 an Unlock the Past
guide book...

Shauna Hicks —

Tips & Tricks for Beginners: Avoid some common mistakes

SHAUNA HICKS

WWW.SHAUNAHICKS.COM.AU

[HTTPS://DIARYOFANAUSTRALIAN
GENEALOGIST.BLOGSPOT.COM](https://diaryofanaustrian-genealogist.blogspot.com)

Introduction

- ❑ Basic rules
- ❑ Resources
- ❑ Publications
- ❑ Family History & Genealogical Societies
- ❑ Libraries & Archives
- ❑ Online Resources

Good advice

- ❑ Always work backwards from the known (yourself) to the unknown (forebears)
- ❑ Never believe everything on a birth, death or marriage certificate
- ❑ Never completely trust the spelling of surnames, place names - check surname variants when researching – indexing errors – Anglicised names
- ❑ Always have at least two separate sources of proof for each event
- ❑ Back up regularly – digital & paper

More good advice

- ❑ Remember that everything is only speculation until verified
- ❑ Always scan certificates & important documents - leave originals in a safe place
- ❑ If a document exists, read it. Then read it again!
- ❑ Join at least one family history group, genealogical society or historical society
- ❑ Share your information and documentation (copies only) with other researchers

Useful tools

- ❑ Timelines – what happened when
- ❑ Maps – placenames & borders changed over time
- ❑ Genealogy software – generate reports
- ❑ Pedigree charts
- ❑ Family group sheets

Document your sources

- ❑ Citations/references for everything
- ❑ Where you got the information & when
- ❑ Go back and find it again – now & in the future
- ❑ Be consistent

Remember

- ❑ Not all records are indexed
- ❑ Not all records are published
- ❑ Not everything is online
- ❑ Local records may only be local
- ❑ Serendipity!

Genealogical Proof Standard

- ❑ A reasonably exhaustive search for all pertinent information
- ❑ A complete and accurate citation to the source of each item used
- ❑ Analysis of the collected information's quality as evidence
- ❑ Resolution of any conflicting or contradictory evidence
- ❑ Arrive at a soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion

Resources

- ❑ Publications & magazines
- ❑ Family history groups
- ❑ BDMs (Births Deaths & Marriages)
- ❑ Newspapers
- ❑ Libraries & Archives
- ❑ Online Resources (websites, digitised records & indexes and databases)

BDMs

- ❑ Certificates are essential – provide clues and evidence (proof)
- ❑ Australian indexes are online free
- ❑ England & Wales
- ❑ Scotland
- ❑ Ireland

[Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders](#)[Apps for genealogy on the move](#)[Archives](#)[Asylum and hospital records](#)[Begin your family history](#)[Birth, death and marriage records](#)[Blogs](#)[Bookshops](#)[Cemeteries](#)[Child welfare](#)[Convicts](#)[Criminal and court records](#)[Digital books and eResources](#)[Directories](#)[Electoral rolls and census records](#)[India and Sri Lanka \(Ceylon\)](#)[Libraries](#)[Local history](#)[Maps, places and land records](#)[Military records](#)[New Zealand](#)[Newspapers](#)

➤ Birth, death and marriage records

- 📁 [Australia \(18\)](#)
- 📁 [Australian Capital Territory \(3\)](#)
- 📁 [New South Wales \(14\)](#)
- 📁 [Northern Territory \(5\)](#)
- 📁 [Queensland \(7\)](#)
- 📁 [South Australia \(11\)](#)
- 📁 [Tasmania \(6\)](#)
- 📁 [Victoria \(17\)](#)
- 📁 [Western Australia \(4\)](#)

Australian Daily Funeral and Death Notices

This free site by the West Australian newspaper has links to current notices plus a growing archive of links to Death Notices from the beginning of 2012. It covers links to obituaries and funeral ... [more](#)

Family Search - Australia, Victoria, Inquest Deposition Files, 1840-1925

Inquest Deposition Files created by the Coroners Court of Victoria. The original records are held by the Public Record Office of Victoria. FamilySearch has an index and the original records online ... [more](#)

Victoria - Australia BDM Place Name Abbreviations List by Steve Parker

www.coraweb.com.au/categories/birth-death-and-marriage-records

Newspapers

- ❑ Trove (Australia) <http://trove.nla.gov.au>
- ❑ Papers Past (New Zealand) <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>
- ❑ National Library of Australia E-Resources (free access to British & Irish newspapers at home) www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources

