Australian Biographical &Genealogical Record (ABGR)
Series 1 – 1788-1841

The Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record was established in the early days of computing in 1982 with the aim of creating a biographical database of every person born in or arriving in Australia from 1788 to 1899. It was the direct ancestor of this website.

ABGR published transcripts of musters from the early colonies of NSW, Tasmania and Norfolk Island during 1987-1999, all of which are now included on BDA.

ABGR also published a series of biographical dictionaries as *Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record* (Series 1, Series 2, 1985-1992). The contents of these biographies of ancestors contributed by their descendants and researchers have been included on BDA. Series 1 contained short biographies of persons who were born or arrived in Australia in the period 1788-1841.

The title page of this volume reads:

> Australian Biographical and Genealogical Record, Series 1, 1788-1841 with Series 2 Supplement 1842-1899, Edited by John T. Spurway, Assistant Editor Allison Allen, Published by A.B.G.R. in association with the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney 1992.

Contributors to the ABGR Project were asked to fill in a Biographical Detail Form (BDF) with basic information about individuals, including names, dates of birth, marriage and death, ship and year of arrival, parents and children of those persons. The original BDF forms and associated material are housed in the Manuscripts collection of the Society of Australian Genealogists at 120 Kent Street, Sydney. The entries on BDA give a source reference number to the files in that collection. The files for published biographies may contain additional material, including the original wording and correspondence of the contributor and sometimes different photographs to those published.

The contents of those published biographies are now on BDA in two separate Datasets. For the companion volume see Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record (ABGR) Series 2 – 1842-1899 and for BDFs not included in these publications see Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record (ABGR) Biographical Detail Forms (BDF).

For more information on records used to create these publications see:

http://www.sag.org.au/collections/our-manuscript-collection.html?task=view&id=79

For more on the background to ABGR see About Us / 2. History.

The main section of the Series 1 volume (1788-1841), running to 492 pages, contains 1498 biographies. These have been fully cross indexed resulting in 28,227 entries. The full biographies are now on the BDA website, but not the photographs.

The Explanatory Notes and Abbreviations sections in the following pages taken from the book should be consulted to understand the background to the wording in the biographies.

For the Foreword, Introduction and Acknowledgements from the original volume see
 http://www.bda-online.org.au/files/CB13_ABGR1_1788-1841Forward.pdf

Explanatory Notes

Key to Biographies:

Each Biography contains some or all of the following information in the following order -

Surname, Given Name(s), (birth-death years), occupation, primary place of abode; birth date and place; baptism/naming date, religion, place; father's full name, occupation, abode and mother's given name(s) (maiden name) and occupation; subject's education, subject's employers, place of arrival in Australia, date, ship and status of subject; date joined military, place, regiment, rank, war service and discharge date; land acquired, area, date, locality; name of spouse (birth-death years), father's name and abode and mother's given name(s) (maiden name); date and place of marriage, church name and religion; issue of subject - given name(s), (birth-death years), (married name of female children).

The second and subsequent paragraphs contain additional biographical material ending with the subject's date and place of death and burial.

Further biographical references may then appear in round brackets. A reference number appears in square brackets at the end of each biography. The first four numerals identify the Contributor - listed in the back of the volume, the number following refers to the subject's registration number, as submitted by the contributor.

Format of the Biographies:

The first paragraph of each biography follows the above sequence. This sequence was chosen to enable the information to form part of a computer data base. Each subject is treated as an individual, thus, in instances where spouses also appear in the volume, some information will be duplicated.

Personal Names:

BDA Source Description Pages

Subjects appear under the name by which they were known on arrival in Australia. Therefore all females born in Australia will appear under their maiden names. Any subsequent married names have been cross referenced.

Where spelling variations appear in surnames, this may be a reflection of differences in various records or because of a deliberate change made by the subject during their lifetime or between generations.

References:

ADB Australian Dictionary of Biography

DWA Dictionary of Western Australians

JRAHS Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society

NMH Newcastle Morning Herald

SMH Sydney Morning Herald

Abbreviations

General: in sequential order.

fmly	formerly	arr	arrival	ld	land
b	birth	tri	trial	spse	spouse
bp	baptism	sen	sentence	m	marriage
rel	religion	cp	conditional pardon	iss by	issue by
nm	naming ceremony	ti	ticket of leave	(A)	adopted
s of	son of	ap	absolute pardon	(F)	fostered
d of	daughter of	enl	enlistment	(m)	married name
ed	education	rk	rank	d	death
emp	employer	svc	service	bur	burial
nw	read and write	dis	discharge	cre	cremation
obit	obituary				

Place names: (All others are printed in full)

ABD	Aberdeen, SCT	FIF	Fife, SCT	NTH	Northamptonshire, ENG
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	FLN	Flintshire, WLS	NTT	Nottinghamshire, ENG
		GAL	Galway, IRL	NZ	New Zealand

