



Sailing into History - Where have I been and what will I leave in my wake?

Types of online microfilm

There are two types of online microfilm: Microfilm linked to searchable databases with the original record images and index. Available on commercial sites such as Findmypast and Ancestry.com

'Online' microfilm not linked to a database. You have to scroll through the images as if using a microfilm reel. Indexes may be available and need to be accessed separately. You will find examples at these sites.

www.records.nsw.gov.au

State Archives & Records New South Wales free access to online microfilm for shipping lists 1828-1896.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives, UK government's official archive. Offers access to 80+ online microfilm covering army, navy, air force records, war diaries, convict records, coastguard records, wills and much more. Use this link for access www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/digital-microfilm.htm

www.familysearch.org

FamilySearch is the family history site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It offers free access to the world's largest family history collection. You need to create a free FamilySearch account for access. There are 2365+ collections available with access to online original records, most free but some collections do link to commercial sites such as Findmypast.

Newspapers

trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper

Trove Digitised Newspapers offers free access to the full text of 1331+ Australian newspaper titles from 1803-1954 (some later).

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNbkbPLtejc

Trove is a search engine focusing on Australia and Australians. It is managed by the National Library of Australia. Use Trove Lists to share information. The *Trove Making Lists* short video explains how to create and use lists in Trove. Other videos cover Basic Search, Exploring Zones and Advanced Search. help.nla.gov.au/trove/about-trove/trove-help-videos

Free home access to subscription databases

Major libraries subscribe to a wide variety of subscription databases and make them available online for free as eResources. These include:

- Books, eBooks, academic and popular journals, magazines, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, newspapers, business and legal resources
- Historic material - books (c16th+), directories, journals, periodicals, parliamentary papers, newspapers and much more

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources/

The National Library of Australia eResources page offers free home access to 129+ subscription databases. This free service is available to all residents of Australia. You need a National Library card and you can apply online. The card will be mailed to you. You then use the number on the card and your surname to login using the black box, top right of screen. Click on *Licensed resources* (yellow keys icon) to access an alphabetical list of available databases.



www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/eresources/

State Library New South Wales - eResources offers free home access to 150+ subscription databases. You can use an existing New South Wales public library card or apply online for a State Library of New South Wales card which will be mailed to you.

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources/

Selected eResources at the National Library of Australia

- The Illustrated London News Historical Archive 1842-2003
- PressReader - 7200+ newspapers and magazines in 60 languages from 120+ countries
- Irish Newspaper Archive 1733-present (80 titles) – See CoraWeb Quick Sheet 009
- Sydney Morning Herald Archives 1955-1995
- The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age (Melbourne) library edition 2006 to current
- Gale NewsVault offers a single search across multiple collections 1604-2012 with access to 10+ million page images. It is a great place to begin your search.

Use a family history software program - they offer

- Easy-to-use tools for organising, documenting and linking people together
- Storage for documents, photos, audio and video
- Comprehensive reports, charts and publishing options including websites and books
- Android and Mac apps for tablets and smartphones

TIP: Some programs offer free fully functional versions containing the core features of the program. These include:

www.ancquest.com

Ancestral Quest - Ancestral Quest Basics is the free version. A Mac version is available.

www.legacyfamilytree.com

Legacy Family Tree - The standard edition is free to download.

www.rootsmagic.com

Roots Magic - RootsMagic Essentials is the free version. A Mac version is available.

Apps for transferring your database to your smartphone

www.telgen.co.uk/families/

The Families app by TelGen works with Legacy Family Tree.

www.telgen.co.uk/gedfamilies/

The GedFamilies app enables family files in GEDCOM format to be transferred from a PC to your iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, Android phone or tablet.

What is GEDCOM?

GEDCOM (Genealogical Data Communication) is the standard computer file format used to exchange family history information. All family history software programs can create and export a GEDCOM file. They can also import GEDCOM files. This is how family history information is exchanged between different genealogy applications including online trees. Consider creating a GEDCOM file as part of your backup regime.

What will I leave in my wake?

How do I ensure that future generations can access all the painstaking research done over many years, by me, and many other researchers and family members who have generously shared information, documents and photos with me?



My Plan

1. Digitise as much as I can and link all the scanned items to the relevant persons in my family history software program

scanspeeder.com/

ScanSpeeder saves time and effort. It scans multiple photos at once on a flatbed scanner. Splits scanned photos into separate files. Straightens and enhances photos. It scans directly from photo album pages. It saves both archival and sharing quality images. Free trial version available limited to 10 scans. Full version costs about \$30.

play.google.com/store/apps

PhotoScan – free app from Google photos. It scans and saves printed photos using your camera phone. It takes multiple images and stitches them together. Glare is removed and quality improved. There is automatic cropping, perspective correction and smart rotation. It is really useful to scan from photos still in a photo album and to scan large framed photos.

2. Label and store the originals in archive quality boxes

www.albox.com.au/

Preview Archival for Albox archival boxes and photo storage.

3. Maintain a log of what I have and where it is

You can use Windows to create a log from your photos folder, or other folders. Open the photos folder to display the files or icons. I use large icons. Right click in the address bar > Copy address > Paste the address in Firefox or Chrome. You will get an index of the files that you can then cut and paste to create a log in a spreadsheet or elsewhere.

4. Start writing my own story

www.rootsmagic.com/Personal-Historian/

I have the free version of Personal Historian to try. This software helps you write the story of your life or others. It breaks this seemingly monumental task into small, manageable pieces and then reconstructs it into a complete, publishable document.

5. Put my family history database online

www.tngsitebuilding.com/

TNG - The Next Generation of Genealogy Site building allows you manage and display your family tree on your own website without having to generate any static HTML. Information is stored in a database and the pages are created on demand. All you need is website hosting and TNG which uses GEDCOM import/export from your family history program.

6. Make provision in my will and estate planning

My enduring power of attorney makes provision for my digital accounts, digital devices and digital resources. My will details my wishes for the preservation of my family history archive, my digital resources and internet sites.

Society of Australian Genealogists

Donation form - www.sag.org.au/downloads/prdonations.pdf

Assessment form - www.sag.org.au/downloads/DonationPRAssessmentForm.pdf

Background information - www.sag.org.au/downloads/DonatingResearchBackground.pdf

Preservation Labels - www.sag.org.au/downloads/PreservationLabel.pdf

Want to know more? Coraweb - Helping you trace your family history in Australia and elsewhere. Over 2,300 categorised links with descriptions.