

30-MINUTE GENEALOGIST

Sara Khan shows how you can break down brick walls in your research in just half an hour



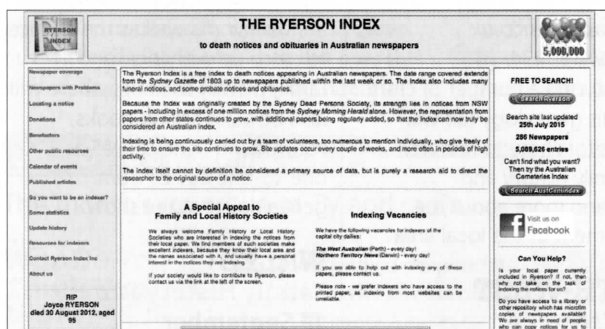
SARA KHAN is lead genealogist on the *Who Do You Think You Are?* BBC TV series

If your ancestor died in Australia, their death notice may be found in the Ryerson Index

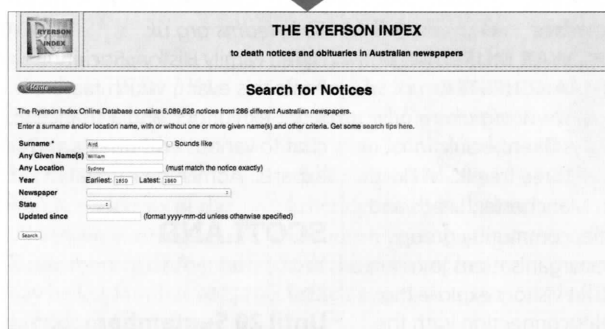


The Ryerson Index

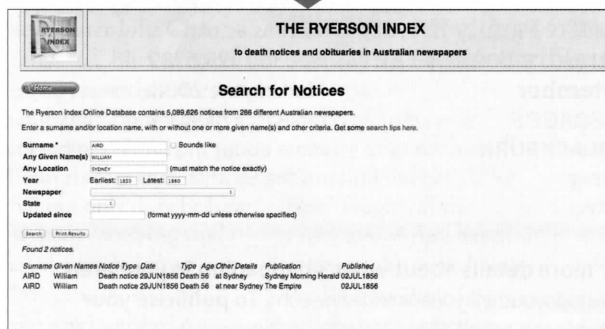
Those with Australian heritage may be interested to learn about the Ryerson Index (ryersonindex.org). This is a free index to death notices in Australian newspapers from 1803 to the present day. Its main focus is on papers from New South Wales.



1 Navigate to the homepage and click on the 'Search Ryerson' button on the top right-hand side of the website to begin the search.



2 Now enter the details of the person you are searching for. In our example here we are looking for a notice for a William Aird who died in Sydney in the 1850s. Enter those details and click 'Search'.



3 All relevant results will appear. Here, there is one result for William Aird from two different newspapers. You will not be able to view the actual death notice here but will have to consult the original newspaper, which can be found at the British Library or on Trove at trove.nla.gov.au.