Where 2nd edition Do I Start? Researching your family in Australia and New Zealand

an Unlock the Past guide book...



Where Do I Start?

SHAUNA HICKS

MA GRAD DIP LIB SC DIP FHS ASAAP FQFHS

WWW.SHAUNAHICKS.COM.AU



Association of Professional GENEALOGISTS Australia & New Zealand Chapter

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

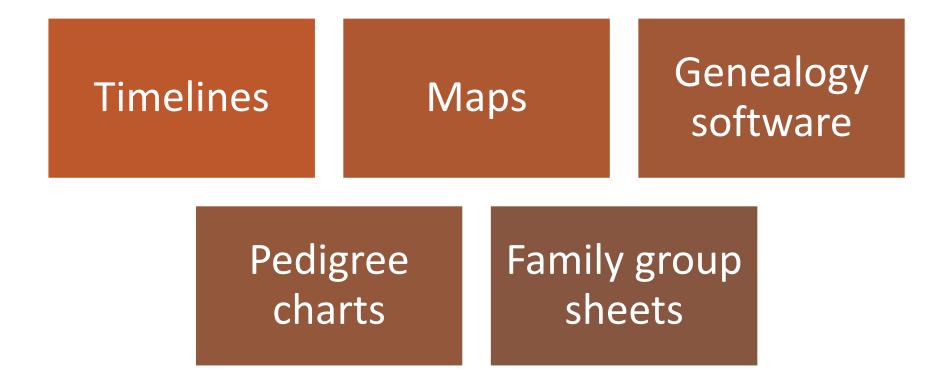
Always have at least two separate sources of proof for each event

Back up regularly – digital & paper

More good advice

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

Useful tools



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

Birth, death and marriage records

FamilyHistoryWA – Perth Western Australia

FamilyHistoryWA formerly known as Western Australian Genealogical Society offers free access to a significant number of free online databases. Select Indexes > Online database search > Public. These include:• Perth Technical College Register 1924-1931• Cemetery Inscriptions• Memorials index – public•...

SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

The Ryerson Index

This free index to death notices appearing in Australian newspapers dates from the Sydney Gazette of 1803 up to newspapers published within the last week or so including notices from digital newspapers. There are 4 million+ entries from the past...

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

mytributes – Australian Death, Funeral, Bereavement and Condolence Notices

Use this free site to find death, funeral, bereavement and condolence notices published in NewsCorp newspapers Australia wide. You can key word search or search by location. There are 41 locations that range from Adelaide to Wynnum. The full text...

Sub categories

- Australia (16)
- Australian Capital Territory (1)
- New South Wales (12)
- Northern Territory (3)
- Queensland (5)
- South Australia (10)
- Tasmania (4)
- Victoria (14)
- Western Australia (5)

Main categories

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (28) Apps for genealogy on the move (25) Archives (19) Asylum and hospital records (28) Begin your family history (44) Birth, death and marriage records (57) Blogs (29) Bookshops (16) Cemeteries (124) Child welfare (21) Convicts (64) Criminal and court records (18)

https://coraweb.com.au/websites/birth-death-and-marriage-records

Newspapers

Trove (Australia) <u>http://trove.nla.gov.au</u>

Papers Past (New Zealand) <u>http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast</u>

National Library of Australia E-Resources (free access to British & Irish newspapers at home) www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources

IN THIS GUIDE

Getting Started

Searching for eResources

Saving and sharing content

Related webinars



Our <u>eResources portal</u> has been designed with easy access in mind, combining previous functionality with new features that enhance discoverability and make searching easier, more flexible, and more efficient. You can do full-text searches of most of our online content, rather than having to enter and search each database individually. Think of all the material at your fingertips with one easy search!

Read a <u>blog post</u> explaining how to get the most out of our eResources portal or watch our help video to get started on using the portal.



NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

ASK A LIBRARIAN →

RELATED BLOG POSTS

- New eResources portal
- <u>From the horse's mouth:</u>
 <u>Primary sources at the NLA</u>
- Calling all car enthusiasts!
- eResources for women's studies



Image: https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-161206646/view

www.nla.gov.au/research-guides/eresources-at-the-national-library

https://trove.nla.gov.au

		TROV	E		ABOUT HELP	NEWS	PARTNERS	SIGN UP	LOGIN
Explore	Categories	Community	Research	First Austra	lians				
	Searcl	h. Uncover	: Austral	ia					
Search Trove	2			All categories	÷Q				
				Advan	ced Search 🔻				
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA	Trove is a collaborati	on between the National Partner organisations are See our Partr	ound Australia.	nd hundreds of					

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https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

