



Family history Bulletin



Family history research service - latest update

Saying “goodbye” to the beloved and well-worn old family history research service was never going to be easy. For 7 years, it has been of great value to so many in their search to complete their family tree.

On Wednesday 1 January 2020, the old service will be closing—so join the family tree researchers using the updated service, visit www.qld.gov.au/familyhistory.

New records

The new year means new records!

We will be releasing the following years:

- 1920 Births
- 1945 Marriages
- 1990 Deaths

These will be available from midday on 1 January 2020.

Source Images

On 6 June 2018 the updated service launch marked the commemoration of Queensland Day by releasing historical source images. These images include scans of original registration forms collected from the marriage or death informant, or a child’s parents in the event of a birth.

Some of the registers include pencilled notations written by RBDM staff of the day, which could provide additional information.

Purchased images

Did you know, when you purchase an image or images (if you’re lucky enough to find a record with a source image) in the updated service, there are two ways to access them? You can:

1. download the image immediately from the receipt page, at the time of purchase; or

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Hints and Tips



Follow us on [Facebook](#) for #RBDMHowToFiles—our monthly family history research service tip.

Don’t lose your history: create a [QGov](#) account to access your historical images at any time.

We suggest you start your purchase logged into your QGov account even though bought images are immediately available on the receipt page.

[Find out more >>](#)

2. go to the “Download previous purchases” and login or create your QGov account. Your records will appear in purchase order or last accessed.

If you need to create a new [QGov account](#), make sure you use the same email address you used for your purchase, so they can be linked to your account.

We’re listening and we’re here to help you. If you have any feedback or can't find an event in the updated family history research service send us an email at bdm.webteam@justice.qld.gov.au.

Happy searching!

Scottish Prince

When the Barque H.M.S Scottish Prince floundered on a sand bar off Stradbroke Island in 1887, it was carrying whisky and other goods, all bound for Brisbane. Thankfully, all passengers and crew were rescued.

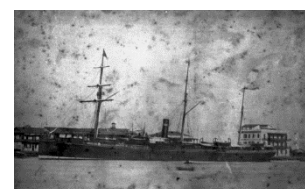


The event brought many locals (and non-locals!) to the scene of the disaster, hopeful for a stray bottle or two of the ill-fated flotsam cargo.

[Find out more >>](#)

Kate Doran: the anguish of an Irish immigrant

On 20 October 1885, Tom and Kate Doran (nee Concannon) and their three children—Thomas, Frank and Henry—boarded the ship Dorunda and set sail for Brisbane.



The Dorunda was a British India Steam Navigation ship. The company had a contract with the Queensland Government from 1880 to deliver cargo, mail and immigrants along the Queensland coast following the route through the Mediterranean, Suez and the Straits of Sunda.

[Find out more >>](#)

Tragedy and the Torilla 1911

In October 1911 an unusual vessel, the Torilla, designed to carry horses to India, brought 1600 immigrants to Queensland via the Torres Strait route—the largest number to our state and across the world at the time.



Delivering the passengers to accommodation alone was an

extraordinary feat. The vessel drew up alongside the Pinkenba wharf at 5pm, where a special train was arranged to take to Brisbane those who wished to land at once.

[Find out more >>](#)

Missing Link



In the last bulletin, we asked you to contact us with ancestry questions you can't fathom - your missing link. We received many submissions take a look to see if you can offer any assistance to your fellow historians.

Got your own missing link? [Contact us](#) and we'll endeavour to include it in the next issue of this bulletin.

[Find out more >>](#)

Strange death - Change of Life

The first known use of '**Change of Life**' as a cause of death was in 1761; the word 'menopause' was first used as a cause of death in 1872.

Our records show that a woman named **Jane Eckford** died in 1898 age 49 years due to 'Change of Life'.

[Her death record](#) states the duration of her death as eight years. In the 1890s, life expectancy of women was approximately 49 years, and knowledge of disease or mental health in the 1890s was very limited.

Our conclusion is that Jane died of natural causes for an apparently "healthy" woman at that time, especially as there is no other cause of death.

We could find no hidden meaning behind the term 'change of life'. However, if you know more about this cause of death, [please let us know](#).



Queensland
Government