



Port Macquarie & Districts
Family History Society Inc.

NEWSPAPERS

ON THE INTERNET

This document provides details about newspapers currently available on the internet in a digital format. In the majority of cases, these newspapers may be searched for free without the necessity of reading each and every word and article.

If you have not used these digital newspapers before, prepare to be amazed. From within the pages of these old broadsheets, tabloids and rags, your ancestors and family will come alive and be more than just names and dates on birth, marriage and death certificates.

These newspapers chronicle the successes and triumphs of our ancestors as they struggled with the day to day challenges to life so different to ours. Please also be aware that you may come across disturbing accounts of their transgressions and felonies. In these cases don't be judgemental but rather be sympathetic of their struggle to exist in a world vastly different to which we now live.

Rex Toomey (Updated April 2014)

Newspapers on the Internet

Port Macquarie-Hastings Library

What is it: Your local lending library which is one of the best and busiest of its type in the state.

What does it have:

Title	Format	Date Range
Port Macquarie News	Hardcopy	12 Jun 1962 to current
	Microfilm	8 Jun 1882 to current
	Digital	8 Jun 1882 to 31 Dec 1968
	News	June 2004 to current
	Portal	
Port Macquarie Express	Hardcopy	Current six months
	News	July 2004 to current
	Portal	
Wauchope Gazette (formerly Hastings Shire Gazette)	Hardcopy	14 Jan 1960 to date (Wauchope Library)
	Microfilm	10 Mar 1920 to 24 Dec 1940; then 13 Jan 1955 to current
	Digital	10 Mar 1920 to 19 Dec 1968
	News	Feb 2005 to current
	Portal	
Camden Haven Courier	Hardcopy	19 Mar 1954 to Dec 1968; Aug 1981 to current
	Microfilm	3 Mar 1954 to 11 Nov 1961; 19 Aug 1981 to 23 Dec 1987; 2 Jan 1991 to 22 Dec 1993; 5 Jul 2006 to current
	Digital	19 Mar 1954 to 19 Dec 1968
	News	Feb 2005 to current
	Portal	
Hastings Herald	Hardcopy	5 Aug 1987 to 6 Jul 1989
Macleay Argus (Kempsey)	Digital	24 Oct 1885 to 31 Dec 1954
Macleay Chronicle (Kempsey)	Digital	5 Jan 1889 to 30 Jun 1952
Valley Advertiser	Microfilm	24 Feb 1971 to 1 Jun 1977
Manning River News	Microfilm	15 Apr 1865 to 13 Dec 1873
Manning & Hastings Advocate	Microfilm	11 Nov 1881 to 23 Jan 1885

Also available: Digital editions of the Sydney Morning Herald from 2006 to current via the SMH Archive website. This is the fully searchable high quality content of the Sydney Morning Herald exactly as it appears in the print edition. Access is available in the local studies room of the library from the main window of any computer.

Access: Nothing available on-line from outside the library.

Trove

What is it: This project was launched by the National Library of Australia (Canberra) in June 2008 with the aim of providing free access to historical Australian newspapers.

What does it have: Nearly 13 million pages of digitised newspapers containing 125 million articles. Starts with the first issue of the Sydney Gazette in 1803 to the longest run of a particular newspaper being the Sydney Morning Herald – 18th April 1831 to 31st Dec 1954. The site has newspaper images from microfilm copies held by major libraries. The quality of images is only as good as the original newspaper and the scanning / recognition process allows. Users are encouraged to make corrections: First month made 1,594 – in Jul 2013 2.8 million corrections.

What is available: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/titles>

Access:

Google Search: Trove

Web Address: <http://trove.nla.gov.au>

What is new: <http://www.nla.gov.au/content/new-titles-coming>

Pros: The best website of its type in the whole world. Other people digitising newspapers look at this site in envy. Excellent coverage of Australian newspapers. Free. No need to sign in or get a reader's ticket.

Cons: Generally stops at 1954.

State Library of NSW - SLNSW

What is it: The State Library of New South Wales is one of Australia's leading libraries. With an extensive collection of over five million items, the State Library also offers access to information and resources both onsite and online, especially local and overseas newspapers.

What does it have: A large number of linked websites where historical newspapers may be accessed. To access these sites you need to open the SLNSW eResources website.

