

Issue 171 February 2021

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OPEN

- Monday • Closed
- Tuesday • 10am - 2pm
- Wednesday • Closed
- Thursday • 10am - 2pm
- Friday • 10am - 2pm
- Saturday • 12noon - 4pm
- Sunday • Interest Groups

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From the President

February 2021

Happy New Year everybody! I'd like to take the opportunity to wish all GSQ members and their families all the very best for 2021 – there's certainly an air of optimism at the moment with the impending possibility of a COVID-19 vaccine becoming available!

We've all encountered comparisons between the COVID pandemic and the Spanish Flu. I'd never thought of similarities between life during WWII and COVID until I received an emailed Christmas message from a friend who was born in England – she wrote in part ... "there were shortages in shops and essential foodstuffs were rationed – we grew vegetables as we Dug for Victory. We slept in air raid shelters and carried gas masks to school, not mobile phones or laptops. Transport was by bus, bike or shank's pony – no cars during the war. Planes were a common sight, both German bombers and our brave fighters, whereas in 2020 we rarely see a plane. Nobody spoke of mental health or was counselled, not even when my classmate was killed by a V2 rocket or homes were bombed. We just got on with life and waited for the war to end..."

A wonderful Christmas Afternoon Tea was enjoyed by around 50 members on Saturday, 12 December. Many thanks to all who attended. Thanks too to those who contributed to the Raffle Prizes and to Bob Dean for his work in organising the final selections. The winners of the Raffle Prizes were as follows: *1st – Hamper Andrew; 2nd - Hamper - Linda Venning; 3rd Hamper – Lorri Digney; My Heritage DNA Kit – Christine Meehan.*

Have you been to GSQ to view and use the new computers? They are amazing – what you can view is so much brighter, clearer and larger. Many members have commented on this. I would like to thank TAG for all their work in installing the new equipment and, in particular, Ailsa Corlett, who pre-planned the installation "down to the last lead". Thanks are also due to the following people who assisted Ailsa – Helen McKinnon, Howard McKinnon, Judy Lofthouse, Bill Corlett, Alistair Henderson, Angela Hawes and Glen Dyer. Thanks, too, to David Barnes who organised the Silent Auction to dispose of the old computers and who has ensured that no ancient equipment has been left at GSQ to clutter up our valuable space.

Over recent years GSQ has raised a considerable sum of money by organising Barbecues at Bunnings at their store in Wecker Road, Mt Gravatt. We are seeking a new convenor for these Barbecues – full details for the task will be provided. If interested in assisting in this way, please contact me at president@gsq.org.au

Happy researching everybody,
Helen Veivers
President, GSQ Inc.

GENERAL MEETING



General Meeting

When: 2.00 pm 30 January 2021

Where: Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall, 1873 Logan Road, Upper Mt Gravatt (adjacent to Upper Mt Gravatt State School)

Have you booked to attend this meeting yet??? Bookings are essential to satisfy COVID requirements – book through the GSQ website [HERE](#). For apologies – email secretary@gsq.org.au



Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Report

Snippets from 18 January 2021 Management Committee Meeting

- New computers installed – 11 computers available for research during COVID restrictions;
- Amnesty on Joining Fee from 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2021;
- Zoom Subscription available for Groups to use for meetings;
- New Lease to be signed at Stackpole Street to 31 December 2021.

Amnesty on \$15.00 Joining Fee

GSQ NEEDS NEW MEMBERS: At a recent Management Committee Meeting a decision was made to place an Amnesty on the \$15.00 Joining Fee from 1 February 2021 through to 30 June 2021. This means that all new members will now pay \$70.00 only for membership.



Tell your friends and relatives about it and encourage them to join GSQ. \$70 is great value when one considers that members have access to Ancestry, Find My Past, The Genealogist, Biographical Database of Australia, British Newspaper Archives, and Roots Ireland to name a few. (Some of these, of course, are available for use at home at present by GSQ members through MyGSQ while COVID continues.)

As well, of course, there's the opportunity to join one of the Special Interest Groups and participate in special Zoom Sessions where so much learning is available.

New Year! New Price! New Computers! New Opportunities!

I am incredibly grateful for the assistance of Judy Lofthouse, Angela Hawes, Glen Dyer, Helen & Howard McKinnon and Alistair Henderson to help this month regarding arrangements at GSQ for the setup of the new computers. The guys spent most of the day under the table sorting out the cables and cords, while everyone else helped to label, clean up, sort out what was and what was not needed, plus the set up of the computers themselves. All this takes time, but everything was ready for GSQ opening on Tuesday 19th Jan 2021.