BDA Source Description Pages

AGY	Anglesey, WLS	GLA	Glamorgan, WLS	OFF	Offaly (King's), IRL
ALD	Alderney, CHI	GLS	Gloucestershire, ENG	OKI	Orkney, SCT
ANS	Angus, SCT	GSY	Guernsey, CHI	OXF	Oxfordshire, ENG
ANT	Antrim, IRL	HAM	Hampshire, ENG	PEE	Peebles, SCT
ARL	Argyll, SCT	HEF	Herefordshire, ENG	PEM	Pembroke, WLS
ARM	Armagh, IRL	HRT	Hertfordshire, ENG	PER	Perth, SCT
AUS	Australia	HUN	Huntingdonshire, ENG	QLD	Queensland, AUS
AYR	Ayr, SCT	INV	Inverness, SCT	RAD	Radnorshire, WLS
BAN	Banff, SCT	IOM	Isle of Man	RFW	Renfrew, SCT
BDF	Bedfordshire, ENG	IOW	Isle of Wight, ENG	ROC	Ross & Cromarty, SCT
BEW	Berwick, SCT	IRL	Ireland	ROS	Roscommon, IRL
BKM	Buckinghamshire, ENG	JSY	Jersey, CHI	ROX	Roxburgh, SCT
BRE	Brecknockshire, WLS	KCD	Kincardine, SCT	RUT	Rutland, ENG
BRK	Berkshire, ENG	KEN	Kent, ENG	SA	South Australia, AUS
BUT	Bute, SCT	FER	Fermanagh, IRL	NT	Northern Territory, AUS
CAE	Carnarvon, WLS	KER	Kerry, IRL	SAL	Shropshire, ENG
CAI	Caithness, SCT	KID	Kildare, IRL	SCT	Scotland
CAM	Cambridgeshire, ENG	KIK	Kilkenny, IRL	SEL	Selkirk, SCT
CAN	Canada	KKD	Kirkcudbright, SCT	SFK	Suffolk, ENG
CAR	Carlow, IRL	KRS	Kinross, SCT	SHI	Shetland, SCT
CAV	Cavan, IRL	LAN	Lancashire, ENG	SLI	Sligo, IRL
CGN	Cardiganshire, WLS	LDY	Londonderry, IRL	SOM	Somerset, ENG
CHI	Channel Islands	LEI	Leicestershire, ENG	SRK	Sark, CHI
CHS	Cheshire, ENG	LET	Leitrim, IRL	STI	Stirling, SCT
CLA	Clare, IRL	LEX	Leix (Queen's), IRL	SRY	Surrey, ENG
CLK	Clackmannan, SCT	LIM	Limerick, IRL	STS	Staffordshire, ENG
CMN	Carmarthen, WLS	LIN	Lincolnshire, ENG	SSX	Sussex, ENG
CON	Cornwall, ENG	LKS	Lanark, SCT	SUT	Sutherland, SCT
COR	Cork, IRL	LND	London, ENG	TAS	Tasmania, AUS
CUL	Cumberland, ENG	LOG	Longford, IRL	TIP	Tipperary, IRL

BDA Source Description Pages

DBY	Derbyshire, ENG	LOU	Louth, IRL	TYR	Tyrone, IRL
DEN	Denbighshire, WLS	MAY	Mayo, IRL	UK	United Kingdom
DEV	Devon, ENG	MDX	Middlesex, ENG	USA	United States of America
DFS	Dumfries, SCT	MEA	Meath, IRL	VIC	Victoria, AUS
DNB	Dunbarton, SCT	MER	Merioneth, WLS	WA	Western Australia, AUS
DON	Donegal, IRL	MGY	Montgomeryshire, WLS	WAR	Warwickshire, LNG
DOR	Dorset, ENG	MLN	Midlothian, SCT	WAT	Waterford, IRL
DOW	Down, IRL	MOG	Monaghan, IRL WIC		Wicklow, IRL
DRY	Derry, IRL	MON	Monmouthshire, WLS	WIG	Wigtown, SCT
DUB	Dublin, IRL	MOR	Moray, SCT	WIL	Wiltshire, ENG
DUR	Durham, ENG	NAI	Nairn, SCT WLN		West Lothian, SCT
ELN	East Lothian, SCT	NBL	Northumberland, ENG	WLS	Wales
ENG	England	NFK	Norfolk, ENG	WOR	Worcestershire, ENG
ERY	East Riding, YKS	NRY	North Riding, YKS	WRY	West Riding, YKS
ESS	Essex, ENG	NSW	New South Wales, AUS YKS		Yorkshire, ENG

For other 'Biographies – Published' included in the BDA see

Historical resources available from the BDA Shop