Papers Past Newspapers

s Magazines and Journals

Letters and Diaries Parli

Parliamentary Papers Books

Help About

Nau mai, rāhiri mai ki Papers Past

Nau mai, piki mai koutou e whai ana i te hīnātore o te mātauranga,

kia āta hīkina ēnei mātauranga kia puta ki te ao mārama,

ā, kia pūmahara ki tõna whakamahinga,

hei tauherenga atu,

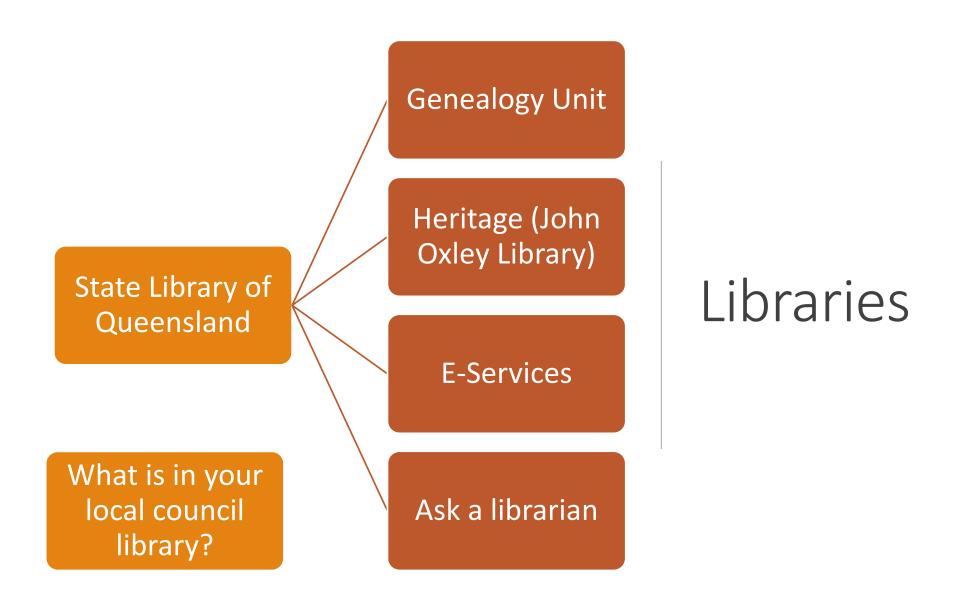
ki i nga wā o mua ki te wā a muri ake nei.

Welcome to Papers Past

Welcome to all who are pursuing the spark of knowledge Carefully uplift this knowledge in to the world of light And use it wisely As a link From the past to the future.

Papers Past delivers digitised full-text New Zealand and Pacific newspapers, magazines and journals, books, and other formats.





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 eresources and indexes

Search indexes to Queensland material held at State Library. Explore our databases for details from Australia and worldwide.

Discover more



Family history research guides

Our guides cover various family history topics. They give details on resources, useful websites and research hints.

Discover more



Useful websites for family historians

Find websites from Australia and overseas that will help you with your family history research.

Discover more

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

Family history research guides

Our research guides are divided into Life events; Travel and migration; Work and occupations; and Directories and social history plus and A-Z. Use our guides to learn more detail about family history resources to help you in your research.

Life events Travel and migration Work and occupations Directories and social history

A-Z

Work and occupations

Records for occupations can be an important source of information about when (and where) your ancestors worked, how they made their living and what type of life they led. They help provide more detail to your family tree. Find out what resources State Library has on some specific occupations.

Blue Books

The Blue Books (also known as Civil Establishment, Returns of the Colony, or Statistical Returns) were usually published each year. They listed most public servants currently employed by the government. If your ancestors worked for the government you may be able to trace their careers. Learn about the Blue Books and discover what information they hold. See what records are held at State Library.

Blue Books [PDF 38 kb] PDF PDF · 37 KB

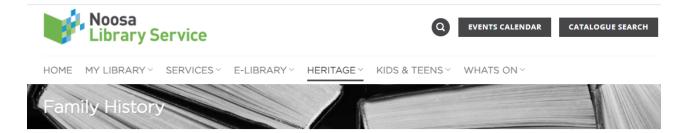


British Army in Colonial Australia

The duties of the military in colonial Australia are a useful guide to the records available. The soldiers' duties involved guarding convicts, monitoring Aborigines, pursuing bushrangers, working as mounted police, guarding gold transports, assisting in exploration and the construction of roads, bridges and buildings. Many soldiers settled in Australia permanently and acquired land grants. Find out how to locate a military ancestor, and discover some of the resources held at State Library.



www.libraries.noosa.qld.gov.au/heritage-council-minutes/family-history





Noosa Library Service has a large collection of printed and computer-based resources for family history research. The Family History collection is located in the Heritage Library at the Noosaville branch. Noosa Library Service also provides free access to the billions of searchable records available in leading genealogy databases ancestry.com and findmypast.com.au

For extra help with your research, visit your local genealogy society:

Cooroy Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group 🖸 Emerald Street, Cooroy

Ancestry library edition 🖸 Leading genealogy database containing billions of records for family and local history research. Available for home use by library members on a temporary basis during the library closure.* Ancestry.com have currently made this available until 31 December 2021 – Library card required.

