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]
- Shipping and Passenger records [10]

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)](#)
- [Getting started: Electoral Rolls (212KB)](#)

**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 [13].

Check What’s on [14] 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 [15] to talk about organising a program for your group.

**eresources**
The Library's [eresources collection][16] includes popular [family history eresources][17] such as:

- [Ancestry Library Edition][18]
- [Findmypast][19].

You can access most eresources such as [past newspapers][20] from anywhere, anytime if you’re a New South Wales resident. You just need a [Library card][21] or a [registered NSW public library card][22]. 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.

**Source URL:** https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections/using-library/researching-your-family-history

**Links**