SUCCESSFUL SEARCHING ON TROVE

Trove is a free online service where you can search fully digitised Australian newspapers (and more). Newspapers from all states and territories are on Trove and range in dates from 1803 – 1954.

Trove is simple to use – but there are some techniques you can use to become a successful Trover.

To find Trove online go to www.trove.nla.gov.au

To search only the newspapers click on the Digitised Australian newspapers button.

Start your search

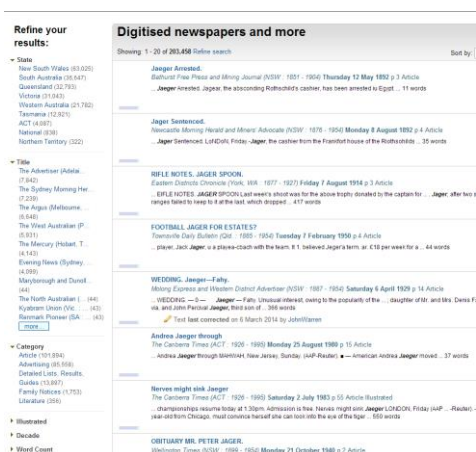Here are a few suggestions to begin searching on Trove

1. **Begin with a general, broad keyword search** (don't be too specific too soon!)
   When searching for people begin with a surname and maybe a first name – be mindful of the way names were written in newspapers, many only used a first initial or even just a honorific (Mr., Messrs., Mrs., or Miss). Adding a place can also be helpful. For example G Lansell Bendigo

2. **Refine your search** using the facets on the left hand side of the screen.
   Facets are the refining options or filters on the left hand side of the search results screen
   Under each of these headings you'll find a series of options (listed from highest to lowest hits)

The options for refining are -

State

Title

Category

Illustrated

Decade

Word Count

3. **Advanced searching techniques** can be used to refine your search even further

Search for a phrase

To search for your keywords as a phrase, rather than as separate words, simply enclose them in quotation marks. For example: "Bendigo Art Gallery"

Searching for common words as names
You can search for common words as names using a near search.
Use an honorific with name. For example "Mr Smith"~2, "Mrs White"~2
Note: there should be no space between the tilde (~) and the phrase.

Search for hyphenated names or words
There are no special rules searching for hyphenated words. You can search for these words as you would any other search terms.

Searching for names with apostrophes
If you are searching for a name which includes an apostrophe it needs to be included in the search.
For example O'Sullivan.

Use a wildcard to broaden your search
You can use the wildcard symbol * in the simple search box to broaden your queries.
For example, to find either "mathematics tutorial" or "maths tutor" try: math* tutor*.

There are more helpful tips on searching, printing and contributing to Trove on the website.
Go to the Help page – the link is on the top right hand side of the screen.