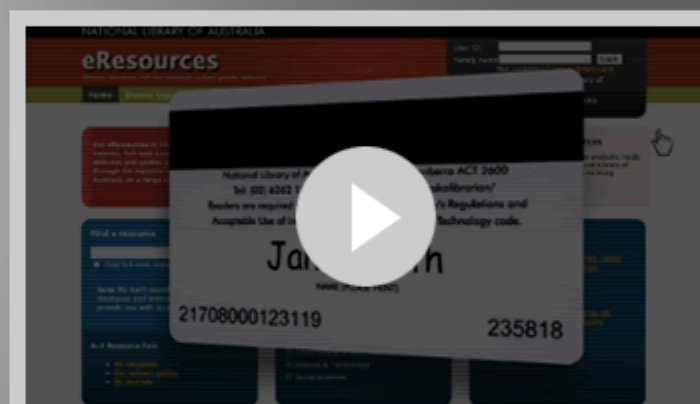
eResources

Indexes, databases, full-text ejournals, subject guides, websites

User ID:
 Family name: [Login](#)
 Not registered? [get a library card](#)
 Your location is outside the National Library of Australia. Resources you can access:
 Free

Not sure how eResources works?

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

Licenced resources



Databases available by logging in with your library card

Onsite resources



Resources available inside the National Library of Australia building

Find a resource

Browse by category

Featured resources

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources

It's free and it only takes a minute

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Find and get Australian and online resources:
books, images, historic newspapers, maps, music, archives and more

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Join the community that's organising
and improving this information
resource.

11,720 newspaper text corrections today

977 images from users this month

18,210 items tagged this week

3,139 comments added this month

163 works merged or split this month

566 lists this month

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News

No new news items available

Find Trove on



Available online



Australian content



In my libraries

Search[Advanced search](#)

Trove

The Australian
WOMEN'S WEEKLY<http://trove.nla.gov.au>

Newspapers



WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

has in black, from
ilk Mixture, every
is lid, and finished

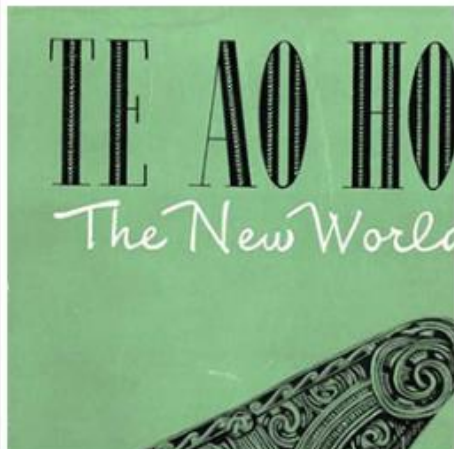
UMBRELLAS
RED.
men's Umbrellas
als, from 6s lid-
t new Umbrellas
REPAIRED.

A CONNOISSEUR
OF SILK.

SELECTING and supplying Silk is an
art worthy only of the connoisseur.
A knowledge and an ability to judge,
gleaned from long years of experience—
a pride in being able to meet your de-
mands for the best available is the repu-
tation of Arthur Lee. All weaves,

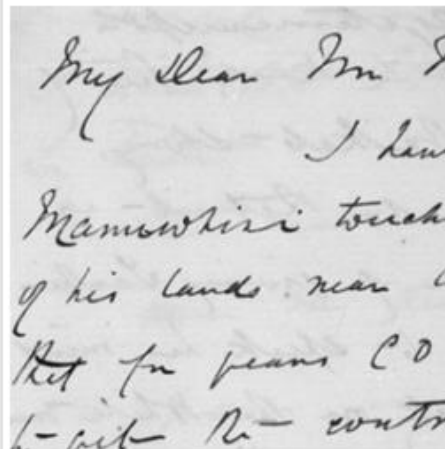
Digitised NZ and Pacific
newspapers from the 19th and
20th centuries

Magazines and Journals



Serial publications published in
NZ from 1868 through to 2017

Letters and Diaries



Selected letters and diaries,
including the papers of Sir
Donald McLean, 1820-1877

Parliamentary Papers

1877.
NEW ZEALAND
—
METHODS FOR DIMINISHING
NUISANCE
(PAPERS RELATING TO THE
—
Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly
—
No. 1.
The AGENT-GENERAL to the Hon. the
7. Westminster Chamber

Reports and publications from
New Zealand's House of
Representatives

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>

Libraries

- ❑ State Library of Queensland

 - ❑ www.slq.qld.gov.au

 - ❑ Genealogy Unit

 - ❑ Heritage (John Oxley Library)

 - ❑ E-Services

 - ❑ Ask a librarian

- ❑ What is in your local council library?



