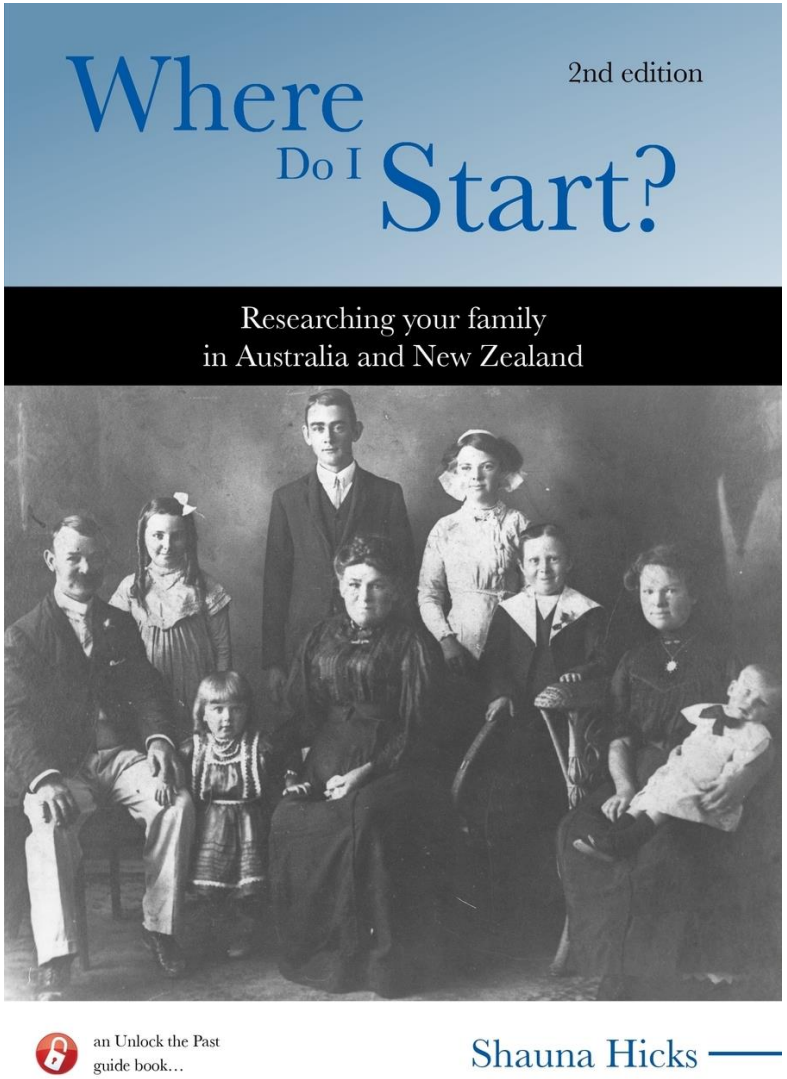


Tips & Tricks for Beginners: Avoid some common mistakes

SHAUNA HICKS

WWW.SHAUNAHICKS.COM.AU

HTTPS://DIARYOFANAUSTRALIANGENEALOGIST.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

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

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

eResources

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

User ID:

Family name: Login

Not registered? get a library card

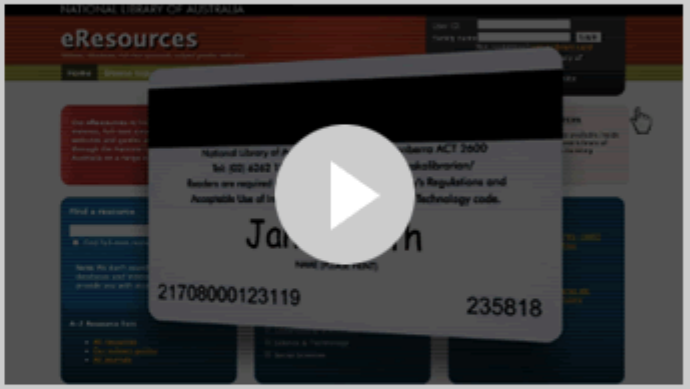
Your location is outside the National Library of Australia. Resources you can access:

Free

Home | Browse topic categories | A-Z Resource lists | Feedback | Help

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

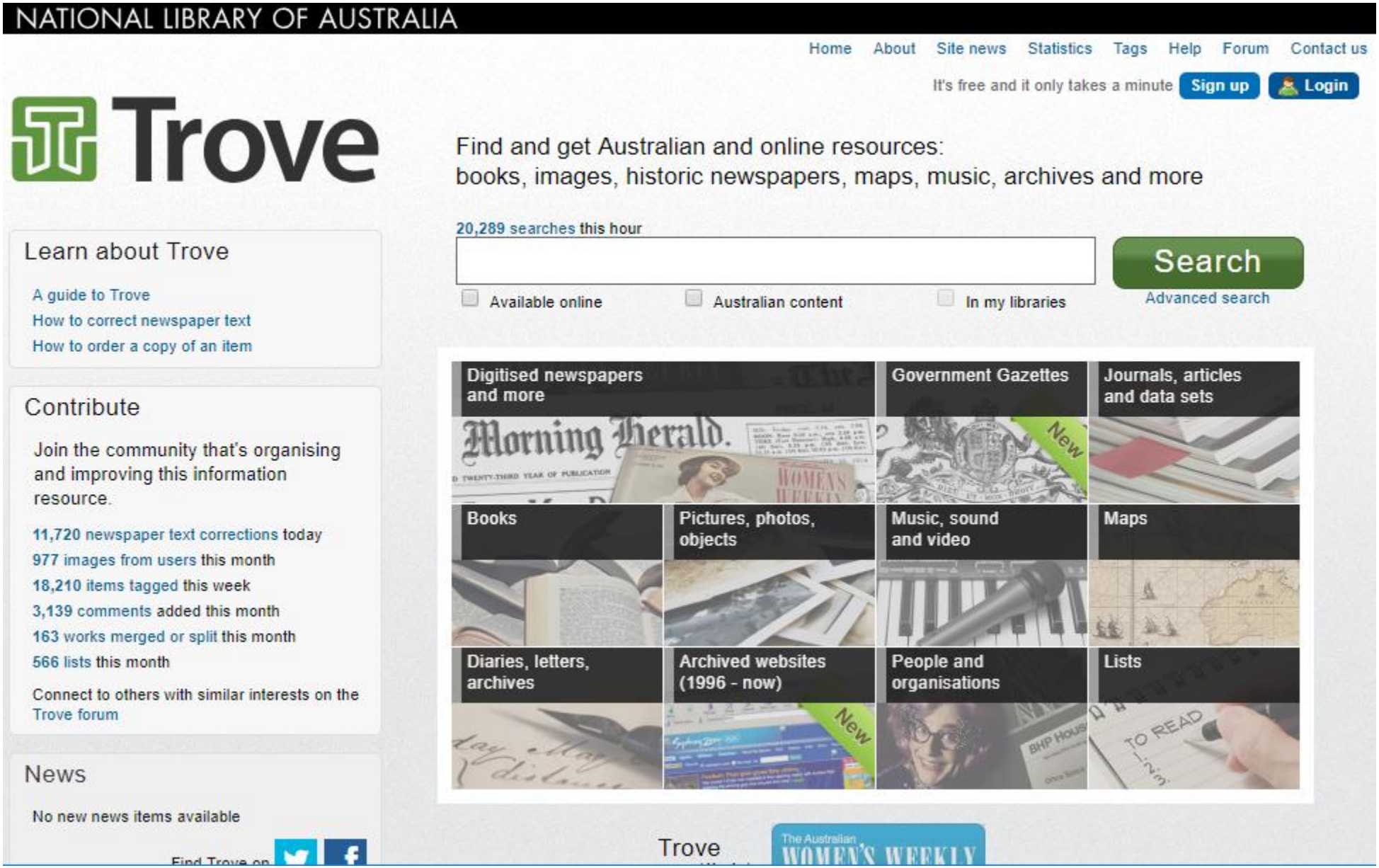
Resources available inside the National Library of Australia building