Each computer is labeled making it easier to find cords etc under the table if need be, and for accurate recording in the Asset Register.

There are also two hexagonal power hubs sitting on the table. Giving 3 power points and 2 usb charging points each. This will make it easy for members using laptops and wanting to charge mobile phones. No more getting under the table to find a power point!

A help booklet containing the log-in passwords, information about starting up and shutting down the computers, and details on the NSW pre 1856 records on FamilySearch, is also attached to each computer. Expect more information sheets to be added to these booklets over time.

We now have a total of 14 computers on the middle table, 2 on the side wall, 2 of the old computers set up in the back office, plus the computers to use the ScanPro and the old CDs. Giving us a total of 20 computers to use during normal times.

In relation to Covid19 restrictions, we now have a total of 11 useable computers.

You will enjoy using the new equipment and especially the monitors, as they not only swivel, tilt, move up and down to suit sitting positions, but they also rotate 90 degrees so perfect for reading newspapers.

The Secretary's office also has one of the new computers, plus laptops for the use of the President, Secretary and for Presentations. All in relation to the Gaming Grant that we received.

Many thanks goes to the Management Committee members who were also able to put in time and effort to make sure the installation of these computers went well.

GSQ Notices

Did you know that GSQ has an active & informative Facebook page?



Our GSQ public Facebook page has been featuring many links to various new articles both Australian & overseas on an almost daily basis. The sites are very varied and hold a treasure trove of information from the SLQ's Flickr collection, to recent releases on FindMyPast to the UK series of *WhoDoYouThinkYouAre* on SBS on a Friday night to name a few. If you 'Like' our page (link below) you should get our postings, but what I've found is that the more you look at the links within our page, the more they will feature prominently in your personal page.

Note that you don't have to be a Facebook member to view the page, but you will have to login if you wish to get the post automatically each time they are published. Please have a look and see what you can find! Email Bobbie at:

facebook@gsq.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/Genealogical-Society-of-Queensland-GSQ-549868918395626/>



Did you know our Blogs are a collection of short web stories? Our GSQ blogs for 2021 are up and running with some great stories either published or waiting in Wordpress for their publication day. The stories cover many varied subjects with some being the family history of our blogger and some explaining to us great resources. One such is Annalies Nutley's blog due to be published on 8 February titled '*Researching a Marine Seaman*'. Another is Bev Murrays blog explaining her register of precious heirlooms; due for publishing on 15 February 2021, with the recently published '*Grandma's Secrets*' by Geraldine Lee really throwing a curve ball at the family!

I encourage readers to check the blogs out which are published each Monday on our GSQ Website and also in our GSQ Facebook page, usually on the publishing date. We love to see your comments on the blog page itself, which may help our GSQ blog rating in the Google search overall.

<https://gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/>

The Virtual FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show Saturday 10th April 2021

The first speakers have now been announced and topics include DNA, Irish Wills and African-Caribbean Ancestry to name only a few.

Please view www.fhf-reallyuseful.com for current details

Many exhibitors will be there on the day to answer any questions you may have.

Early Bird Tickets—£7.50—are only on sale until Sunday 31st January

SO DON'T DELAY

BOOK NOW

only at

www.fhf-reallyuseful.com





GSQ Notices



Vacant Positions at GSQ

Currently, there are a number of vacant positions at GSQ. Please consider taking on one of these positions to help make your society even better. If interested, please contact either President, Helen Veivers (president@gsq.org.au) or Secretary, Claire Rodwell (secretary@gsq.org.au)

The positions are as follows:

Education Coordinator: You will be responsible for organising and running GSQ's education program. This requires coordination with Presenters, accessing bookings on the website and ensuring that everything is ready for a presentation, whether it be virtual or face-to-face and preparing monthly reports for the Management Committee. Planning for the actual Education program for 2021 is well underway.

Marketing Officer: This is a really important role. GSQ hasn't had a Marketing Officer for some time. Post COVID it will be imperative that we advertise what GSQ does – and does very well! This role would involve liaising with various forms of media (print, radio) etc to ensure that the people of Brisbane (and further abroad) are aware of what GSQ is all about. The Marketing Officer would also liaise with our Facebook Coordinator to ensure that the GSQ message was consistently advertised.

Bookshop Coordinator: This role is multi-faceted. It would involve controlling the purchasing of books to sell in GSQ's Bookshop, ensuring the Bookshop section on the website is up to date and advertising in eNews and in other media the items available in the Bookshop.