What is available:

SMH Archives	Sydney Morning Herald (and Sun-Herald) Archive 1955-1995 Australian Indigenous Index (INFOKOORI) to Koori Mail & earlier newspapers
Gale NewsVault	17th-18th Century Burney Collection Newspapers (See below)
Gale NewsVault	19 th Century British Newspapers (See below)
Gale NewsVault	Financial Times Historical Archive 1888-2006
Gale NewsVault	The Sunday Times Digital Archive 1822 - 2006
Gale NewsVault	Times Digital Archive 1785-2007
Pro-Quest	Chicago Tribune (1849-1989) Chinese Newspapers Collection (1832-1953) The Christian Science Monitor (1908-1999) The Guardian (1821-2003) The Observer (1791-2003) The Irish Times (1859-2011) The Weekly Irish Times (1876-1958) Los Angeles Times (1881-1989) The New York Times (1851-2009) The Scotsman (1817-1950) The Times of India (1838-2003) The Wall Street Journal (1889-1995)

17th-18th Century Burney Collection Newspapers. The newspapers, pamphlets, and books gathered by the Reverend Charles Burney (1757-1817) represent the largest and most comprehensive collection of early English news media.

19th Century British Newspapers. This collection contains full runs of 48 newspapers specially selected by the British Library to best represent nineteenth century Britain.

Access:

Google Search: 'SLNSW' then select 'eResources'

Website (library): <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/>

Web Address eResources: <http://www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/eresources/browse.cfm>

Web Address eResources shortcut: <http://tinyurl.com/slsw-eResources>

Pros: Has SMH between 1 Jan 1955 and 27 Feb 1995. Extends Trove coverage another 40 years.

Cons: Requires NSW citizenship and reader's card to log in. SMH Archive is difficult to read and the 'mapping' sometimes does not work.

Note: When using the SMH 1955-1995 site, don't forget to log off after when finished so as NOT to block out other users – there is a limit to the number of users on the site at any one time.

British Newspaper Archive (BNA)

What is it: A joint venture between the British Library and BrightSolid (the company behind FindMyPast) to digitise nearly 40 million pages of British Newspapers over the next 10 years.

What does it have: Nearly 8 million pages from over 240 different British newspapers with thousands more pages added each day.

What is available on the BNA website: <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/home/NewspaperTitles>

Access:

Google Search: british newspaper archive

Website (library): <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

Pros: Pages generally are high quality scans from the original newspapers but some are from microfilm. Free to view from Local Studies room of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Library.

Cons: Pay to view from home. Less than a quarter of the thousands of newspapers still to be done.

Google News archive:

What is it: This was an extension of Google News providing free access to scanned archives of newspapers from around the world.

What does it have: Historical newspapers from mainly North America, ie USA & Canada with three from Australia. The archive went live on June 6, 2006. Since 2011 no new content added to the archive project.

What is available:

Sydney Morning Herald 18 Apr 1831 to 31 Dec 1989 (many missing issues after 1954 and start date is shown incorrectly on Google)

The Sydney Mail 7 July 1860 to 28 Dec 1938 (many missing issues especially in 1930's and start date is also shown incorrectly on Google)

The Age (Melbourne) 17 Oct 1854 to 31 Dec 1989

Access:

Web Address: <http://news.google.com/newspapers>

Pros: Free. Has SMH up to end 1989. Scan quality is better than SMH Archive on SLNSW website.

Cons: Google has no policy on its future and it may close at any time.

National Library of Australia - NLA

What is it: The National Library of Australia is the premier library of Australia located in Canberra. Its role is to ensure that documentary resources of national significance relating to Australia and the Australian people, as well as significant non-Australian library materials, are collected, preserved and made accessible through the Library itself. This includes both domestic and overseas newspapers.

What does it have: It manages Trove which has already been discussed previously. It also has a large number of linked websites similar to SLNSW where historical newspapers may be accessed. To access these sites you need to open the NLA eResources website.