Find a resource

Browse by category

Featured resources

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources



http://trove.nla.gov.au

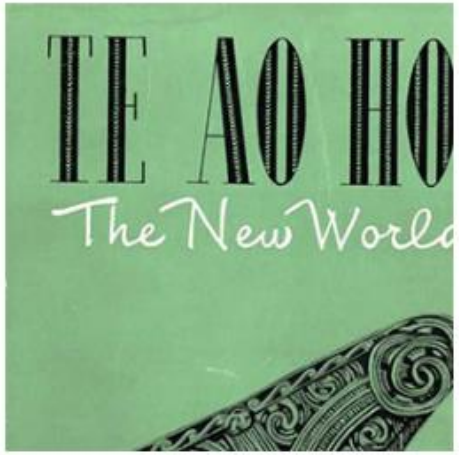
Papers Past

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND
TE PUNA MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

Newspapers

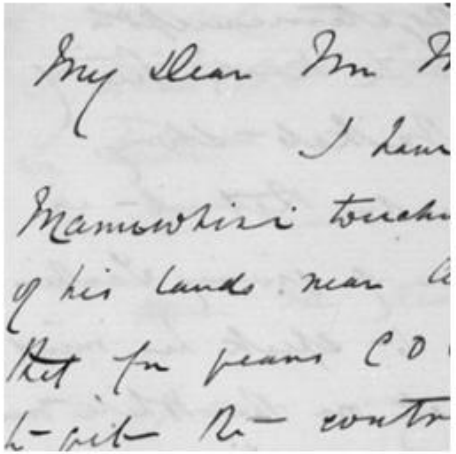
Digitised NZ and Pacific newspapers from the 19th and 20th centuries

Magazines and Journals



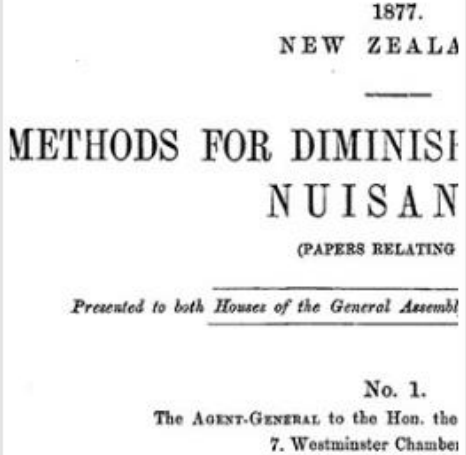
Serial publications published in NZ from 1868 through to 2017

Letters and Diaries



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

Parliamentary Papers



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?

STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

RESEARCH & COLLECTIONS | PLAN MY VISIT | DISCOVER | WHAT'S ON | GET INVOLVED | HOW DO I? | ABOUT US

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

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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

Print

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

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

Explore: Search the collection Go > Search the website Go >

Home | The collection | Information management | Engage | About us

Home > The collection > Family history

- 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.