Find my past 🖉 Leading genealogy database containing billions of records for family and local history research. Available for home use for a limited time during library closure.* For privacy reasons please do not start or update a family tree. There are daily and monthly limits on record views – please be considerate of other users when accessing the database. Library card required.

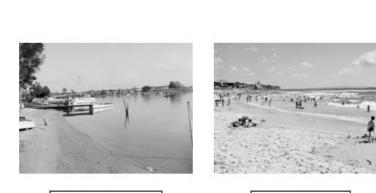
* Available for free use in library once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

www.libraries.noosa.qld.gov.au/heritage-council-minutes/locality-histories



For additional information or to see more historic images visit Heritage Noosa 🖸 and the Heritage Library catalogue 🖄





GYMPIE TERRACE

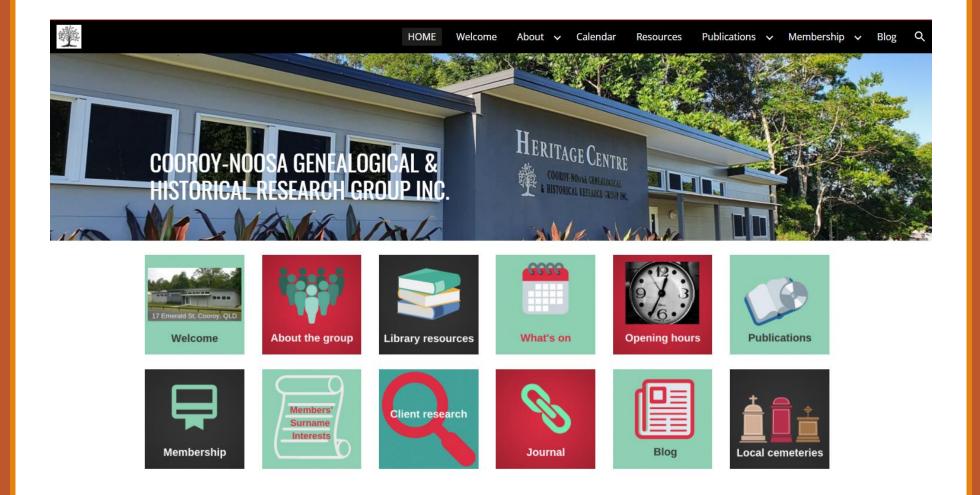




COORAN



TEWANTIN



www.genealogy-noosa.org.au

Archives

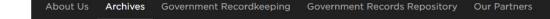
Queensland State Archives

State Archives & Records NSW

National Archives of Australia

www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/search-the-records

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	•	Australian South Sea Islanders	↓
<u>Business</u>	↓	Convicts and early settlers	1
Chronological register of convicts 1824-1839		Monthly and half yearly returns for Moreton Bay 1829-1837	_
<u>St Helena prisoners 1863-1936</u> Prisoners tried, Toowoomba 1864 to 1903		Prisoners discharged, Toowoomba 1869-1879 Prisoners admitted, Toowoomba 1895 to 1906	-
Female prisoners admitted, Toowoomba 1887 (1891	<u>to</u>		
Courts	↓	<u>Government</u>	↓
Immigration	↓	Lands and Mining	V
Schools, hospitals and orphanages	↓	Shipping and railways	↓
<u>War</u>	V		



State Archives

HOME COLLECTION & RESEARCH PRE-ORDER EXHIBITIONS DISCOVER VISIT ASK AN ARCHIVIST



COVID-19 - Reading Room at the Western Sydney Records Centre (WSRC) open by appointment Face masks are required indoors. Please make an **make an appointment** before placing a pre-order/request. Learn more »



www.records.nsw.gov.au

윤 습

EXPLORE

Discover the National Archives

THE COLLECTION

SET HELP



me an NAA member a unique community of like-minded lovers of ge and culture.



Defence and war service records Explore our service records to learn more about your family's war history or commemorate exservice members.

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First Australians The National Archives holds many records relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Isla peoples and their histories.

Search the collection

Go to RecordSearch

www.naa.gov.au

NAA: B4418, PRICE S View multiple pages Rotate image PRICE Solomon Son \$1.57 acequeensland defence force (LAND). Page 1 of 2 next 5.755 RESULT OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION BRISBANE ACCOUNTANT Contingent from Service in South Africa. On Return of a Member of the 28 MAY 1901 Q'LAND DEF. FORCE. Al Brown 05305. Title Hair PRICE, SOLOMAN Regimental No. Ih Blue [Regimental No.57] Lecond Contingent Eyes joined 3-5-1901 -Trivale Truch Rank Complexie Boer War Dossier E Price Surname Jolomon ription Christian Name **Contents range** 1901 - 1902 Ilil Marks or 22 12 Senre Present Age Ballstm Series number B4418 57 Days Length of Service, South Africa / 4/2 8 14 11 41 Weight From where Invalided Control symbol PRICE S Off 7 4 in Height Why Invalided longariro 32 Access status Open Name of Transport Expiration Chest Arrived in Brisbano 34: Inspiration Barcode 686145 REMARKS BY MEDICAL OFFICER : (Expiration 322 Q+ @ 🗄 Weight 8 fr 6 Mg Chest CERTIFY that I have this day made a thorough Examination of No. 57 and find him to be in ____ jump to page go