Resources for family historians

Whether you're a beginner starting to trace your family history or a seasoned researcher looking to dig a little deeper, there are resources to access.



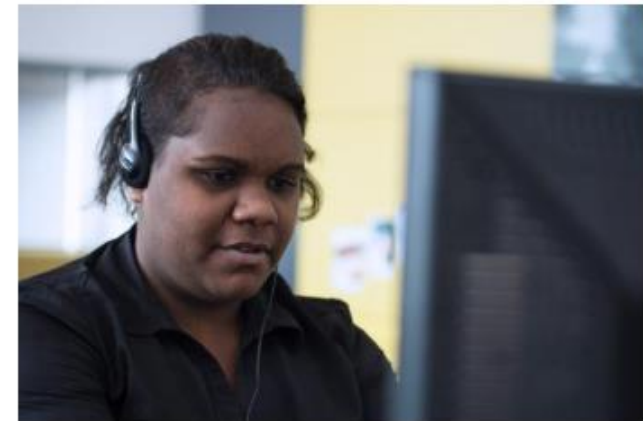
Family history webcasts

Check out our family history videos. They



Family history eresources

Wondering what's available electronically to



Useful websites for family historians

www.slq.qld.gov.au/research-collections/family-history



Family history research guides

Our research guides are divided into Life events, Travel and migration, and Time and place. Use our guides to learn more detail about family history resources.

[Life events](#)[Travel and migration](#)[Time and place](#)

Life Events

A life event is something that changes things in your life. This could be locating records for a birth, death or marriage in Australia or overseas. It could be trying to discover if a will existed or whether someone was in an institution. It might be trying to trace an adoption. If you are looking for any of these events then life events is where you can find the guides and resources you need to get started.

Adoption records

Legal adoption started at different times in different states. Records began around the early 1920s. There is advice on how to access and locate adoption

www.slq.qld.gov.au/research-collections/family-history

Archives

- ❑ Queensland State Archives www.archives.qld.gov.au
- ❑ State Archives & Records NSW www.records.nsw.gov.au
- ❑ National Archives of Australia www.naa.gov.au

Explore our collection

› Family history

- › Immigration
- › Schools, hospitals and orphanages
- › Courts
- › Government
- › Lands and mining
- › Convicts and early settlers
- › Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- › Australian South Sea Islanders
- › War
- › Shipping and railways
- › Business

Family history

The records we hold were created and received by government agencies such as courts, government departments and schools. It's these records that you search when you do your family history at QSA.

Birth, death and marriage records

Birth, death and marriage certificates cannot be searched or viewed at QSA – you can find them at the [Registry of Birth, Deaths and Marriages](#). The [State Library of Queensland](#) also hold some early church records of baptisms, marriages and burials.

Where do I start?

To start your family history, gather as much information as you can from other sources, including full names, dates of birth, and place of residence.

Read [Start your research](#) for more information about researching at QSA.

How do I find the records?

Explore the collection

In Explore the collection you will find information about records on:

[Immigration](#)

Search the State Archives

- [ArchiveSearch catalogue](#)
- [Search the Indexes](#)
- [Request archive copies](#)

Archival research terms

Record—information of permanent and historic value, often in paper-based form (e.g. a letter, photograph, a map), but can also be a CD, a film or a digital file

Item—a single record or many records, e.g. an item may be a single architectural drawing, a 500-page leather-bound book, or a bundle of correspondence (letters, telegrams, reports)

Series—a group of related items created, received, or used in the same activity

www.archives.qld.gov.au

[Search the collection](#)
[Ask us a question](#)
[Using the collection](#)
[A-Z for researchers](#)
[Fact sheets](#)
[Family history](#)
[Researching your family](#)
[Case studies](#)
[Resources](#)
[Looking after your family archive](#)
[Passenger Arrivals Lists 1897 to 1966](#)
[Popular research topics](#)

Family History – Begin your journey

Researching family history is a favourite hobby for many people. The National Archives holds many records in which you might find information about your ancestors. This is the place to come if your family members served in the Australian armed forces or if they migrated to Australia during the 20th century.

