

## Our digital collection

To improve our services to all our members we have been digitising many of our records and receiving family histories and genealogical journals as pdf documents rather than printed versions.

Unfortunately, this reduces the opportunity to browse for material of interest and makes it even more important to use our library catalogue which lists all the material we hold, showing the author, title and subjects covered by the book, journal, document, etc. It also provides links to many online resources.

In addition to the list of our holdings, we have also indexed many of these records along with some not held at the Society. These indexes are sorted into different databases:

1. **Milestones** – this covers births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, burials and some obituaries. It does not include the State BDM indexes as these are readily available for free online. These records mostly relate to Australia and Victoria in particular but include some from elsewhere.
2. **Genealogical Index of Names** – records not covered by Milestones are indexed into our GIN database. Again, the emphasis is local records, but not exclusively. Some examples are hospital patients, schools, occupational records, voter lists, early directories, etc.
3. **GIN@GSV** – these records have been compiled by other organisations (mostly overseas) and for copyright reasons, we cannot put them on our website. They can only be viewed within our library.

4. **Vic Families** – GSV member submissions showing their Victorian ancestors of interest.
5. **Scottish Places** – an index to parishes, towns, villages etc with our parish register and census holdings.

Our catalogue describes all the original publications and information contained in our databases (except for Vic Families and Scottish Places).

Sometimes the record:

- has a link to the full digital version of the record. Some digital items are available to a member to view at home (e.g. our Webcasts)
- has the format 'Intranet' and the location 'Digital copy @ GSV' so such record can only be viewed at the GSV
- some of the associated LDS (*FamilySearch*) images can only be viewed at our library as we are an affiliated library.

Do take the time to read the full catalogue entry as there may be restrictions.

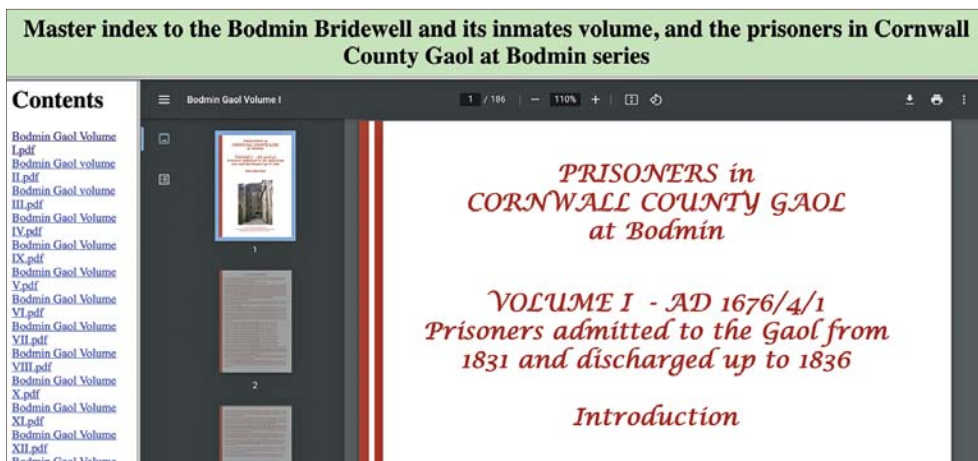
In GIN and Milestones, there may be an image of the relevant page attached to the index. Sometimes there is an explanatory page attached to each entry showing the sources used and the limitations of the records.

### Improvements continue to be made to our databases:

- We hold many CD publications of other Societies which may be viewed via our

View GIN @ GSV		Show:
<b>Surname:</b>	BLAND	
<b>Given name:</b>	JUNE	
<b>Event:</b>	Poor law record	
<b>Date:</b>	1794	
<b>Place:</b>	Surrey, England	
<b>Creator:</b>	West Surrey Family History Society	
<b>Title:</b>	Surrey Poor Law index & calendar	
<b>Source reference:</b>	Record no: 11465 [Quarter Session Papers]; type: Removal order	

▲ Image 1: GIN@GSV example – a poor law record from West Surrey FHS



▲ Image 2: Catalogue – Digital copy @ GSV an example of the new intranet display

Intranet. These publications can consist of a collection of pdf records and the linking to these is being gradually updated to make them more accessible. At the GSV when you see 'Intranet link: Click to view' the pdfs will be accessible via a specially created webpage, see image attached.

- Descriptions have been changed. If you see a record with the location:
  - 'GIN Database' or 'Milestone Database' then this has been indexed and the images are attached to the entry
  - 'Indexed in GIN' or 'Indexed in Milestones', it has been indexed and there is no image attached to the entry.
- Many Societies are now digitizing the back issues of their magazines and we are replacing print issues. Again, check the catalogue to see the current status.

If you unable to visit the Society, and you would like to check for a specific record you can use our members' free 'Quick Look-up' service. Some of these publications may now be found on the commercial databases, but sometimes there is more information in the original publication.

You may also use our Quick Look-up service if you would like to read a journal article found in the catalogue or mentioned in our Jottings from the Journals section of *Ancestor*. However, keep in mind that all print journals published before 2015 are now housed at the RHSV. GSV members can use their facilities, but 24 hours' notice is required to bring the magazines, etc up from storage.

See <https://www.gsv.org.au/research-services> for more detail on our various research services including the Quick Look-up Service. Remember to login as a GSV member to use this free service. ■

(GIN)	
<b>Surname:</b>	Macdougall
<b>Given name:</b>	Annie
<b>Event:</b>	Hospital admission
<b>Event date:</b>	5 Dec 1882
<b>Event place:</b>	Melbourne, Victoria
<b>Location:</b>	Rathdowne St. Carlton
<b>Age:</b>	42
<b>Status:</b>	Married
<b>Author:</b>	Genealogical Society of Victoria
<b>Title:</b>	Patients in the Melbourne Hospital 1855-1909: an inc
<b>Comment:</b>	Doctor: Williams. Discharged

▲ Images 3 and 4: GIN record example (above), and the linked, hospital details (right) for Annie Macdougall

**Image** Annie MACDOUGALL

Surname: Macdougall  
 Given name: Annie  
 Age: 42  
 Status: Married  
 Current residence: Rathdowne St. Carlton  
 Admitted: 5 Dec 1882  
 Discharged: 11 Dec 1882  
 Result: Discharged / Relieved  
 Doctor: Williams  
 Book: 705\_289, Page: 30  
 Location of book at Public Record Office Victoria: VPRS 12477/P3/35

1. By agreement between the GSV and the Royal Melbourne Hospital we do not publish the disease for which the patient was admitted.  
 For this information and any other details of the patient the original ward book must be viewed at the Public Record Office Victoria.

2. The information in the Ward Books for each patient varies. Sometimes it consists of little more than name, disease and dates - sometimes more details and comments of the patient's history.