2nd edition

Online Resources

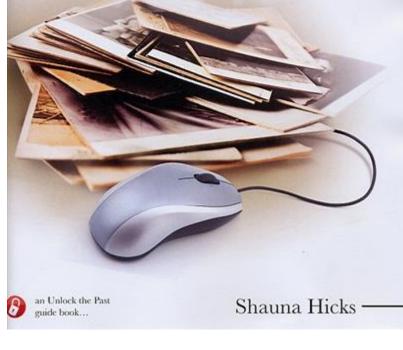
Gateway sites

Family history sites

Military sites

Photographs

Family History on the Cheap



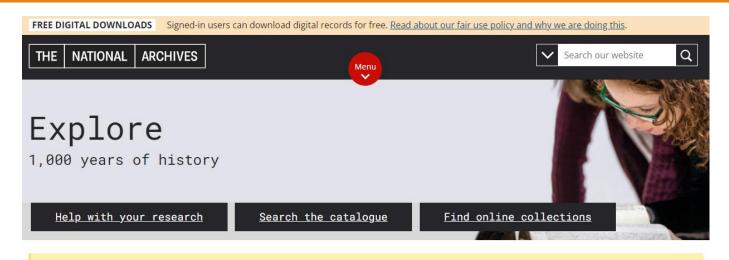
Gateway Sites

CoraWeb

Cyndi's list

GENUKI

National Archives UK



Our building is open, including our reading rooms and exhibition spaces.

Plan your visit and book for our reading rooms

CENSU

NATION



www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk

FREE DIGITAL DOWNLOADS While there is limited access to our Kew site, signed-in users can download digital records for free. Read about our fair use policy and why we are doing this.

THE NATIONAL AR	CHIVES	Menu				
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	Explore the catalogue Access records held by The National	Archives and more than 2,	500 other archives.		~	
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	<u>Advanced search or browse</u>			Search		

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?







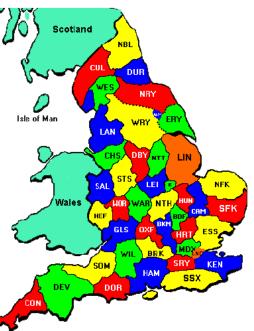
England

Many sets of records were kept for England and Wales together, so that the problems of locating them and using them are very similar in the two countries. For convenience such records are described here, rather than on the British Isles pages.

Counties

N.B. GENUKI is organised on the basis of historic counties. To find which GENUKI pages cover more modern counties and county boroughs, please see: Modern and Administrative Counties and County Boroughs.

Archives & Libraries Bibliography Biography **Business & Commerce** Records Cemeteries Census Chronology Church History △ Church Records Civil Registration Correctional Institutions Court Records Description & Travel Directories Dwellings △ Emigration & Immigration Gazetteers Genealogy Handwriting △ Heraldry △ Historical Geography History Jewish Records △ Land & Property Language & Languages Law & Legislation Manors



Maps Medical Records Merchant Marine Migration, Internal Military History Military Records △ Names, Geographical Names, Personal Newspapers Nobility △ Occupations Periodicals A Politics & Government Poor Houses, Poor Law Population Postal & Shipping Guides △ Probate Records Public Records Religion & Religious Life △ Schools Social Life & Customs Societies Statistics Taxation Town Records Voting Registers

www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng

Leicestershire

Archives & Libraries Bibliography Biography 🛆 Business & Commerce Records △ Cemeteries Census Chronology △ Church Records Civil Registration Correctional Institutions A Court Records △ Description & Travel Directories A Emigration & Immigration A Gazetteers △ Genealogy Historical Geography ▲ History Land & Property A Language & Languages 🛆 Law & Legislation △ Manors △



and Parishes

Maps Medical Records A Merchant Marine △ Migration, Internal △ Military History Military Records Names, Geographical Names, Personal 🛆 Newspapers Occupations Politics & Government A Poor Houses, Poor Law Population △ Probate Records △ Public Records △ Schools A Social Life & Customs A Societies Statistics A Taxation △ Town Records △ Voting Registers △

View Nearby churches Nearby places Place search

Place search County map

Cosby

Archives & Libraries Bibliography & Cemeteries Census Church History Church Records Churches Civil Registration Description & Travel Gazetteers Genealogy & Historical Geography History



Manors Maps Military History Military Records Names, Geographical Newspapers ≜ Occupations ≙ Politics & Government Poor Houses, Poor Law Population Schools Societies