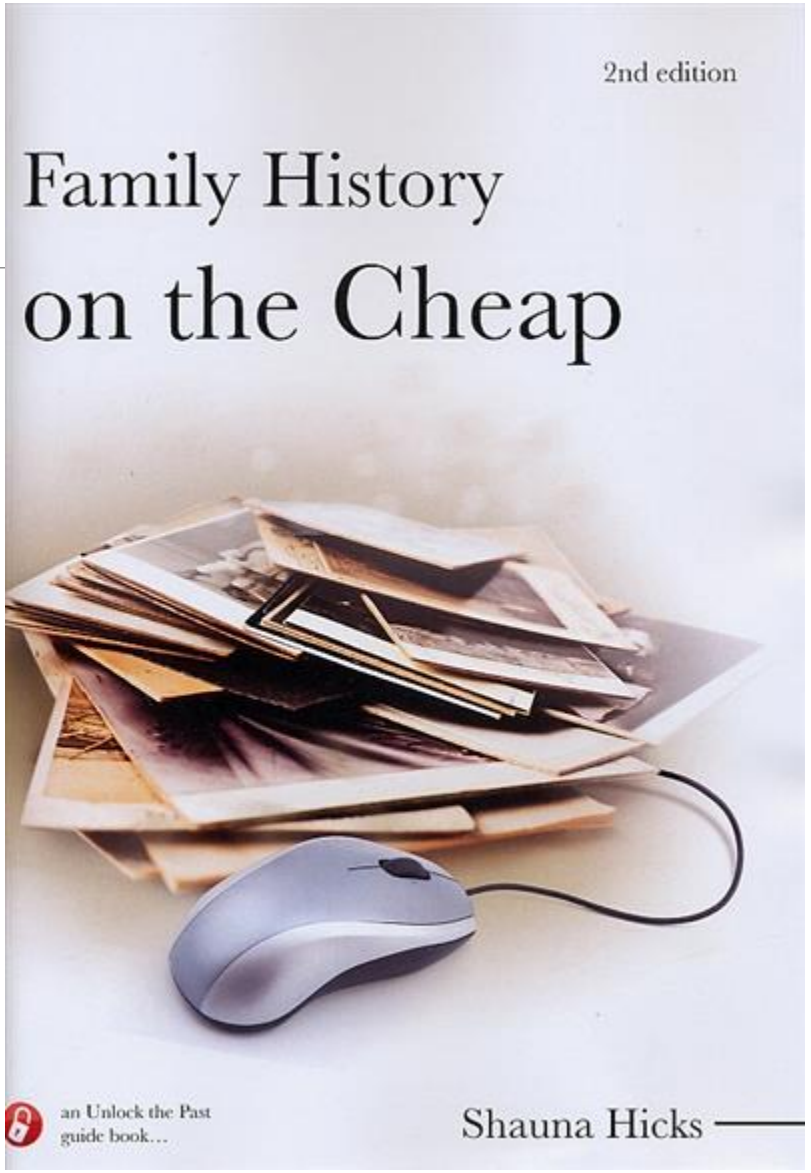
Family Journeys

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

www.naa.gov.au

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

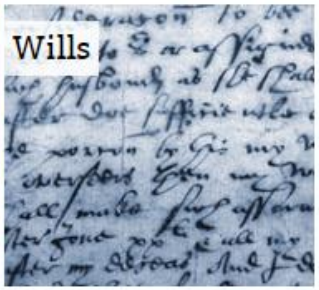
Find records from The National Archives and over 2,500 archives across the UK

Search...

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

Need more search options? Use our advanced search or browse

Popular collections



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?

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

UK & Ireland Genealogy

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

Quick Links

- Contents and Site Map
- Search GENUKI
- Gazetteer
- Church database
- Societies
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Guidance for first-time users
- Getting started in genealogy
- Genealogical events
- Who are we?
- GENUKI service status

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

Irish Genealogy.ie
EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Gaeilge English

Home Welcome! | Church Records To Church Records site | Civil Records To Civil Records site | Research Get Help | Useful Links Other sites of interest | News and Updates | Feedback Contact Us | 2016 Family History