You can view records online using [RecordSearch](#) or check original archival records in one of our [Reading rooms](#).



[Researching your family](#); How to do family history research in the National Archives

Destination Australia



Share your story, read about other migrants' memories and explore our photos – to see if you recognise someone you know.

[Destination Australia](#)



Discovering Anzacs

The National Archives of Australia and Archives New Zealand commemorate the Centenary of Anzac with [Discovering Anzacs](#).

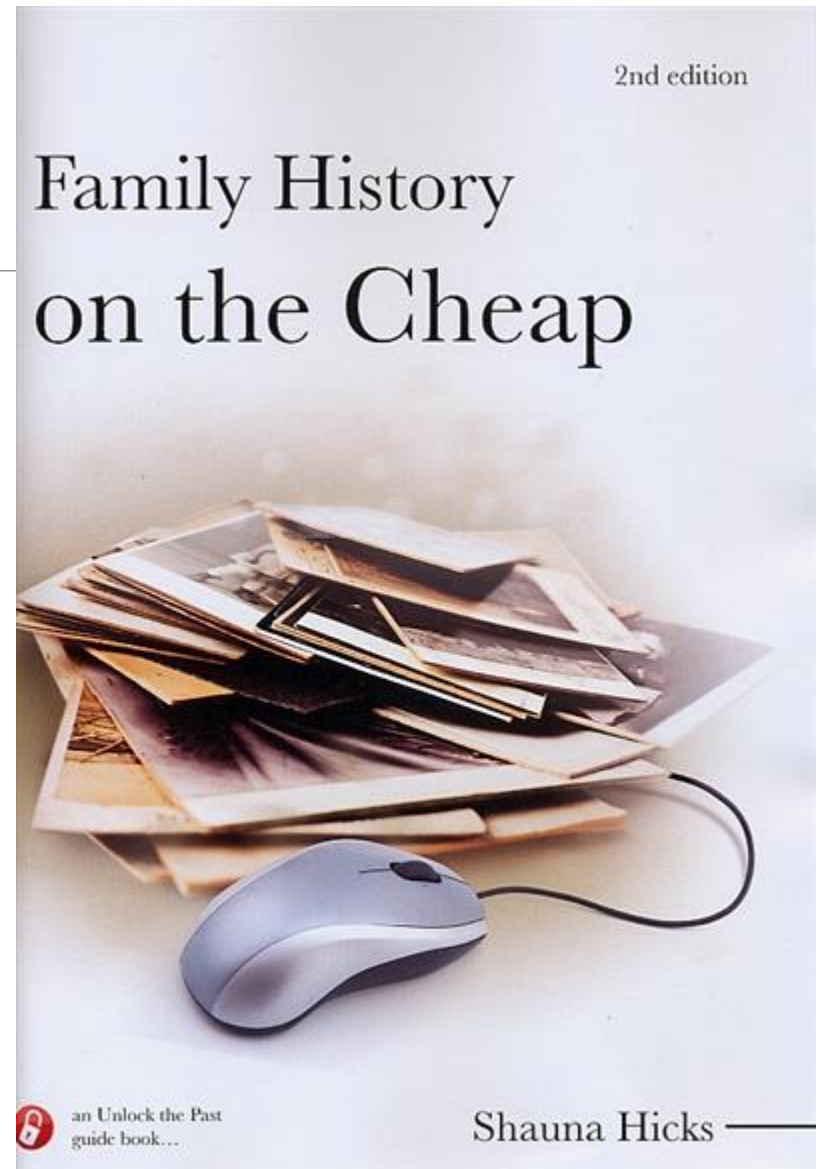


Family Journeys

Stories in the National Archives of Australia. Embark on a family history journey.

