographical Database of Australia <a href="http://www.bda-online.org.au">www.bda-online.org.au</a> - prize sponsor	
18	Read a family history blog or start your own genealogy blog writing stories about individual ancestors or families	
19	Have another look at that brick wall - construct a time line of known facts and relook at everything. Shauna Hicks <a href="http://www.shaunahicks.com.au">http://www.shaunahicks.com.au</a> is offering a prize to assist in brick wall demolitions if I can.	
20	Check out <a href="http://www.theindepthgenealogist.com">The In-Depth Genealogist</a> and their <i>Going In-Depth</i> digital genealogy magazine - prize sponsor	
21	Enrol in one of the free online genealogy courses offered by the National Institute of Genealogical Studies <a href="http://www.genealogicalstudies.com">www.genealogicalstudies.com</a> - prize sponsor (details of four courses offered are on NFHM sponsors page)	
22	Make a start on scanning all your old photographs and any paper documents. Remember to identify and file the images as you go.	
23	After scanning you need to store your records safely - check out Preservation Australia <a href="http://www.preservationaustralia.com.au">www.preservationaustralia.com.au</a> and enter the NFHM prize giveaway to win an archival preservation box	
24	Findmypast <a href="http://www.findmypast.com.au">www.findmypast.com.au</a> may be available at a local council library or genealogy/family history society library - book a session time and see what you can discover - prize sponsor	
25	Check out the Gould Genealogy & History <a href="http://www.gould.com.au">www.gould.com.au</a> online catalogue and be ready when the family ask what you want for Christmas/birthday etc - prize sponsor	
26	Explore FamilySearch <a href="https://familysearch.org">https://familysearch.org</a> and perhaps do one of their online tutorials - prize sponsor	
27	Join Trove <a href="http://trove.nla.gov.au">http://trove.nla.gov.au</a> and correct newspaper text after you make that exciting family discovery! Why not add tags or make a list of your discoveries?	
28	Check out all the new resources on Ancestry <a href="http://www.ancestry.com.au">www.ancestry.com.au</a> and enter the prize draw to win a year's subscription - major sponsor and prize sponsor	
29	Visit a cemetery and tidy up the graves of your ancestors or other relatives. Have the gravestones been transcribed?	
30	Apply for a National Library of Australia e-resources card and explore genealogy resources online at home if you have not done so before <a href="http://www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources">www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources</a>	
31	Did any family members fight in WW1? Visit the National Archives of Australia website Discovering Anzacs <a href="http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au/home">http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au/home</a>	
<p>Congratulations we hope that you have made some great research discoveries! Remember to enter the NFHM sponsors prize draw - details on the NFHM home page <a href="http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au">www.familyhistorymonth.org.au</a> and on the NFHM Sponsors page <a href="http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors">www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors</a></p>		