Description in 1871:

"COSBY, a village and a parish in Blaby district, Leicestershire. The village stands on an affluent of the river Soar, near the Midland railway and the Fosse way, 1³4 mile NNE of Broughton-Astley r. station, and 7 5SW of Leicester; and has a post office under Lutterworth. The parish includes also the hamlet of Little Thorpe. Acres, 2,550. Real property, £4,653. Pop., 974. Houses, 228. The property is much subdivided. A number of the inhabitants are stocking-makers. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Peterborough. Value, £138. Patron, Thomas Pares, Esq. The church is old but good. There are a Baptist chapel and charities £6." [John Marius WILSON's "Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wiles." 1870-72]

Family History Sites

Free sites

FamilySearch

FreeUKGen

Irish Genealogy

Commercial/pay to view/subscription

- Ancestry (Australia)
- FindMyPast
- □ My Heritage
- Scotland's People

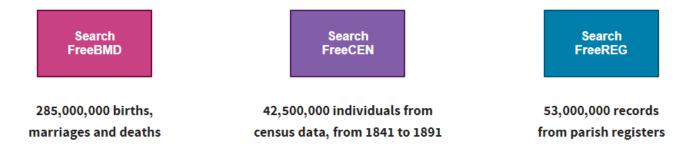


www.freeukgenealogy.org.uk

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Free UK Genealogy provides free, online access to family history records. We work with a team of dedicated volunteers to create highquality 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:



🔿 Sign in 🛛 🖋 Register

London Lives 1690 to 1800 ~ Crime, Poverty and Social Policy in the Metropolis

Home Search Browse Lives Historical Background The Project London Lives Book



Home

Search **Browse Documents** Lives Historical Background **About This Project** Copyright & Citation Guide Contact Us

Featured Life

Catherine Jones, fl. 1757-1783

Parish Forced to Provide Generous Relief to a Pauper Residing in Wales



A fully searchable edition of 240,000 manuscripts from	
eight archives and fifteen datasets, giving access to 3.3	35
million names.	

To search London Lives use the boxes on the right or go to the Search Pages.

March 2018 Update

Sources for London Lives

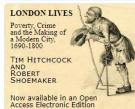
User accounts and workspaces have now been restored. For information on creating a user account, see How to Register Users can once again use the workspace function, but material that was in workspaces before August 2016 has not been restored. Other changes include the correction of tagging errors and broken links, clarification of the terms under London Lives data is made available for reuse, and additions to our bibliography of works that use London Lives as a source.

For further information on all these changes, as well as previous site updates, please see What's New.

The Digital Panopticon: Tracing London Convicts in Britain and Australia, 1780-1925

Some London Lives datasets are incorporated in this new AHRC funded website, which traces the lives of 90,000 convicts sentenced at the Old Bailey between 1780 and 1875, linking Old Bailey trials to relevant entries in fifty databases of criminal justice and civil records. The 'Life Archives' allow users to discover both the pre- and post-trial histories of Old Bailey convicts. They allow users to see differences between the punishment sentences handed searched in: down by the court and the punishments convicts actually experienced, and make it possible to compare the impact of imprisonment and transportation on convicts' lives.

S	EARCH
Keyword	
Surname	Given Name
Reference ID	
From	
1680	✓ 1820
	SEARCH



London Lives can also be



www.londonlives.org



Church Records

Home

Welcome

To Civil Records

Research

Useful Links E News Other sites of interest and Updates Feedback

C 🖉 2016 Family Histo

Welcome to www.irishgenealogy.ie

www.irishgenealogy.ie is a website that allows users the opportunity to search a wide range of record sources in their search of their Irish Ancestry. The website is home to the on-line historic Indexes of the Civil Registers (GRO) of Births, Marriages, Civil Partnerships and Deaths and to Church Records of Baptism, Marriage and Burial from a number of counties.

The website also operates as a search portal that allows users to search the following record sources as well:

www.irishgenealogy.ie is a website operated by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaettacht, Sports and Media