Online Resources

- ❑ Gateway sites
- ❑ Family history sites
- ❑ Military sites
- ❑ Place name sites
- ❑ Photographs



Gateway Sites

- ❑ Cora Num's website www.coraweb.com.au
- ❑ Cyndi's list www.cyndislist.com
- ❑ GENUKI www.genuki.org.uk
- ❑ National Archives UK www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

1,000 years of history

Find records from The National Archives and
over 2,500 archives across the UK



☐ Held by The National Archives ☐ Available to download from The National Archives

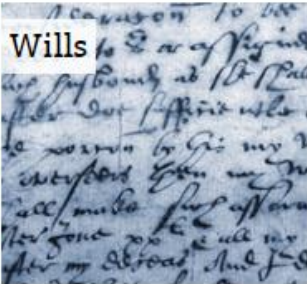
Need more search options? Use our [advanced search](#) or [browse](#)

Popular collections

Medals



Wills



What is Discovery?

Discovery holds more than 32 million descriptions of records held by The National Archives and more than 2,500 archives across the country. Over 9 million records are available for download.

Frequent searches

Research guides

Our guides are a great place to start your research. What are you looking for?

Family history



<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

Regional Page Links

- [UK and Ireland](#)
- [England](#)
- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Ireland](#)
- [Isle of Man](#)
- [Channel Islands](#)

Technical Links

- [Referring to GENUKI](#)
- [For potential contributors](#)
- [For maintainers](#)



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- [Church database](#)
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- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Guidance for first-time users](#)
- [Getting started in genealogy](#)
- [Genealogical events](#)
- [Who are we?](#)
- [GENUKI service status](#)

GENUKI provides a virtual reference library of genealogical information of particular relevance to the UK and Ireland. It is a non-commercial service, maintained by a charitable trust and a group of volunteers.

All material on this site is © GENUKI and individual contributors. For permission to re-use material please contact [the](#)

www.genuki.org.uk

Family History Sites

Free sites

- ❑ FamilySearch) www.familysearch.org
- ❑ FreeUKGen <http://freeukgen.rootsweb.com>
- ❑ Irish Genealogy www.irishgenealogy.ie/en

Commercial/pay to view/subscription

- ❑ Ancestry (Australia) www.ancestry.com.au
- ❑ FindMyPast <http://findmypast.com.au>
- ❑ My Heritage www.myheritage.com
- ❑ Scotland's People www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Many others

[HOME](#)[DONATE](#)[ABOUT](#)[VOLUNTEER](#)[NEWS](#)[CONTACT](#)

Free UK Genealogy provides free, online access to family history records. We work with a team of dedicated volunteers to create high-quality transcriptions of public records from governmental sources, parish churches, and other trusted institutions. We believe that **Open Data** and Open Source are key to making and keeping public records accessible to all. We work with others with the same concerns.

Visit our project websites to search our records:

**Search
FreeBMD**

**272,000,000 births,
marriages and deaths**

**Search
FreeCEN**

**36,500,000 individuals from
census data, from 1841 to 1891**

**Search
FreeREG**

**44,500,000 records
from parish registers**

www.freeukgenealogy.org.uk

Update to the Civil Records

We are pleased to advise that in early 2019, an additional 2 years of records of births, marriages and deaths will be added to the www.irishgenealogy.ie website. The marriage Index data along with additional images will also be updated for the years 1864-1869 inclusive. The years covered by the release of the historic records of Births, Marriages and Deaths after this update will be;

Births: 1864 to 1918

Marriages: 1864* to 1943

Deaths: 1878* to 1968

18 21. Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic Church at St. Nicholas in the Registrar's District of Limerick Town in the County of Limerick

No. of Marriage Registered	When Married	Surnames and Names	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the Time of Marriage	Father's Name and Residence	Rank or Profession of Father
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1491	April 26 th 1938	Mary Orange	24 yrs	Single	Clerk	Limerick	James Orange	Labourer
	May 1938	Harriet Mallett	24 yrs	Single		Limerick	William Mallett	Labourer

Married in the Roman Catholic Church at St. Nicholas according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church by me, *John Walsh, CC*

This Marriage was solemnized by *Mary Orange* in the presence of *William Walsh* and *James Mallett*

www.irishgenealogy.ie/en

- > Home
- > Log-in
- > Password reminder
- > Change password
- > Change email address
- > **JOIN NOW**
- > Latest newsletter
- > Newsflash

Free to search
and free to join!

