

Ways that TROVE can help you research your family

Weblink: <https://trove.nla.gov.au>

All you need is a name

If you're looking for information about your family history, all you need is a name to get started. Keyword searching for full names in Trove's digitised newspapers can turn up all sorts of information. There are lots of different reasons why someone's name might turn up in a newspaper – births, deaths and marriages, court appearances and government employment are just a few.

You can also perform a keyword search for other types of names. Property names, like farms or estates, the names of small towns and settlements, or names of passenger ships can all provide interesting and unexpected results.

Filter your search by decade, state or newspaper name based on any information you might already have.

Government gazettes

Government gazettes are an official government publication that list information relating to appointments, business matters and general government notices. In Trove, you'll find complete government gazettes for the Commonwealth and for New South Wales. Irregular gazette records are available for other states.

Gazettes are an excellent research tool to find out more about people in your family, or people you suspect may be related to you. Earlier gazettes listed information about convicts, including assignments, abscondments, periods of approved leave, conditional pardons and freedom status. They also included information about criminals and bushrangers, including descriptions of crimes and reward notices.

The records contain notices of employment for government workers, teachers and police, as well as information about new businesses, sales and bankruptcy declarations. Search for names of people or businesses to see what you can find.

Funeral notices – found in the family notices category

Newspapers also contain funeral notices, which are extremely helpful in building out your family tree. Funeral notices often contain the names of a person's spouse and children, as well as the town or city in which they died.

Use the advanced search option to search Trove newspapers for family notices.

The social pages

Newspapers are a great place to find reports on weddings and social events. The social pages often covered local events, cultural events, charity events and other interesting happenings. Many of these reports are also accompanied by photographs, which can be a great help if you come across something relevant to you.

If you find a social listing relating to someone you're researching, check if it contains any more information about their occupation, place of residence or their relationships – these tidbits of information might help you to expand your search. Marriage listings

Pictures speak a thousand words

Trove brings together the collections of hundreds of partner organisations around Australia. This includes digitised versions of posters, charts, maps, photographs, artworks and architectural plans from libraries, government organisations and collecting institutions all over the country.



Fairfax Corporation, *Men sitting at tables reading at the Municipal Library, New South Wales*, 20 June 1930, [nla.obj-160504719](https://trove.nla.gov.au/obj/160504719)

Keyword searching in the image category in Trove can bring up all sorts of unexpected results. Found out the location of a relative's property? Try looking for a map of the area. Discovered the name of a ship your ancestor may have arrived on? You may be able to find a photograph of the vessel.

The object listing on Trove will provide you with all the information you need, including the holding institution and any relevant access conditions.

SOURCE: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/blog/2022/07/28/family-history-beginners>