

USING ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

ANCESTRY

Provides access to genealogical services and information as well as a wide range of databases where you can search for specific records, e.g. Census, Births/Deaths & Marriages, shipping and military records.

SEARCHING

The search option on the Home Page can be helpful but will search across the entire database from UK, US, Australia and New Zealand. It is usually better to narrow your search to just one collection.

COLLECTIONS

Searching by individual collections will help limit your searches so you do not get overwhelmed by the results.

- Select from one of the Collections at bottom half of the Home Page e.g. UK Census Collection.
- Or select the All option to view other Collection options.

Note: Ancestry is an American Programme so the collections will be American unless specified.
e.g. Civil War Records refer to the American Civil War.

SEARCH TIPS

- When starting your search don't give too much information. It takes trial and error to learn what works best for each database.
- It is a good idea to give a date range. The usual options for this show as 1850-1859 or 1855 + > 5 years (plus or minus)
- Try the Soundex option. This is used to show alternative spelling i.e. Urwin Irwin or Uren. If too many results you can try searching the options suggested as Exact Match searches.
- Wildcards can be used to replace obvious spelling variants e.g.
 1. Fran* will show Fran, Franny, Frank, Frankie etc.
 2. Hans?n will show Hansen or Hanson etc.
- Keep a track of what you do so you can be sure you have tried all possibilities.
- The Advanced Search option can be used to broaden or narrow your 'best result' searches.

Too Many Results - reduce the date range or if you are sure of your facts or add more information

Incorrect or no Results - check your search input and take out any non-essential data
e.g. County or Spouse information

RESOURCES HELD AT UPPER HUTT CITY LIBRARY

- 929.1 CHR The genealogist's internet, by Peter Christian.
4th edition, 2009.
- 929.1 CRO Genealogy online, by Elizabeth Crowe.
8th edition, c2008.
- 929.1 RES Researching your family history online for dummies, by Nick Barratt.
2nd edition, 2009.
- The troubleshooter's guide to do-it-yourself genealogy,
by W. Daniel Quillen. 2010.