FREE

MORE

Information

- > Read this first
- > Help & Advice
- > Census Links
- > FAQs
- > Success Stories
- > About Us
- > Privacy Policy
- > User Agreement
- > Contact Us

Tools

- > Index of Incorrect Surnames
- > Index of Maiden Names

[Need larger text?](#)

Welcome to LostCousins

Are you serious about researching your family tree, but concerned about posting information online? If so, you've come to the right place, because LostCousins is the ONLY family history website able to match you with others researching the same ancestors

AUTOMATICALLY, ACCURATELY & CONFIDENTIALLY

Simply enter the relatives on your family tree who were recorded in selected US, Canadian, British, or Irish Censuses - then click the **Search** button.

Your information stays hidden

100% accurate automated matching means that nobody else needs to see your information - yet when you do find a 'lost cousin', you can be certain you're related!

Achieving such results requires a little more effort upfront, but it's well worth it - the accuracy of the LostCousins system **SAVES** you a lot of time and hassle compared to other sites.

Find living relatives and discover more

When you find a 'lost cousin' it's a great opportunity to share family photos and stories that have been passed down the generations - things you'll never find in public record offices and archives. You might even decide to co-operate on future research.

The best genealogy newsletter - and it's FREE!

As a LostCousins member you will be entitled to receive our newsletter, which is full of useful tips and articles to help you knock down 'brick walls' and take your research to a new level. Here's what members say about the newsletter:

"Your letters are so informative especially for those at a brick wall and not sure where to look next."

"Thanks again for the fabulous Lost Cousins newsletters - they are crammed with invaluable information."



find my past

English and
Welsh Parish
records

Search now

Download our free
ancestor chart!

GO

FREE

Already registered?
Log in here...

Email Address

Password

LOG-IN

> Forgotten password?

TOP 100
Most Popular
GENEALOGY SITE
2015



Nick Barratt

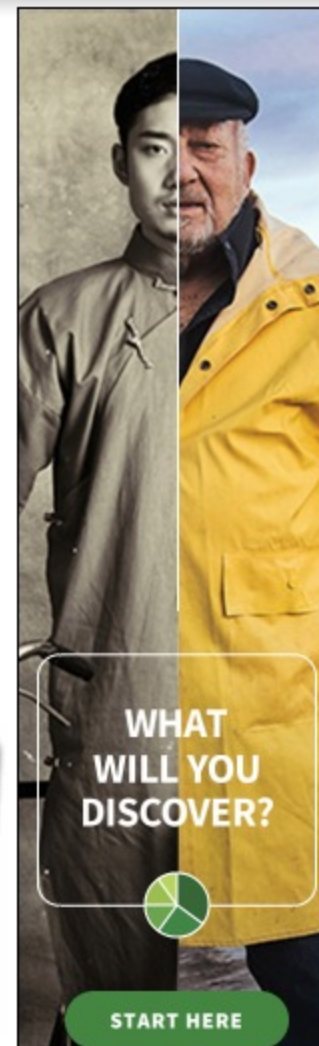
Nick Barratt is a genealogy expert you'll know from TV and radio. He likes the LostCousins approach: "It's really simple, but very effective" Click for more...



WHAT
WILL YOU
DISCOVER?



START HERE



www.lostcousins.com

Military Sites

- ❑ National Archives of Australia www.naa.gov.au
- ❑ Discovering Anzacs <https://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>
- ❑ Australian War Memorial www.awm.gov.au
- ❑ World War 2 Nominal Roll www.ww2roll.gov.au
- ❑ Commonwealth War Graves Commission www.cwgc.org

Many others

Not Finding a Record?

- ❑ More than one place to look eg Boer War
- ❑ Spelling variants
- ❑ More than one way to search
- ❑ NAA Name Search – filter Boer War = Boer War dossier
- ❑ NAA Basic Search – “Solomon Price” Boer = Boer War Veteran case file

SON SA 57 **PRICE Solomon** *S. 6*
acc QUEENSLAND DEFENCE FORCE (LAND).

RESULT OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION
 ACCOUNTANT
 28 MAY 1901
 Q'LAND DEF. FORCE.

On Return of a Member of the *2nd* Contingent from Service in South Africa.

Regimental No. *57*
 Contingent *Second*
 Rank *Private*
 Surname *Price*
 Christian Name *Solomon*
 Present Age *22 1/2*
 Length of Service, South Africa *1 Yr 57 Days*
 From where Invalided
 Why Invalided
 Name of Transport *Tongariro*
 Arrived in Brisbane *3rd May 1901*

Hair *Dark Brown*
 Eyes *Dark Blue*
 Complexion *Fair*
 Marks or Scars { *Nil*
 Weight *8 1/2 11 1/2*
 Height *5 1/2 7 1/2 in*
 Chest { Expiration *32*
 Inspiration *34 1/2*

REMARKS BY MEDICAL OFFICER:
 Weight *8 1/2 6 1/2* Chest ... { Expiration *32 1/2*
 Inspiration *35*

I CERTIFY that I have this day made a thorough Examination of No. *57*
Price and find him to be in *fair health*
and fit for medical service.