What is available on the NLA eResources website:

Gale NewsVault	The Illustrated London News Historical Archive 1842-2003
Gale NewsVault	17th-18th Century Burney Collection Newspapers (See below)
Gale NewsVault	19 th Century British Newspapers (See below)
Gale NewsVault	Financial Times Historical Archive 1888-2006
Gale NewsVault	The Sunday Times Digital Archive 1822 - 2006
Gale NewsVault	Times Digital Archive 1785-2007

Pro-Quest (See SLNSW previous)

Irish Newspaper Archives Largest collection of Irish newspapers in the world (See below)

The Irish Newspapers Archive dates from 1763 to the present and includes over 30 out of print and current titles such as the Irish Independent (1905 - current), The Freeman's Journal (1763-1924), Belfast Newsletter 1738-1799, Finns Leinster Journal 1771-1828, Nenagh Guardian 1838 to current and the Tuam Herald 1837-2000.

Access:

Google Search: 'NLA' then select 'eResources'

Website (library): <http://www.nla.gov.au>

Web Address eResources: <http://www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources/>

Pros: Has Trove. Free link to the Irish Newspaper Archive.

Cons: Requires NLA reader's card to log in.

Nambour Chronicle

What is it: Australia's first freely available, digitised and fully searchable on-line local newspaper.

What does it have: The entire run of the newspaper 21 Jul 1903 to 1958 digitised from microfilm and made fully accessible by keyword.

Access:

Google Search: nambour chronicle

Web Address: <http://www.nambour-chronicle.com/>

What is new: Listed on the home page

Pros: Free.

Cons: Registration and logon is required before it can be accessed.

Papers Past New Zealand

What is it: This website is an endeavour of the National Library of New Zealand to digitise historical newspapers published in New Zealand and was launched in 2005.

What does it have: More than two million pages of digitised New Zealand newspapers and periodicals. The collection covers the years 1839 to 1945 and includes 83 publications from all regions of New Zealand. In April 2014, this equated to 497,392 newspaper issues, 3,235,511 pages and 40,813,909 articles.

What is Available: <http://tinyurl.com/PapersPast-Listing>

Access:

Google Search: Papers Past

Web Address: paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

What is new: Listed on the home page

Pros: Free.

Cons: None.

Welsh Newspapers Online - WNO

What is it: A free online resource from the National Library of Wales. It is currently in beta format which means changes to the website will continue.

What does it have: over 630,000 pages from about 100 newspaper publications generally up to 1919. Titles include Monmouthshire Merlin (23 May 1829 to 26 Dec 1884) and Evening Express (13 Feb 1849 to 30 Jun 1899).

What is available on WNO: <http://newspapers.library.wales/>

Access:

Google Search: welsh newspapers online
 Website (library): <http://newspapers.library.wales/>
 (Note: this is a beta site and this address may change)

Pros: Free access (at present).

Cons: None, other than the Welsh language newspapers if you can't read it.

Internet Library of Early Journals - ILEJ

What is it: A joint project by the Universities of Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester and Oxford, to digitise substantial runs of 18th and 19th century journals. It was completed in 1999.

What does it have: Just six of the many publications of this era.

What is available on the ILEJ website:

18 th Century	Gentleman's Magazine – Jan 1731 to Dec 1750 (Vol 1 to 20) The Annual Register – Dec 1758 to Dec 1778 (Vol 1 to 21) Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society – 1757 to 1777
19 th Century	Notes and Queries – 3 Nov 1849 to 25 Dec 1869 The Builder – 31 Dec 1842 to 25 Dec 1852 (Vol 1 to Vol 10) Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine – Jan 1843 to Dec 1863 (Vol 53 to 94)

Access:

Google Search: ILEJ
 Website (library): <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/ilej/>

Pros: Free access.

Cons: Small quantity. No further journals being added.

National Digital Newspaper Program (USA)

What is it: A partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress (LC), to develop an Internet-based, searchable database of US newspapers and select digitization of historic pages.

What does it have: Currently 1,345 newspapers with 7.5 million pages covering 38 different states.

What is available on the NDNP website: <http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>

Access:

Google Search: NDNP
 Website (library): <http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>

Pros: Free access.

Cons: A small fraction of the thousands of newspapers still to be done.

Further Source:

If what you are seeking is not in the above list, try Wikipedia. Just type in 'list of online newspaper archives' and look for the Wikipedia link as follows:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives

This webpage has links to digital newspaper archives from around the world including foreign languages. Many are free and from distant and exotic places such as Hong Kong, Hungary and India.

Happy searching and remember not to get too side-tracked!