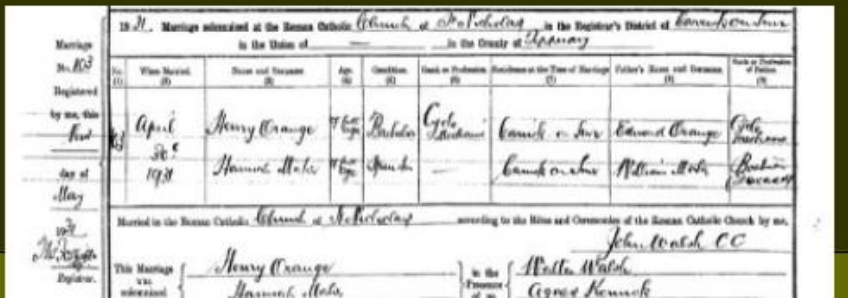
Update to the Civil Records

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



www.irishgenealogy.ie/en

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

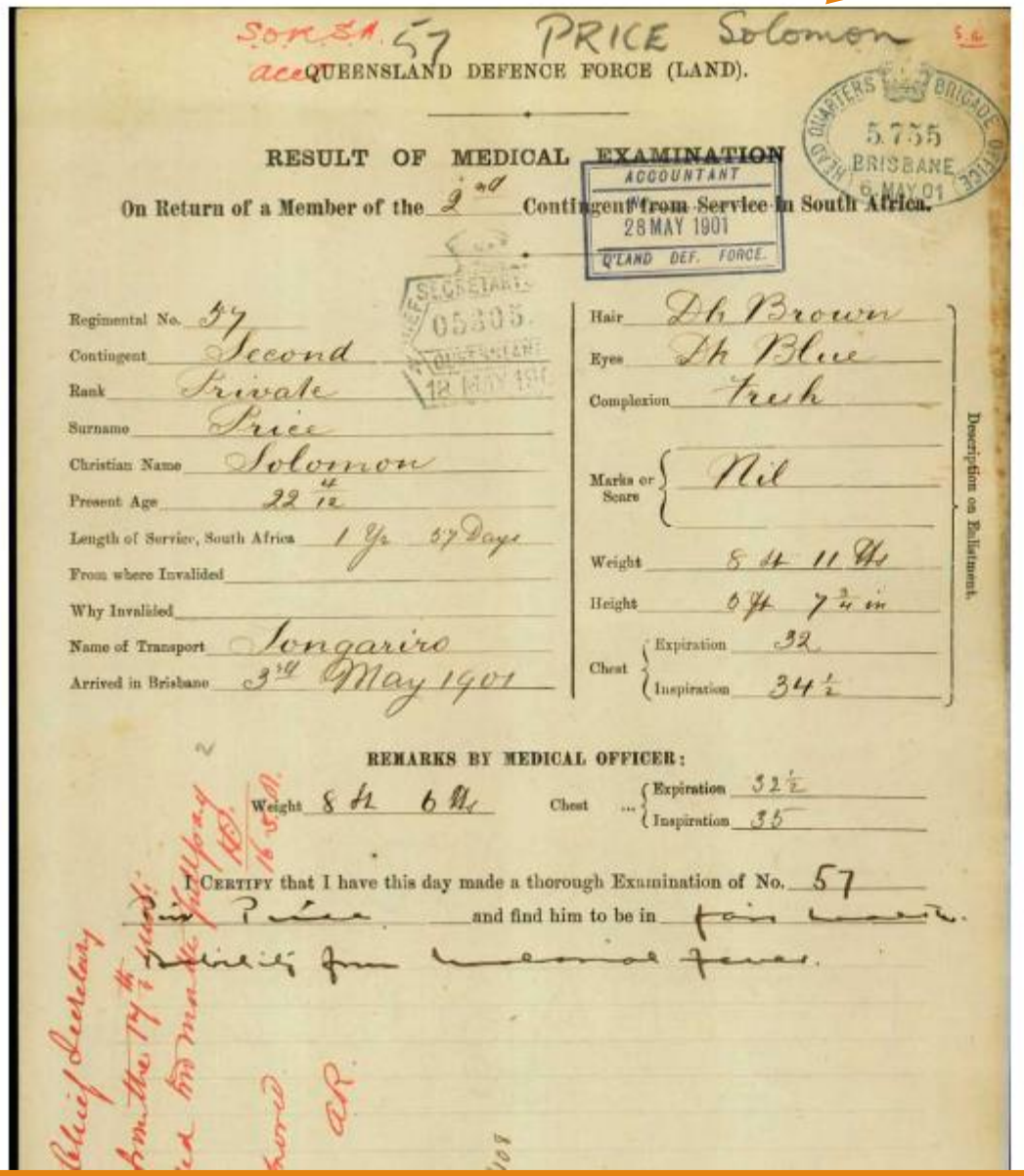
Many others

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

NAA: B4418, PRICE S

View multiple pages | Rotate image



S.O.K. S.A. 57 PRICE Solomon

acc QUEENSLAND DEFENCE FORCE (LAND).

