# Records checklist

Many events in your ancestor’s life might have left a written record: birth, education, removal, fostering, out-of-home care, adoption, jobs and occupations, marriage, birth of children, changes of residence, legal and court matters, major family events, community activities, death and burial, etc.

Use this checklist to think about what kinds of records you should be looking for.

**Person’s name:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Things to find out** | **Y/N** | **Where to find information** |
| When and where was your ancestor was born? |  | * State or territory registry of birth, death and marriage
* Parish register
* Mission register
 |
| Was your ancestor removed from their family (Stolen Generations)? |  | * Link-Up
 |
| Was your ancestor a state ward? |  | * Find & Connect web resource
* State government archives in relevant state or territory
 |
| Did your ancestor live in a children’s home? |  | * Find & Connect
 |
| Was you ancestor adopted? |  | * Find & Connect
 |
| Was your ancestor in foster care? |  | * Find & Connect
 |
| Did your ancestor live on a mission or reserve? |  | * Find & Connect
* Mission records
* Tindale genealogies
 |
| Did your ancestor serve in the armed forces (army, navy, air force)? |  | * National Archives of Australia
* Australian War Memorial
 |
| Did your ancestor live in Victoria or the Northern Territory? |  | * National Archives of Australia’s Bringing Them Home Index
 |
| Did your ancestor vote? |  | * Electoral roll
 |
| Did your ancestor live or work on a pastoral station? |  | * Some BDMs list a pastoral station as the place where the event happened
* Some Aboriginal protection/welfare records show stations where people lived or worked
* Noel Butlin Archives Centre
 |
| Was your ancestor ever involved in a court case, or with the police? |  | * Court records
* Police records
* Gaol records
* Historical newspapers (Trove)
 |
| When and where did your ancestor die? |  | * State or territory registry of birth, death and marriage
* Cemetery records
* Historical newspapers (Trove)
 |

Notes – anything else you can think of?