

Family Research 2022

Title of course	Family Research
Introduction	Family Research is a guided self-help group for members who are already working on their family tree. Sessions commence with report backs on 'pains and gains' during research over the previous month accompanied by shared problem solving and lots of encouragement and ideas for next steps. Presentations by group members and guest speakers provide inspiration and suggestions of different approaches and resources. Social distance regulations permitting, 'hands on' segments to learn new skills on our devices will be included in 2022. Stories are also shared each month on topics designed to encourage deeper reflection on our research. Topics to begin 2022 include 'A Sense of Place', 'Hunch' and 'They were there when...'
Guides Others	Bev Lee 0478 607 838 bevlee47@gmail.com Barry O'Connor 0407 266 688 bjconnor@activ8.net.au Wendy Sturgess 0403 226 649 wendes47@bigpond.com Others: Guest Speakers
Website details	'Family Research' class home page - https://u3abenalla.weebly.com/family-research 'Family Stories' - https://u3abenalla.weebly.com/family-stories - a page of stories shared during the year which can be sorted by author or topic.
Times and Dates	4 th Thursday of the month 1pm to 4pm
Prior knowledge	This course will best suit members who have intermediate level skills on their devices.
Cost	Most class members maintain, or regularly renew for 'working periods', a subscription with at least one online genealogy site such as ancestry.com.au or myheritage.com . Subscriptions are available monthly, six monthly, or yearly, and it is usually possible to 'pay as you go' to access overseas records not in your subscription. To help new members get started online, convenors are happy to set up 'starter' family trees on their ancestry accounts prior to members deciding to take up a subscription.
Developing a project focus sentence for 2022 – and possibly even a number of objectives	Participants are encouraged to develop a title/focus sentence for their project highlighting their goal at the start of the year – eg. 'In search of <p>You might even have a goal such as completing a free on-line course in Family History such as 'Genealogy –Researching Your Family Tree' from the University of Strathclyde</p>
Reporting back on progress	As this is a monthly session, participants are asked to work on their project and writing task during the month and report back on progress next month. You can 'pass' if you haven't been able to work on your research for some reason - life often gets in the way - just come in and catch up with where you left off next time
	Our main aim is to provide a space each month for you to dedicate time in your busy life to work on your family history.

Family Research - Family Stories

“From 150 to 400 words or thereabouts (no penalties for exceeding), oral presentations fine too!”

(Hint - If you have decided on a goal/theme/focus area for your research, you may be able to relate it to the topic – eg. ‘in search of the (X Family)’could relate to all of the first three topics....)

Month	Title	Description of task	
February	‘A sense of place’	Write about a place which was important to a number of your forebears. Why did you choose this place? How did it feature in their story, why was it important to them? Share your reflections in 150 to 400 words, accompanied hopefully by a photograph/s captured close to the time in which it featured in their lives.	
March	‘Hunch’	Sometimes when researching we find ‘a black hole’, however have a fairly strong hunch about a possible resolution of the problem. We are faced with a dilemma though, as we don’t want to record it if the evidence isn’t strong enough. Describe a fairly strong hunch you continue to have during your research. Who does it involve, why do you think it might apply; what is stopping you from including it in your family tree. (If you have resolved one, you could describe this instead.	
April	‘They were there when....’	Did someone in your family tree experience a significant news, historical or cultural even first-hand? Share your understanding of what may have been their experience.	