RESULT OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION

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

ACCOUNTANT 28 MAY 1901 Q'LAND DEF. FORCE.

HEAD QUARTERS BRIGADE OFFICE 5755 BRISBANE 6 MAY 01

SECRETARY 05305 QUEENSLAND 12 MAY 1901

Regimental No.	57	Hair	Dk Brown
Contingent	Second	Eyes	Dk Blue
Rank	Private	Complexion	Fresh
Surname	Price	Marks or Scars	Nil
Christian Name	Solomon	Weight	8 st 11 lbs
Present Age	22 4/12	Height	6 ft 7 3/4 in
Length of Service, South Africa	1 Yr 57 Days	Chest Expiration	32
From where Invalided		Chest Inspiration	34 1/2
Why Invalided			
Name of Transport	Tongariro		
Arrived in Brisbane	3rd May 1901		

Description on Enlistment.

REMARKS BY MEDICAL OFFICER:

Weight 8 st 6 lbs Chest Expiration 32 1/2 Inspiration 35

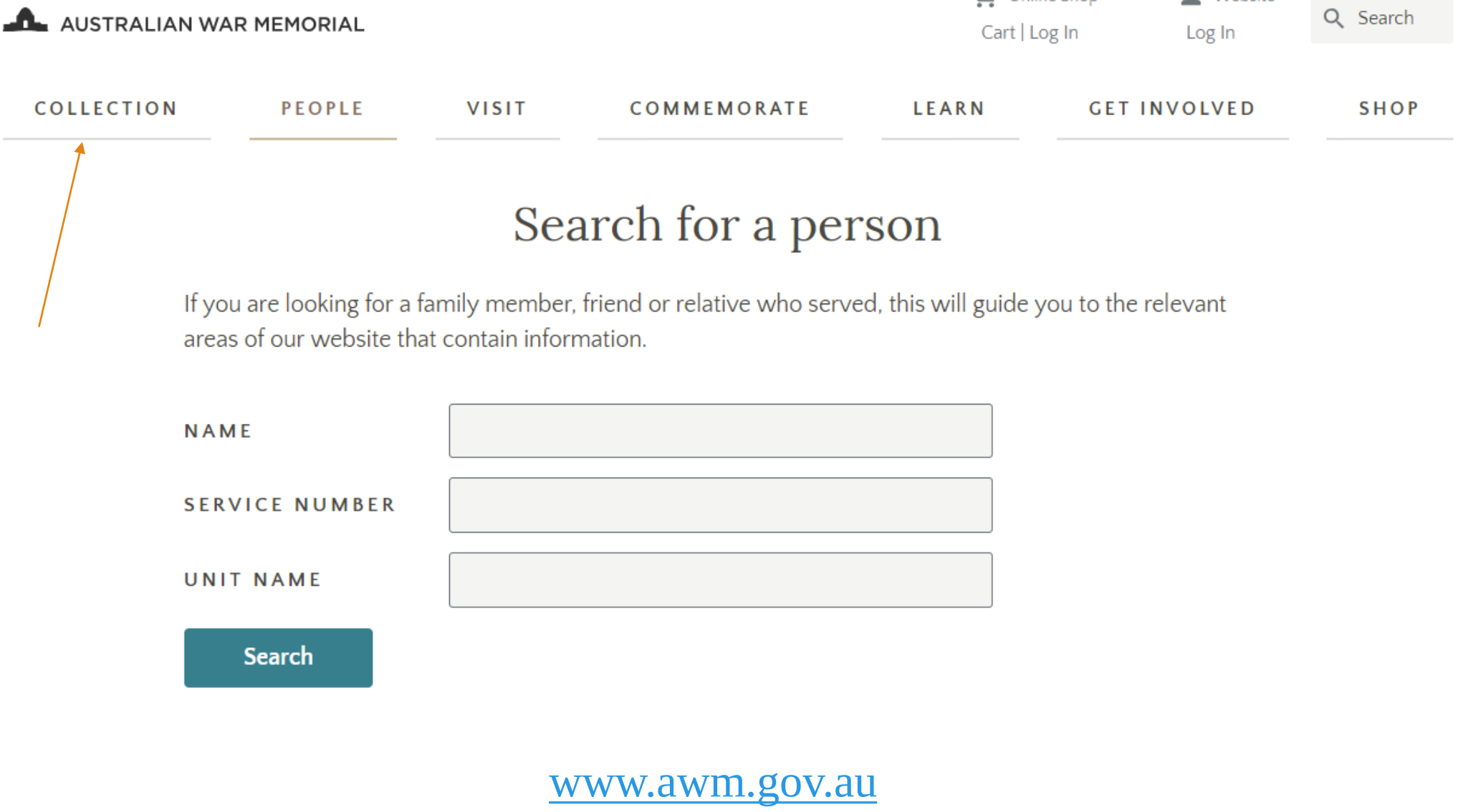
I CERTIFY that I have this day made a thorough Examination of No. 57 Pvt Price and find him to be in fair health. Liability from malarial fever.