Chief Secretary
from the 17th inst.
and find him to be in fair health
and fit for medical service.
AR.

[previous](#)[next](#)

Page 1 of 2

Title PRICE, SOLOMAN
 [Regimental No. 57]
 joined 3-5-1901 -
 Boer War Dossier

Contents range 1901 - 1902

Series number B4418

Control symbol PRICE S

Access status Open

Barcode 686145



jump to page

[go](#)

COLLECTION

PEOPLE

VISIT

COMMEMORATE

LEARN

GET INVOLVED

SHOP

Search for a person

If you are looking for a family member, friend or relative who served, this will guide you to the relevant areas of our website that contain information.

NAME

SERVICE NUMBER

UNIT NAME

www.awm.gov.au



Welcome

This website is currently in Beta.

DVA's Nominal Rolls

One of DVA's key roles is acknowledging and commemorating the service and sacrifice of all those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations through commemorations, memorials, war graves and research. As one part of this commemoration, DVA has published four nominal rolls. These nominal rolls list members of Australia's defence forces who served during World War Two, Korean War, Vietnam War and First Gulf War.

You can start with the Search tool or you can select a conflict from the top menu for more detailed searches.

Search

Conflict

World War Two ▼

Service Number

Service Number

Or

Surname

Surname

First Name

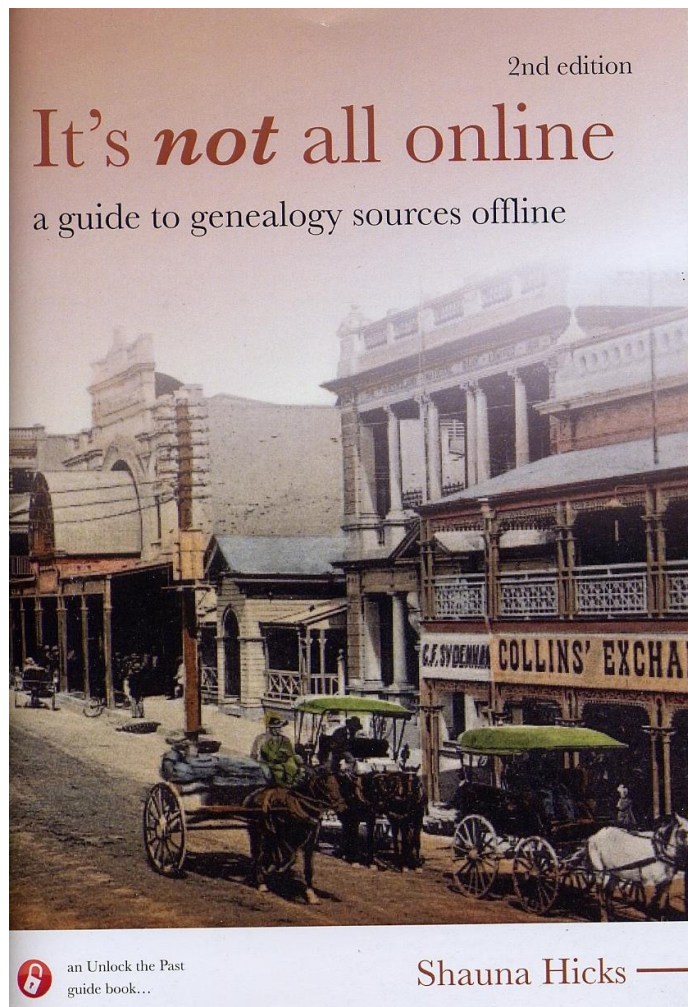
First Name

<http://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au>



Buildings in Christoe Street, Copperfield 1876
Image John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

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



Conclusion

- ❑ Lots of resources for family history research
- ❑ Beginners should contact local genealogy/family history society– they are there to assist
- ❑ Explore websites online – read the guides
- ❑ Remember not everything is online
- ❑ Have fun!