

Australian Family Tree Connections

About us

Who

Australian Family Tree Connections magazine was created out of frustration when its publisher was heavily immersed in tracing her family history and could not find an Australian genealogy magazine. After annoying newsagents across the length and breadth of Brisbane (where she lived at the time) it became obvious she would have to do it herself.

While our fearless publisher did not have a commercial publishing background, she had a wealth of business experience at senior management level including having solely commenced, owned and operated three other successful service sector commercial entities.

Why

Australian Family Tree Connections magazine was created with two aims in mind:

- to help everyone in Australia and New Zealand who is tracing their family history; and
- to enable them to connect with others researching the same families all over the world.

When

First published in January 1993 as a 10-page monthly newsletter, its acceptance by the family history, genealogy and local history community saw it quickly grow to a 24-page monthly journal before it became a 64-page monthly magazine in August 1995 (a few days after its publisher had relocated to the beautiful Central Coast of NSW).

Just 15 months' later, *Australian Family Tree Connections* magazine commenced being professionally distributed to newsagents throughout Australia, and distribution throughout New Zealand followed soon after.

What

Australian Family Tree Connections magazine's 64 pages contain substantial sections featuring the latest news and details of events being held in both Australia and New Zealand, a new list of surnames currently being researched and a comprehensive Classified Ads section with categories for *Area Research*, *Family Histories* (recently published), *Family Reunions* (both forthcoming and those previously held), *For Sale*, *Genealogy Services*, *Missing Ancestors*, *Missing Relatives (living)*, *Odds and Ends*, *One-Name Studies*, *Wanted* and *Where to Go* (an affordable way for Family History, Genealogy and Historical Societies to advise where they are, what they hold and when they are open).

Other regular features are:

- articles and stories written by our subscribers and readers
- *Can You Help?* stories describing research problems and the steps taken to resolve them, which then draw on the collective expertise of the 'AFTC family'
- reference articles written by specialists on a variety of relevant subjects
- *Guest Society* highlighting where Family History, Genealogy and Historical Societies are located, what they hold and when they are open
- *Resources* (reviews of recent publications of interest to family historians, genealogists and historians)
- *Family Album* showcasing over two pages some of the beautiful old photographs held by our readers which often result in new family connections being made

How

We are committed to providing our subscribers and readers with excellent service at all times. To achieve this:

- we are totally 'hands on' – everything is personally looked after by us on our premises
- our dedicated staff take great care to ensure our records are accurate and up-to-date
- we are contactable Monday–Friday during business hours by phone, fax and email
- our 'online store' is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Since *Australian Family Tree Connections* magazine began in January 1993 it has embraced the introduction of both the internet and email as helpful research tools, however it continues to believe that the utmost effort must be made to locate at least one primary record to prove each step taken in tracing a family's history. This logically includes visiting or making contact with the Family History, Genealogy or Historical Society in the areas where the families being researched settled and lived. The variety and amount of information held by these societies is invaluable.

As research progresses, it may also be necessary to personally visit a State Archive and perhaps other record repositories, or to engage a professional researcher to locate a particular record, which can cause some quality family history research to be both costly and time-consuming.

For all the above reasons *Australian Family Tree Connections* magazine aims to unite people researching the same families, so they can share both the cost and the results of their research.

In its **25th** year, our **June 2017** magazine is our **290th** issue
and our editor–publisher still rates it the best job she has ever had