

# Public history in the digital age

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# This talk


- ▶ Founders and Survivors: Transportation to Van Diemen's Land
- ▶ Goulburn Valley local history

# 'Professional' and 'amateur' historians

## Wikipedia:WikiProject Biography

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*Categories: [Biography articles without listis parameter](#) | [WikiProject Biography non-article pages](#) | [WikiProject Biography](#) | [WikiProjects participating in Wikipedia 1.0 assessments](#) | [WikiProjects WP: BIOGRAPHY](#) and [WP: BIOG](#) redirect here. You may have been looking for [Wikipedia:Autobiography](#), [Wikipedia:Biographies of living persons](#), [Wikipedia:Notability \(people\)](#) or [Wikipedia:Manual of Style \(biographies\)](#).*

 It has been suggested that [WikiProject Academics](#) be merged into this page or section. ([Discuss](#))



This is a [WikiProject](#), a collaboration area and open group of editors dedicated to improving Wikipedia's coverage of a particular topic, or to organizing some internal Wikipedia process. Please see the [Guide to WikiProjects](#) and the [Directory of WikiProjects](#) for more information.



Shortcuts:  
[WP:WPBIO](#)  
[WP:BIOG](#)  
[WP: BIOGRAPHY](#)

### Scope

The **Biography WikiProject** concerns the creation, development, and organization of Wikipedia's articles about people (including but not limited to [biographies](#)). It includes only biographies of humans, and not animals or fictitious characters.

### Goals

1. Get this project energized
2. Build all [core biographies](#) to Good Article status, at a minimum
3. *What else?*

### Newsletter Archives

Check out the [newsletter archives!](#)

### Announcements

- Check out [New Article alerts](#).



### WikiProject Biography

#### General information ([edit](#) · [change](#))

- [Main Project Page](#)
- [Project category](#)
- [Members](#)
- [Portal](#)

#### Announcements

- [Attention needed](#)
- [New articles](#)
- [Articles up for deletion](#)
- [Requested pictures](#)
- [Requests for comment](#)
- [Suspected policy breaches](#)

# Founders and Survivors



<http://www.foundersandsurvivors.org/>



Tasmania

Delivers the essentials

Archives Office of Tasmania

[www.tas.gov.au](http://www.tas.gov.au)



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- ▶ About us
- ▶ Latest News
- ▶ Legislative and legal framework
- ▶ Government recordkeeping
- ▶ Depositing private records
- ▶ Reference and research services
- ▶ Tasmanian Archives Online database
- ▶ Guides to records and their use
- ▶ Tasmanian photographs
- ▶ Tasmanian films and videos
- ▶ Name indexes
- ▶ Wills
- ▶ Tasmanian convicts
- ▶ Departures
- ▶ Arrivals
- ▶ General Index
- ▶ Inquests
- ▶ Census records
- ▶ Naturalisation applications
- ▶ Convicts applying for permission to marry
- ▶ Divorces
- ▶ Colonial Tasmanian family links database
- ▶ Tasmanian public works index
- ▶ Useful links
- ▶ Site map

## Index to Tasmanian Convicts

This comprehensive index of all convicts transported to Tasmania and those who were convicted (through the convict system) in the colony was created by indexing all original records we hold from the beginning of transportation in 1804 until 1853 when transportation ceased. The latest entry in the database for the locally convicted convicts is 1893. About 76,000 people are indexed. [Examples of some convict records.](#)

### Convict Search

All Words  Exact Word  Boolean Query

All Words  Exact Word

**Family Name**

**Given Name(s)**

**Remarks**

**Ship Name**

**Date of Arrival**

Many of the convict's records are available online, linked from this index. Copies of those not online can be obtained by completing our [online copy request form](#), by personally visiting us, or by writing to us.

Our [Contact Information](#)

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# Extending the archive

**Children:**

How many children did they have? Please provide names and genders of children, and dates and places of birth, if known.

**Occupation:**

What was your convict's occupation?

**Residence:**

Where did your convict live?

**WWI descendants:**

Did your convict have a direct male descendant who served in World War I?

If so, what were their full name/s?

**GEDCOM:**

- No  
 Yes

Do you have GEDCOM files of your convict and his or her descendants with births up to 1908, that you are willing to supply us?

If so, we will contact you with instructions for submitting your files.

## Goulburn Valley local history



Collaborative history of Melbourne's northern suburbs

<http://www.wikinorthia.net.au/>

# Why MediaWiki?

- ▶ Success of Wikipedia
- ▶ API
- ▶ Extensibility

- ▶ No matter how simple something looks, someone will find it difficult
- ▶ Fear of new technology
- ▶ Lack of awareness of privacy and copyright issues
- ▶ Role of public libraries

```
0 @I1@ INDI
1 NAME Bob /Cox/
1 SEX M
1 FAMS @F1@
```

Convert to SQL or XML?

# Ownership

- ▶ Who owns collections?
- ▶ Who owns historical interpretations?
- ▶ Who reads the fine print anyway?

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## *Photo credits*

- ▶ Goulburn River

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/outbj/241042582/>