Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family History
FACT SHEET 11: Tindale Genealogies

Worldwide knowledge and understanding of Australian Indigenous cultures, past and present

Tindale Genealogies

What are the Tindale genealogies:

- Norman Tindale was an anthropologist based at the South Australian Museum.
- He recorded vast amounts of genealogical information about Indigenous communities from all over Australia, the majority being collected during the 1920s and 1930s.
- Over 50,000 Indigenous people are included in the genealogies, as well as thousands of named photographic portraits.
- The genealogies are charted in hand-written field notes, usually with one extended family included on each chart.
- Some charts trace families back as far as 1860 and sometimes include the language groups and/or traditional names of people.
- The entire Tindale archive, which includes the genealogies, is available from the South Australian Museum.
- Various state and community organisations also have relevant copies of the genealogies. See below for a listing.
- Access conditions do apply – usually direct descendants and persons with permission from families or communities can view and copy the genealogies.

Where you can obtain Tindale charts

New South Wales

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW
Contact: Ronald Briggs
Telephone: (02) 9273 1577
Genealogies held: All of NSW

Muda Aboriginal Corporation
Address: 1 Wangkumurra Drive, Bourke NSW 2840
Contact: Greg McKellar
Phone 02 6872 1869
Fax: 0268 72 1228
Email: muda@muda.com.au

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Queensland

John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland
Telephone: (07) 3840 9482
Genealogies held: All of Queensland

Townsville City Council
Address: 4 Petunia St Aitkenvale Townsville 4810
Contact: Jeneese Henaway
Ph: 07 4727 8317
Genealogies held: All of Queensland

South Australia

South Australian Museum
Ph: (08) 8207 7500
Fax: (08) 8207 7430
Genealogies held: Australia wide

Tasmania

University of Tasmania, Riaunna Aboriginal Education Centre
Ph: (03) 6226 2517
http://fcms.its.utas.edu.au/arts/riaunna/
Genealogies held: Cape Barren Island only

Victoria and Northern Territory

South Australian Museum
Ph: (08) 8207 7500
Fax: (08) 8207 7430

Western Australia

Department of Indigenous Affairs
Address: PO Box 7770, Cloister’s Square, Perth, WA 6850
Contact: AHRU Officer
Ph: (08) 9235 8000
Email: ahru@dia.wa.gov.au
Genealogies held: Western Australian Index only

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