Chief Secretary from the 17th ... 16 5 01

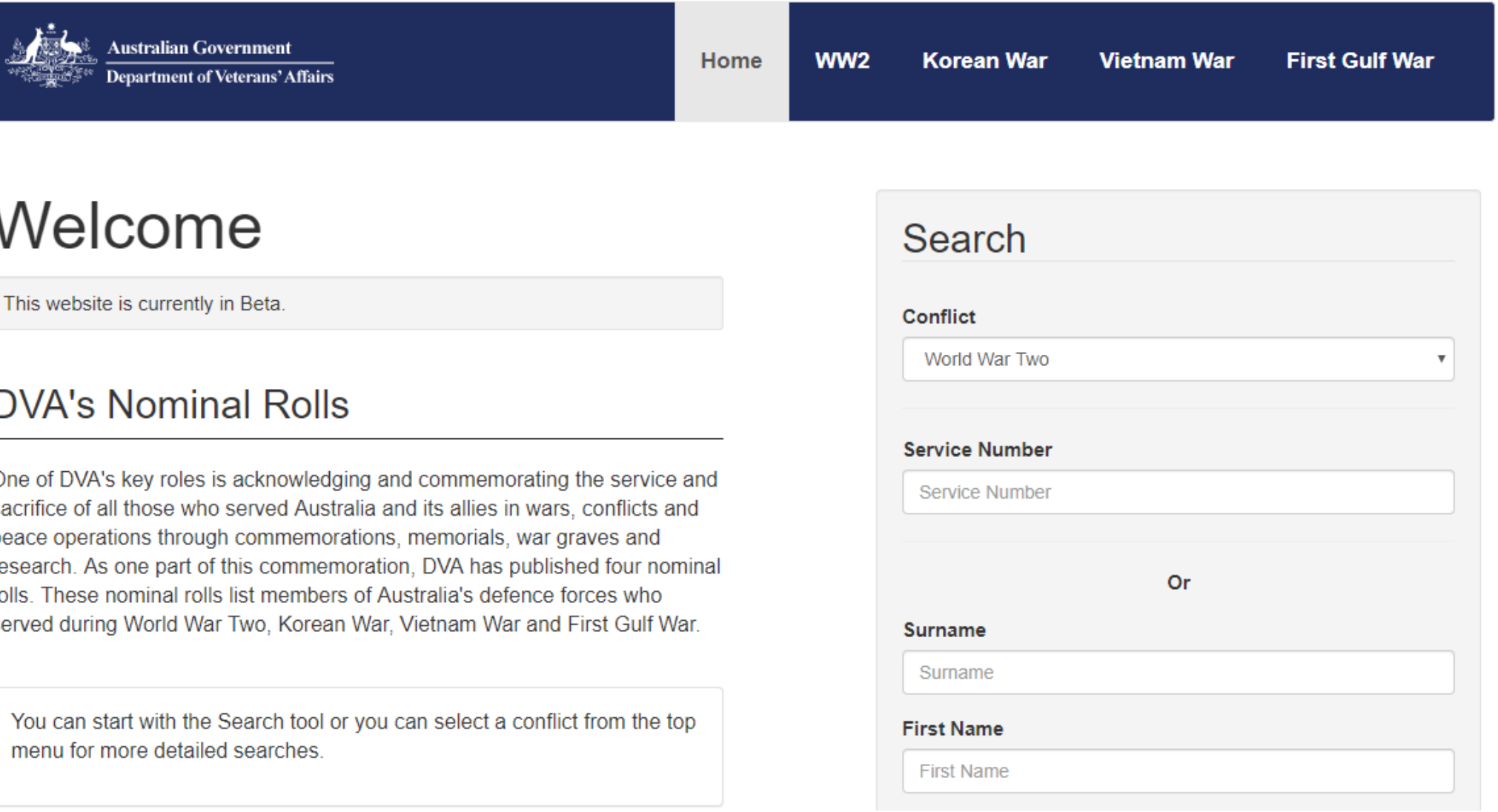
previous | next | Page 1 of 2

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