Legacy Family Tree Webinars

FREE Family History Webinars from Legacy Family Tree

What is the cost: There is no charge to register and view the live webinar. **However**, the recording is available to view for the next 7 days - for **free!** Watch it as many times as you would like, pausing and taking notes, during the free viewing period. If you cannot make the live event, downloads of the recording are just \$9.95 each or yearly memberships give you access to everything.

Some February/March offerings:

- **3 February @12:00PM AEDT** - *Nurturing Your Family Trees: Online or On Your Device (or Both)?* by Cyndi Ingle
- **3 February @6:00AM AEDT** - *Me and My 1000+ DNA Cousins* by Dihan Southard
- **9 February @6:00AM AEDT** - *Making the most of MyHeritage resources with the Help Center, Knowledge Base, and site settings* by Daniel Horowitz, MyHeritage Webinars
- **17 February @6:00AM AEDT** - *Shoot Like a Pro: How to Record Quality Videos Using Your Mobile Device* by Elizabeth M. O'Neal
- **23 February @6:00AM AEDT** - *Bringing your family photos to life on MyHeritage* by Keren Dotan, MyHeritage Webinars
- **24 February @6:00AM AEDT** - *Polish genealogy online - portals and databases* by Kinga Urbańska
- **3 March @12:00PM AEDT** - *British Genealogy Online: The Top English & Welsh Family History Websites* by Rick Crume
- **3 March @6:00AM AEDT** - *La Madre Chiesa - Italian Catholic Parish Records* by Suzanne Russo Adams, AG

The Legacy Webinar website with more information is available [HERE](#).



Helpers Needed for Bunnings Barbecues

Over recent years quite a considerable amount of funds have been raised for GSQ, for the benefit of all members, through participating in Bunnings Barbecues. We are often advised about the availability of a Barbecue opportunity at very short notice and would like to have a list of people willing to assist, so that a Team is able to be arranged quickly.

The work is not difficult and a lot of fun is usually on hand! If you'd like to add your name to the Barbecue List, please contact Secretary, Claire, at secretary@gsq.org.au

Subject to the restrictions regarding the Covid-19 situation, some interest groups will be holding their meetings at GSQ. There is a limit of 20 people attending the groups. Some groups are conducting virtual meetings through the use of the Zoom platform.

Family Tree Maker Users' Group

The next meeting of the FTM User Group will be on **Sunday 14 March 2021 at 10.30 am**. The library will be open from approximately 9.00 am. The January meeting was cancelled due to the Coronavirus restrictions in force that weekend. The March meeting is subject to Covid-19 not causing any further problems?

This group is a networking group that can help beginners and assist both Mac & Windows users and hopefully overcome any FTM problems they may face. We will explore any changes in the 2019 version. We will also review the various Facebook sites available that can offer help to FTM users.

People with laptops should bring them along so the participants can help solve your particular problem(s). GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our meeting. Advance notice to the convenor on lesmcfadzen@outlook.com of your problem(s) will assist in setting the meeting agenda.

Writing Group

The first meeting of the Writing Group for 2021 will be held via Zoom on **Sunday 21 February, 10am to 12 noon**.

We will first give members an opportunity to share their writing activities since the previous meeting, then we will move forward with other topics. An agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting, together with the Zoom log-in details.

Looking forward to catching up with you in due course. Do not hesitate to contact me on pstirland@hotmail.com if you have any queries.

English/Irish Interest Group

Top of the morning English/Irish group time to get together for a cup of tea.

Meetings will be held on the first Sunday of the evenly numbered months. So, our first meeting: **Sunday, 7th February 2021** 10am to 2.00pm. Meeting on Easter Sunday TO BE DISCUSSED. All GSQ members are most welcome to attend as we discuss all things English and Irish. If you would like to join the group please email Lorraine: ladey100@gmail.com

The GSQ Research Centre will open at 10 o'clock and the meeting will start at 10.30am. The library will remain open until 2 o'clock for individual research. A gold coin contribution is requested to cover costs.

If anyone has prepared an item to present, please let me know. Looking forward to some great conversations! Lorraine Adey 0435 466 820,

Legacy Users' Group

As emailed to all members of the SIG earlier please make contact if you have any questions. Remember that at this time you can watch Legacy webinars that are on each week and available free for the 7 days after showing.

