Do you want to delve deeper into your family's past?

Explore your family history using the Library's diverse and extensive collections. We will have something for you whether you're a veteran family historian or just starting out.
We have a dedicated family history area where you will find family history records and resources, including:

- electoral rolls
- genealogy handbooks
- past newspapers.

Staff are also there to help you get started with your research and to guide you through the Library’s collections.

Search across the Library's collections [2] to discover family history records available at the Library.

Can’t come to the Library? Check out the family history research guides [3] we've developed or Ask a Librarian [4] to get help with your family history research.

**Location**

The family history area is in the Governor Marie Bashir Reading Room [5].

**Research guides**

We’ve developed online research guides to help you with researching your family history and navigating the Library's collections. These guides include tips, strategies and key resources.

- [Aboriginal Australians family history](#) [6]
- [Births, deaths and marriages](#) [7]
- [Convicts: Bound for Australia](#) [8]
- [Convicts: Life in the colony](#) [9]
- [Passenger records](#) [10]
- [Shipping records](#) [11].

We also have two getting started guides for a basic introduction to some family history material from the Library's collections.

- [Getting started: Births, deaths and marriages (210KB)](#) [12]
- [Getting started: Electoral Rolls (212KB)](#) [13]

**Workshops and talks**

We regularly run family history events where specialist staff introduce the Library’s family history collections and teach techniques to preserve family records.

Each August we run a number of family history events to celebrate National Family History Month [14].

Check What's on [15] to find out about upcoming family history events.

**Family history groups**

We can deliver tailored programs for family history groups at the Library.

Contact us [16] to talk about organising a program for your group.
eresources

The Library's eresources collection [17] includes popular family history eresources [18] such as:

- Ancestry Library Edition [19]
- Findmypast [20].

You can access most eresources such as past newspapers [21] from anywhere, anytime if you’re a New South Wales resident. You just need a Library card [22] or a registered NSW public library card [23]. But some eresources such as Ancestry Library Edition and Findmypast can only be accessed while at the Library.

If you’re not a resident of NSW, you can access the complete eresources collection at the Library.


Links