Family History Help

Ask Us

Cairns Libraries hold an extensive collection of books, and microfilm/microfiche to help you research your family history (including Birth, Death and Marriage indexes, The Cairns Post on microfilm, cemetery indexes, directories, electoral rolls, naturalisations and convict indents, and immigration and shipping records). The collection mainly focuses on Australian material with an emphasis on Queensland, however expanding overseas resources are also regularly added to the collection. The material is housed at the Cairns City library.

Services and Equipment available:

Microfiche and microfilm readers/printers/scanners are available for use and a research computer. It is advisable to phone and make a booking to use the equipment.

Cairns Libraries now provides members onsite access to the fantastic genealogy databases – Ancestry Library Edition, Findmypast and British Newspaper Archive. These wonderful resources can be accessed from any Library PC or from the dedicated Family History PC in the City Reference Room.

How can we help you?

Our professional team can provide assistance with your family history enquiry and guide you in the use of our resources.

- Phone the City library on (07) 4044 3730 to make an appointment to talk to a librarian or make a booking for the microform reader/printer/scanner or research computer.
- Send your enquiry online by completing our Contact Us form at www.cairnslibrary.com.au
- Visit the City Library and browse the collection, and use the online catalogue to find relevant titles.
- Pick up some of our fantastic guides, designed to help you research specific areas, and use specific resources.

Some factors that may restrict, or are variations to, this service are:

- The amount of staff time which can be devoted to individual enquiries is limited to one hour per enquiry, and lengthy searches of un-indexed records (such as the Cairns Post microfilm) cannot be undertaken.
- Staff cannot conduct original or extensive research (we can refer you to suitable material, web sites, online resources and organisations).
- If in the view of the staff further research may be useful or if a search of un-indexed material, staff will refer you to the appropriate organisation, such as your local genealogy group.

Need further information?
Contact your local Cairns Libraries branch, or Contact Us on www.cairns.qld.gov.au/library
I cannot visit your library, where can I get information?

For those unable to visit us our staff will search indexes we have compiled, and/or provide copies of records where references are quoted from our online or other indexes.

It is beyond the resources of Cairns Libraries to undertake extensive research on your behalf. If you are unable to visit the Reference Room at the City library you may wish to contact one of the societies listed below for details of their charges.

Still Need Help?

Join a Family History Society

Cairns and District Family History Society Inc
271 Gatton Street, Westcourt, Cairns
Telephone: (07) 4031 8118
Postal Address: PO Box 502, Manunda Qld 4870
http://www.cdfhs.org/

Family History Association of North Queensland
http://www.fhanq.org/

Central Queensland Family History Association Inc.
https://sites.google.com/site/cqfamilyhistory/

Queensland Family History Society Inc
http://www.qfhs.org.au

Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc
http://www.gsq.org.au/

Professional Historians Association (Qld) Inc
http://www.qldhistorians.org.au/

Cairns Historical Society
http://www.cairnsmuseum.org.au

Mareeba Historical Society

Hire a Professional Genealogist/Historian

Society of Australian Genealogists

Professional Historians Association’s (Qld)

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