German Interest Group

Our German group meeting will be held at the GSQ on **Sunday 31 January 2020**. Please come along with your questions on German Research. Doors open at 10.00 and will close at about 1.30 p.m.

The next meeting information will be in the March eNews Lesley Roebig.



"If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance."

- George Bernard Shaw

Convict Connections Group

Convict Connections meets for the first time this year on **Valentine's Day, Sunday February 14**. Part of our discussion will be about love tokens. That would seem appropriate! It will also be a day for discussing our research and for planning 2021. We are hoping to organise a trip mid-year to the State Library if there is enough interest. Those with colonial/convict ancestry are always welcome to join our "convict days".

It was illegal to deface a British coin, but if you were being transported what did it matter? Copper coins were soft, and it was easy to smooth the surface so that a message as a momento could be left behind for a loved one or family member. Some had dates. Some had the length of the sentence. Some had names. A token from Fredrick Morgan will feature in our February 2021 Convict Connections Chronicle.

Scottish Interest Group

Our early January meeting was our Hogmanay meeting on Sunday 3 January 2021, where we enjoyed some traditional Hogmanay fare and good company.

At our March meeting on **7 March 2021**, Alistair Henderson will be giving a talk on West Lothian, which will be the first of our county talks for the year.

The schedule for our talks this year was decided at the meeting, and it is as follows:

- 7 March West Lothian (Alistair Henderson)
- 2 May Inverness (Ian Hunt)
- 4 July Dumfries (Mike Boyd)
- 5 September Orkney (Russell Fraser)
- 7 November Argyll (Ian Miller)

Thanks to those members who have generously agreed to speak at our meetings this year.

The meeting agreed to continue with the subscription to the Scottish Record Society, and to start acquiring back copies of those earlier volumes we do not have.

Our next meeting on 7 March will include our annual election of office bearers.

Meetings start at 10:00 am, with the centre open by 9:30 am. All members are welcome, and the centre remains open after the meeting for research. We follow the GSQ COVID-Safe Plan to ensure everyone's safety at our meetings.

DNA Interest Group

There was no DNA SIG Meeting in January 2021 as our first meeting will be held on **Sunday 28 February 2021** at 9:30am, invitations to the *GoToMeeting* link for that meeting will be sent to DNA SIG members by 23rd February. If you are a GSQ member and would like to join in on our meetings etc., then please email dna@gsq.org.au stating your your name and membership number.

Members are reminded that we have a closed Facebook group which has many useful files of previous presentations under the Files heading, this is just one advantage of joining that site.

In the meantime our first **DNA 'Drop In' Clinic** will be virtual and is being held on **Wednesday night, 24 February 2021** from 7 - 8:30pm. If you'd like an appointment you will need to email us by the previous Wednesday (17th) - dna@gsq.org.au - stating what you want help on and we will tee you up with one of our volunteers who will contact you for a one-on-one *Zoom/GoToMeeting*.

Scandinavian Interest Group

The next meeting of the Scandinavian Interest Group will be on **Sunday 21 March 2021**, information in March eNews.

Monday Morning Natters

February Natters is on **Monday 1 February**.

Topic for this meeting: *What is/was the first thing you are going to do or have done when visiting GSQ for the first time since lockdown?*



GSQ ZOOM Meetings

Research Support and Chat for GSQ Members Only

Put it in your Diaries

Monday 11am - 1pm – Weekly except 1st Monday

Thursday 11am - 1pm Weekly



There are now two ZOOM Meetings a week, - Monday (except the 1st Monday of the month) and Thursday both at 11am – 1pm

They are hosted by Ailsa Corlett and Helen Connor.

Many GSQ members are joining in when they can and enjoying the chats about their ancestors, resources available, and ideas gathered from everyone on just how to move forward to break down those brick walls.

Not all meetings are based on this format, as at times we also have some specific topics that we cover, eg. *Using Trove, the BDM records, Archives, Ancestry and FindMyPast etc etc.*

We all like it when everyone can share their screen to show off that special photo, or ideas on how they do something within a program. This way everyone learns or sees that special photo.

We all gained so much last year in not only knowledge and information about where to go and what to do on various web sites, but we also made many friends that we had not known previously. So, it was decided that regardless of what was happening with Covid19, we were going to continue the Zoom meetings this year as well. Check the Events Calendar, but every Monday (except the 1st Monday of the month) and Thursday at 11am.

