



Media Release

Amanda Rishworth MP
Federal Member for Kingston

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Shake Your Family Tree Day ***Unexpected Discoveries- Amazing stories you can find in the Archives***

Shake Your Family Tree is a major event on the National Archives calendar, drawing around 2500 people to the Archives' offices around the country. The theme for 2011 is *Unexpected Discoveries – Amazing stories you can find in the Archives*.

On **25 February**, the National Archives Australia is holding the fourth Shake Your Family Tree day. All of the National Archives offices around the country- Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Hobart, Perth and Darwin-are providing interesting activities to assist people in tracing their family histories.

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston said the National Archives plays an integral role in family history research.

Ms Rishworth said "The National Archives holds a vast collection of information about people, from the ordinary to the famous, and their diverse interactions with the Australian government.

"People are always amazed to discover what is held in the Archives. Family historians find letters, photographs, immigration and citizenship applications, employment records and copyright registrations that help to build a picture of their past. The search is even easier now, as many of these documents are available online.

"The Southern Adelaide region holds a rich history, with some of the oldest communities in South Australia and people from so many different backgrounds. For those who wish to know more and to trace their own family histories, I encourage them to access the terrific resources and records held by the National Archives."

Shake Your Family Tree day events include free seminars, workshops, demonstrations and guided tours, all relating to finding family history.

To access more information on the National Archives Australia visit www.naa.gov.au.