

Why can't the gift recipient work on their family tree during this genealogy experience?

For a decade we tried to provide a service where the gift recipient could spend a day working on their family tree with a genealogist.

During this time we discovered it was unworkable.

Mastering research...

Research is actually a very difficult and complex discipline if done properly. It requires acquiring, reading and analysing old documents.

The National Archives estimates that only 15% of all documents in archives have been digitised, this means that there are an awful lot of documents **we can't access online.**

Documents are the key...

Documents are **everything** to a family tree researcher. If we can't access them then we can't research! Therefore a day 'researching' with a genealogist is not practical if the record we want is on the shelf in an archive somewhere in the country.

Mastering Techniques...

Scenario: the gift recipient needs to solve a brick wall in their research. We tell them they need to go and search for a settlement certificate or a chancery record in an archive (because we can't access them online).

They stare at us bewildered.

They have not heard of these very complex records and do not know where to start. We can't show how to find and use them because we can't access the records.

Workshop genealogy experiences are the best way forward

So as you can see, it is often not enough to simply tell someone how to solve a mystery or learn different ways to research their family tree when the type of record or terminology means nothing to them.

This exciting brand new experience is a workshop style learning day. It has pre-designed genealogy puzzles about various families which helps the gift recipient learn and use records that are not online.