Everyone is welcome to join in, but you must send your name and email to Ailsa Corlett, so that we can then send you the link to join in. Email: tag@gsq.org.au

Fortnightly Wednesday Morning Zoom Group 11 am - 12:30 pm fortnightly

Our 2021 Wednesday 11am GSQ Zoom sessions got off to a great start on 20 January when we had 9 members logged in plus a few apologies. Welcome to Janice Wellard who joined us for the first time. **This year the meetings will be held on the 1st Wednesday of each month and also the 3rd Wednesday of each month - all at 11am.** However for the first couple of months, there will be two different meeting formats and if this works as well as our old format then we will continue with it; if not we will go back to the old format.

On the 1st Wednesday of each month there will be a topic and on the 3rd Wednesday of each month help sessions. That meeting is thrown open to all attendees to put forward a point in their genealogy that they'd like help with. Our meeting on 20 January had many varied questions that we all contributed to, it also highlighted a couple of useful websites which were distributed to those on the mailing list after the meeting.

If you're a GSQ member and would like to join in, then please email Bobbie, the convenor of this Zoom on facebook@gsq.org.au and she will add you to the mailing list. The meetings begin at 11am for about 90 minutes max. Hope to see you there..

Wednesday Nights at GSQ via Zoom 7 - 9 pm - 2nd & 4th Wednesday

On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights from 7pm – 9pm, again GSQ will be running a Zoom meeting.

Hosted by Ailsa Corlett. Please send in your request queries or interesting bits and pieces you would like to share with others, and we will talk and discuss them. Hopefully giving you more information and ideas on where to go searching for the answers. This event is open to all, not just GSQ members, so please spread the word to all your friends.

The 4th Wednesday night, will be either a Guest Speaker via Zoom, or the DNA drop in clinic.

So please check the Events Calendar to see what is on that Wednesday night. – There are some interesting speakers already booked in this year.

Please send name and email to Ailsa Corlett, so that the link to join in can be forwarded to you. Email: tag@gsq.org.au

Upcoming GSQ Education Events



Using GSQ Computers
February 6 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtually via ZOOM
Presenter: Ailsa Corlett
Cost: \$10 - GSQ Members ONLY

As part of your membership, GSQ offers you access to Ancestry, FindMyPast, British Newspaper Archive, Roots Ireland, FamilySearch etc etc. on its computers.

But did you know there are many more digital resources on the computers that you can access and do you know how to use them?

This workshop will show you how to get the best results from these records, enabling you to find out more about your great uncle Joe, apart from just his birth, death, and marriage dates, so that you can fill in those important life details – did you know he owned a grocer store in Greater London, that he went bankrupt, was in court to pay fines for not paying maintenance for a child, do you know how to find a burial record giving you all the names of his family members etc etc.

Do you know how to copy that data from the computer screen to a USB Stick or how best to print it?

And what about all the CDs/ DVDs on the sidewall? Have you looked at them to see what else you might find? Many Scottish burial transcriptions with photographs, several London based cemeteries, early South Australian parish registers before civil registration -this is just to name a few. [BOOK HERE](#)

Queensland Globe: Hands on with Queensland geography

February 13 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Virtually via ZOOM

Presenter: Kerry Raymond

4 participants ONLY



This class is offered via Zoom. Limited to 4 participants ONLY.

Geography shapes our history and hence the lives of our ancestors. Queensland Globe is an interactive mapping website providing access to the spatial information held by the Queensland Government. It is a powerful tool with an extensive array of information that can be overlaid on the maps, but it can be overwhelming for the beginner. This hands-on session will be aimed at beginners including navigating around the Globe, searching for locations by a range of methods, obtaining information about a particular place, and working with the hundreds of built-in data layers (some of which will be included in the presentation).

Some of the limitations of the Qld Globe will also be discussed. Note that Queensland Globe primarily deals with current information rather than historical information, but, as you will see, current information still reveals a lot of historical information, and helps us better understand the lives of our Queensland ancestors.

[Read more about Queensland Globe](#)

Please note: As this is a hands-on computer-based session, participants should be confident with basic computer skills, using keyboard and mouse, copying and pasting. [BOOK HERE](#)

Upcoming GSQ Education Events

**Find
my past**

**Exploring FindMyPast Worldwide
February 20 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtually via ZOOM
Presenter: Judy Lofthouse**

Learn how to search for Australian, Irish, UK, and US records on FindMyPast which is available at GSQ. [BOOK HERE](#)



**When "Spanish Flu" came to Australia
February 27 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtually via ZOOM
Presenter: Helen Smith**

COVID-19 is not the first pandemic Australia has faced. In early 1918 word was spreading of a virulent disease in the USA and by the end of April had reached the Western Front and England. The southern hemisphere waiting dreading what was likely and in October 1918 it reached New Zealand. "Spanish Flu" infected ~500 million people (1/3 of the world's population) with an estimated 50 million deaths.