www.awm.gov.au

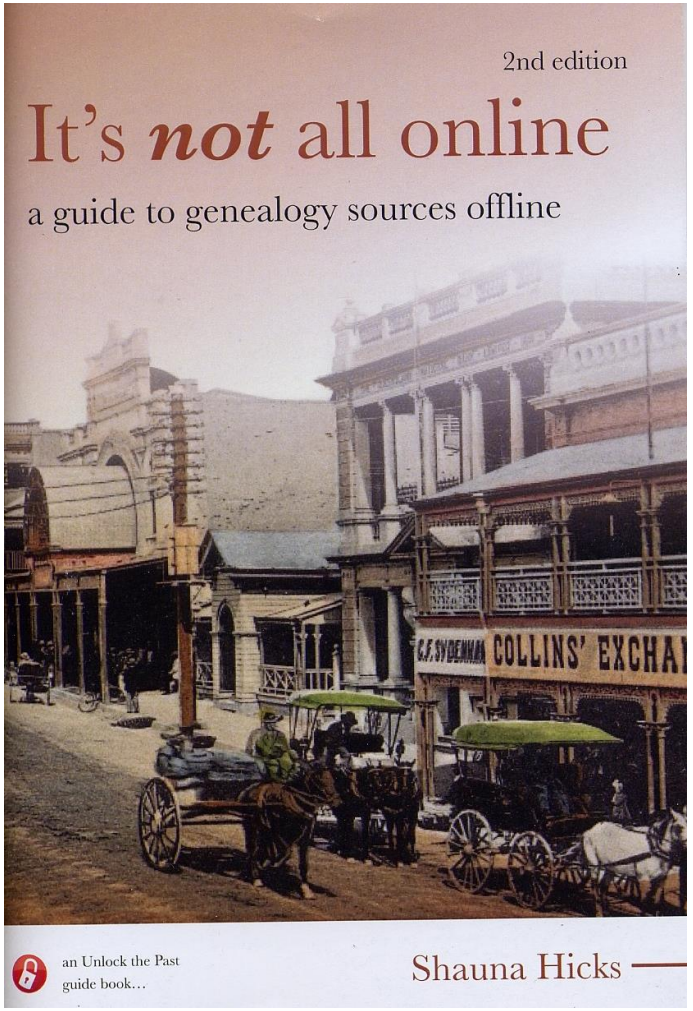


http://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au

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!