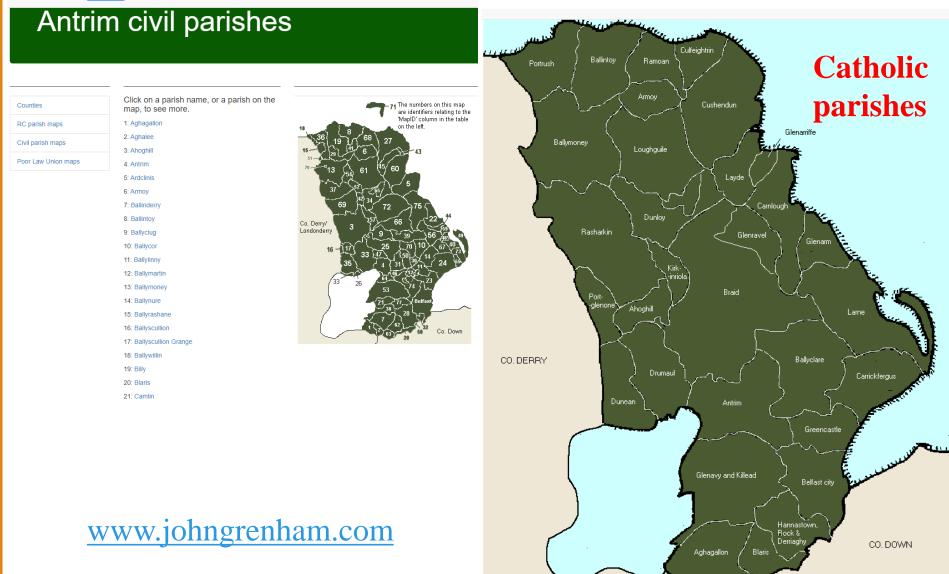


Gaeilge

English

www.irishgenealogy.ie/en

Like 4.2K Irish Ancestors Surnames Placenames Browse Ancestors Blog Wizard



Island Magee civil parish, Antrim

Click on a place-name below to see its Griffith's

Click on 1901 or 1911 for its census return.

Valuation record.

Island Magee Ordnance Survey map from 1831-3

Island Magee parish map on townlands.ie

Island Magee contemporary Google map

Adjoining parishes

Donegore 31 (Antrim)

Templecorran 73 (Antrim)

Island Magee: common surnames & households

Hill	17
Wilson	14
Browne	13
Templeton	13
Kane	11
Milliken	10
Nelson	10

Click on the research-source links to see the records for Island Magee.							
Click on any parish on th	Click on any parish on the map to go to its page.						
Places in Island Magee							
Balloo	1901	1911					
Ballycronan Beg	1901	1911					
Ballycronan More	1901	1911					
Ballydown	1901	1911					
Ballyharry	1901	1911					
Ballykeel	1901	1911					
Ballylumford	1901	1911					
Ballymoney	1901	1911					
Ballymuldrogh	1901	1911					

sui	mmary of research sources for Island Magee
1 re	ecord(s) in Lewis's Topographical Dictionary (1837)
8 h	eadstone transcripts/graveyards
22 (census-type record(s)
2 e	state record(s)
12	book format local histories
11 (church records
8 Io	cal or family history journal(s)
No	directories listed
4 G	eneral Register Office record(s)
45 1	wills records
34	newspaper indexes

Positional map

www.johngrenham.com

Church records for Island Magee

Denomination	Church	Baptisms	Marriages	Burials	Location	Ref.	Status
Roman Catholic	Larne	Aug 15 1821 - Nov 23 1828 Dec 14 1828 - Feb 9 1841 Mar 8 1852 - May 12 1872	Sept 21 1821 - Nov 9 1828 Dec 28 1828 - Oct 1 1840 Apr 11 1852 - June 3 1872		NLI	Imaged online (Pos. 5472) Transcribed at Ancestry & FindMyPast	Open for public research
Roman Catholic	Larne	1821 - 1883	1821 - <mark>1</mark> 883		PRONI	MIC.1D/68, 90	Open for public research
Roman Catholic	Larne: St. Mac Nissi	No records microfilmed			NLI		
Roman Catholic	Larne: St. Mac Nissi	No records microfilmed			PRONI		Open for public research
Roman Catholic	Larne: St. Mac Nissi	1828 - 1900	1828 - 1900		UHF		Online transcript (\$)
Presbyterian	Islandmagee (1st)	1829-1935	1829-1905		PRONI	MIC.1P/326	Open for public research
Presbyterian	Islandmagee (1st)	1829-1983 (extracts)				Online	
Presbyterian	Islandmagee (2nd)	1854-1937	1848-1933		PRONI	MIC.1P/337	Open for public research
Presbyterian	Islandmagee (2nd)		1819-1891 (extracts)			Online	
Church of Ireland	Islandmagee	1825-1878	1827-18441	1829- 1878			Held by the Public Record Office in 1919.



Search for your Scottish Ancestors

Forename(s)	•	Surname		•
	Keyword		0	
	Search all	Collections		
1.1		n Indexes erence		
	SATURDAY 1.	5 JANUARY 2022		
	Learn how to tr family www.scottish	history ⊘		

www.scottishindexes.com



> Home > Log-in > Password reminder > Change password > Change email address

> JOIN NOW > Latest newsletter > Newsflash

Free to search and free to join! REE MORE

Information

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

Tools

Index of Incorrect Sumames 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."

"Many thanks for your informative and interesting newsletters. I really look forward to them and when I spot them in the inbox they are the first thing I scroll to."

To see the latest issue click here.



find my past

records

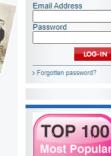
ancestor chart!

GO

Dast

THE

NATIONAL



lost Popular NEALOGY SITE

Already registered?