The pandemic was handled on many different levels from the Federal government to State governments to towns and individuals. In this time around 40% of the Australian population became ill and 15000 died. In some Indigenous communities, there was a 50% death toll.

We'll look at the progress of the outbreak and what was done by whom between October 1918 and early 1920.

[BOOK HERE](#)



**How our ancestors earned their daily bread: exploring their occupations
April 24 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtually via ZOOM
Presenter: Pauline Williams**

What did our ancestors do to earn a living? You may have discovered a particular occupation listed on a certificate or other record – but what did this actually mean. Many specialised occupations of the 18th and 19th centuries that were often linked to a specific industry were made redundant through mechanisation and industrialisation and now no longer exist. Changes continue to this day as technological advances impact on the way that things are done.

This presentation will highlight a range of resources for exploring our ancestors' occupations and how you can discover the kind of work your ancestors may have undertaken. [BOOK HERE](#)



**Irish Online: Leaping ahead in 2021
May 1 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtually via ZOOM
Presenter: Bobbie Edes**

Join Bobbie as she shares her extensive knowledge of how to go about extending your Irish genealogy by learning about new avenues for internet searching now coming online. This talk focuses on the multiple Irish records available to help you in your endeavours to maybe take your Irish ancestors back a little further. [BOOK HERE](#)



FAMILY HISTORY NEWS

How to Take Better Tombstone Photographs

By Sunny Jane Morton



Headstones are some of the most important records for genealogists. But grave rubbings can destroy the very records researchers try to save. Tombstone photographs will give you all the same information without harming these monuments. Check out these five best-practices for taking photos you can easily read and save for future study.

1. Try to take photos on a sunny day, at a time when the sun hits the tombstone at an angle.

This way, the sun will light inscriptions and also create some contrasting shadows.

2. Deflect additional light onto the tombstone surface with a mirror or piece of cardboard covered in aluminum foil.

Don't use flash photography.

3. Don't take tombstone rubbings or clean stones with stiff brushes, harsh chemicals or sharp objects.

Don't remove or harm any plants without the sexton's permission. Remove loose debris gently with a natural sponge or soft brush and a light water bath (not power washing).

4. Snap several images at different distances and angles.

Ideas include: close-ups of inscriptions, all sides of stone with writing or images; group shots of family grave clusters; the cemetery entrance with the name.

5. After taking photos, use contrast and brightness features in your photo-editing software to better illuminate hard-to-read inscriptions.

Add the image to ancestral profiles in your family history software and in online public trees. Upload to gravestone websites such as BillionGraves or Find-a-Grave.

A version of this article originally appeared in the March/April 2019 issue of Family Tree Magazine.



15 Quick Genealogy Tasks To Do In 15 Minutes

By Lisa Lisson

Have you ever thrown up your hands and said this, "Help! I don't have enough time to research!"

I have!

The reality is genealogy research takes a lot of time. A lot of it. However, you can be successful in your genealogy research in even short increments of time.

1. Check for new DNA matches.
2. Send a contact email to a DNA match.
3. Perform a [genealogy random act of kindness](#).
4. Check "lost photo" sites like [DeadFred](#) and [Family Old Photos](#) for possible photos of your ancestors.
5. Join in a discussion in a Facebook group. (Set a timer!)
6. Seek out new-to-you Facebook Groups based on a surname or location you research.
7. Create a template for your file names.
8. Create a template for a timeline. ([Learn more about timelines and find an example here.](#))
9. Write a short summary of an ancestor.
10. Read a helpful blog post.
11. Create a location guide for a location you need to research.
12. Begin the analysis of a document. Don't worry if you do not finish. Just continue when you have another 15 minute time block.
13. Watch a YouTube video about a "new to you" topic in genealogy. Check out the [Family History Fanatics YouTube Channel](#) for great (and quick) videos.
14. Upload your Ancestry DNA results to MyHeritage or FamilyTreeDNA (small fees may apply).
15. Download free blank census forms to have for quick reference the next time your research.
16. Bonus! Put future research times on your calendar.

Got 15 minutes? Ready, set.....research! Oh, and don't forget to set your timer!

[Grab your FREE printable checklist HERE](#)

