

31 Genealogy Activities for Researchers During National Family History Month August 2015

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 for further suggestions.

Shauna Hicks - Prize sponsor and Voluntary Coordinator of NFHM on behalf of AFFHO www.affho.org www.shaunahicks.com.au and Diary of an Australian Genealogist <http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au> for updates throughout NFHM August 2015

1	Visit the NFHM sponsors page and consider entering the prize draw for individuals www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors	
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 www.naa.gov.au - 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 all the new resources on Ancestry www.ancestry.com.au and enter the prize draw to win a year's subscription - major sponsor and prize sponsor	
5	Have a look at some of the great genealogy cruises coming up with Unlock the Past www.unlockthepastcruises.com - prize sponsor	
6	Visit your local newsagent and see what genealogy and family history magazines they have. Look for <i>Australian Family Tree Connections</i> www.aftc.com.au and <i>Inside History Magazine</i> www.insidehistory.com.au - both prize sponsors	
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 www.familyhistorymonth.org.au	
8	Attend one of the online events in the NFHM web calendar www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/online-event	
9	Explore your surname in the MyHeritage Last Name Directory http://lastnames.myheritage.com/last-names - 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 www.facebook.com/pages/Family-History-Month/208048719235109 Have you Liked our page yet?	
12	Do you have Queensland ancestors? Check out the Queensland Registry of BDMs www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/family-history-research 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 www.gen-ebooks.com - prize sponsor	
14	Check out Twitter https://twitter.com to see the latest genealogy news - use the hash tags #genealogy or #familyhistory #NFHM2015	
15	Why not do a photo book on a person or family? Momento have some great ideas www.momento.com.au - 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 www.bda-online.org.au - 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. I am offering a prize to assist in brick wall demolitions if I can. See NFHM sponsors page.	
20	Check out The In-Depth Genealogist 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 www.genealogicalstudies.com - prize sponsor (details of three 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. Explore Picasa's facial recognition capability http://picasa.google.com.au	
23	After scanning you need to store your records safely - check out Preservation Australia www.preservationaustralia.com.au and enter the NFHM prize giveaway to win an archival preservation box	
24	Findmypast www.findmypast.com.au 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 www.gould.com.au online catalogue and be ready when the family ask what you want for Christmas/birthday etc - prize sponsor	
26	Explore FamilySearch https://familysearch.org and perhaps do one of their online tutorials - prize sponsor	
27	Join Trove http://trove.nla.gov.au and correct newspaper text after you make that exciting family discovery! Why not add tags or make a list of your discoveries?	
28	Plan to attend the next AFFHO congress in Sydney in 2018 www.congress2018.org.au - Major sponsor and prize sponsor	
29	Learn more about the Global Social History Project with FindersCafe www.finderscafe.com - prize sponsor	
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 www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources	
31	Did any family members fight in WW1? Visit the National Archives of Australia new website Discovering Anzacs http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au/home	
<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 www.familyhistorymonth.org.au and on the NFHM Sponsors page www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/sponsors</p>		