Log in here...



voice of David Archer, joined LostCousins in November 2004: "It's a very good idea, and a well-designed site". Click for more.



38 Million Records

Transcribed

ancestry DNA

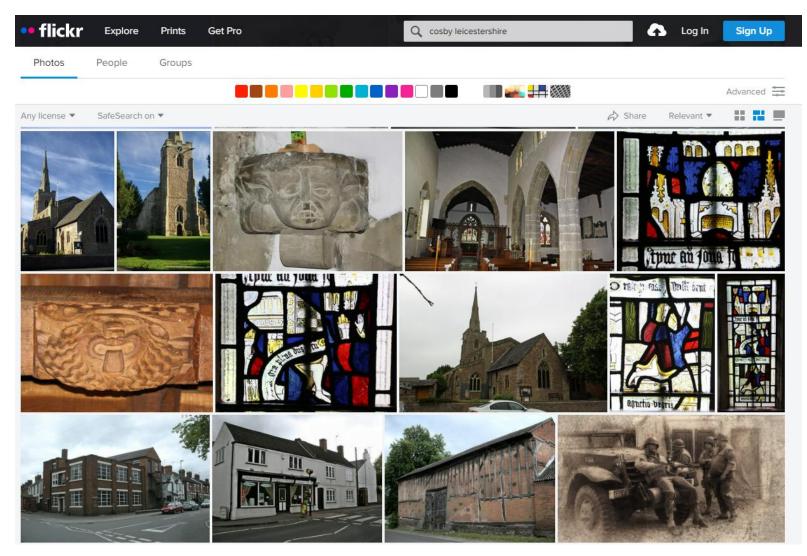
DISCOVER

THE PEOPLE

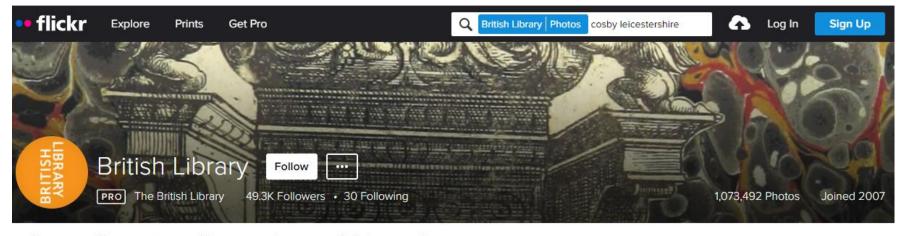
AND PLACES

IN YOUR DNA

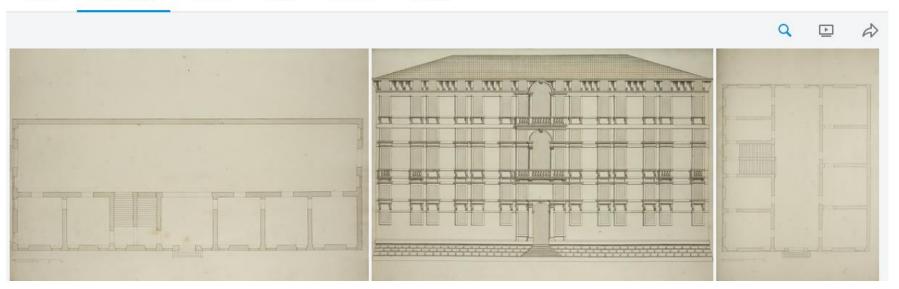
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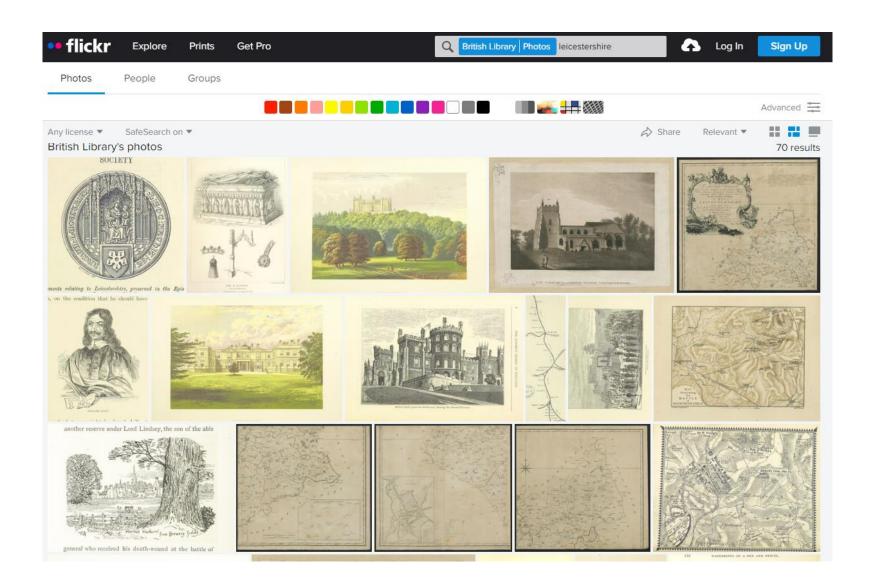


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GENERAL VIEW OF THE MINING DISTRICT OF CORNWALL.

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosby,_Leicestershire

WIKIPEDIA The Free Encyclopedia

Cosby, Leicestershire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: Q 52°33.1'N 1°11.6'W

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Cosby is a village in the English county of Leicestershire. Cosby is located in the south of the county near the larger villages and towns of Whetstone, Blaby and Wigston. Its proximity to the city of Leicester means it is part of the Leicester Urban Area. The village is administered by Blaby District Council. Cosby has a brook which runs through the village and eventually serves as a tributary to the River Soar.

The village's name probably means 'farm/settlement of Cossa'. 'Farm/settlement of Kofsi' has also been suggested.^[1]

It is not known how the name originated, and it is first recorded as "Cossebi" in the Domesday Book in 1086 with 40 families living in the village. Cosby was described as a "considerable village" in 1810 (with a population of 555) by historian John Nichols. In 1991 it had a population of 3,400 and in 2001 a population of 3,489, increasing to 3,506 at the 2011 census.^[2]

Cosby's 'Scandinavian' place name indicates that the village existed here several hundred years earlier, dating to the time of the Danish invasion in the earlier parts of the 9th century. However it is possible that there may have been an even earlier settlement here in Saxon or even Roman times given that the Fosse Way bounds the parish to the north.

The parish church is the 14th century St Michael and All Angels'. It also has Methodist and Baptist churches. Cosby has two schools, Cosby Primary School and independent school Brooke House Day School. Cosby has football, rugby and cricket teams which all participate in Leicestershire's sporting leagues. The teams play their home games at Victory Park.

A 15th century granary, known as the Tithe Barn, sits next to the church and now forms a popular dining venue. It was taken over by H.W. Coates in the 1960s and known as the Coates Barn, before being restored in the 1980s into commercial office space. Original wattle and daub was saved along with other period elements and these are now on display for patrons.^{[3][4][5]}

Close to the church is the early 17th century house known as Brooks Edge. This is the historic home of the Armston family who lived in the village for more than 800 years. One member of this pro-Royalist family escaped after the battle of Naseby and hid out in Whetstone Gorse. Cromwell's soldiers questioned many people as to his whereabouts, including his small son who refused to divulge his father's hiding place. According to the legend, this took place in the family home at Brooks Edge and was celebrated in William Frederick Yeames's famous painting "And When Did You Last See Your Father".

In 1767, the medieval open fields of the village were enclosed by Act of Parliament, bringing to an end the system of agriculture, which had been practiced in Cosby from before the Norman Conquest in 1066. The post enclosure revolution in farming resulted in Cosby becoming a more industrial village with framework knitting followed by boot and shoe manufacture dominating the 19th and early 20th centuries. During this period, the population of the village more than doubled from 555 in 1801 to 1,351 in 1901.

Council houses were built along Park Road and in Lady Leys during the 1920s and 1930s, while the Settlement was established in 1938 when 48 houses each with a third of an acre to house out of work families from Wales and the North East of England. By 1951 the population had risen to 1,533, five times that of the village in the 17th century. In the 1960s large private housing estates were also built making the village one of Leicestershire's increasing number of dormitory settlements.

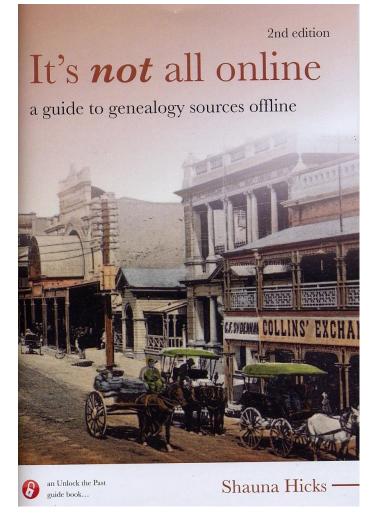
The Great Central Railway, the last main line to be built from the north of England to London, opened on 15 Mar 1899 and ran past the east side of Cosby on an embankment. Although there was never a station at Cosby, this section of the line was well known for the lengthy curve which for northbound trains was to the right (east) after coming out of which the city of Leicester would be directly ahead and the route would be almost ruler straight all the rest of the way to the





Location within Leicestershire

3,506			
Blaby			
Leicestershire			
East Midlands			
England			
United Kingdom			
LEICESTER			
LE9			
Leicestershire			
Leicestershire			
East Midlands			
South Leicestershire			
List of places: UK • England • Leicestershire			



Last Thoughts

Lots of resources

Contact local genealogy/family history society

Explore websites online – read the guides

Remember not everything is online

□ Have fun!