How to request a Bonegilla ID Card

The Bonegilla ID card details the personal information (name, nationality, date and place of birth) of each resident, whether adult or child. Periods of employment were also recorded, along with the residential block number and any hospital visits. To request a copy:

1. Go to the National Archives website: "naa.gov.au"
2. Click on: "Help with your research"
3. Look for the following link: "Ask us about the collection"
4. Scroll down to: "Immigration questions"
5. Select: "Immigration records" Fill out as much of the form as you can, focusing on one person (you can enter more people at the end).
   
   Hint: You can source additional information to complete this form by following the process for requesting migrant selection documents from the National Archives of Australia on page 2.

6. At the "What records about this person are you looking" question select: "Bonegilla Reception Centre Registration Card"

In the "Tell us more" box at the end list all the names and birthdays of the people you’d like Bonegilla ID cards for, this saves you from having to fill out one form per person.

Please note: Some cards may not have all fields complete, such as recording the block number lived in.

Also available are passenger arrival records, passenger departure records and Internment or alien registration records.
How to request **migrant selection documents** from the National Archives of Australia (**NAA**)

The personal information in migrant selection documents usually consists of name, nationality, date and place of birth, spouse (if any), names of children (if any), and trade/occupation/training summary. Documents often include passport sized photographs or the names of next-of-kin or parents, travel, accommodation and medical details.

1. Go to the National Archives of Australia website: "naa.gov.au"
2. Click on: "Explore the collection"
3. Click on: "Go to RecordSearch"
4. Use keywords such as surname, first names, nationality, birth dates, maiden name, ship name. If there are still too many entries you can try filling in the date range.
5. Once you have found the right person/s, open their record and click: "Request Copy" to the far right of the page. If the access status is open a price summary will be available, if not yet examined a price will be sent to you. Once the application is submitted check your emails for a confirmation the application has been submitted.
Can't find your family?

Many documents in the NAA are yet to be digitised or may contain spelling mistakes. Don’t be discouraged as everyone who migrated to Australia including children should have records. Follow these steps to get assistance from the NAA to search their paper archives on your behalf:

1. Go to the National Archives of Australia website: "naa.gov.au"
2. Click on: "Help with your research"
3. Look for the following link: "Ask us about the collection"
4. Scroll down to: "Immigration questions"
5. Click on: "immigration records" Fill out as much of the form as you can, focusing on one person (you can enter more people at the end).
   *Hint: Include all alias names and spelling variants for both given name and maiden name (if known).*
6. In the drop down tab near the end select: “Migrant selection documents”

   In the "Tell us more" box at the end, list all the names and birthdates of the people you’d like records for, this saves you from having to fill out one form per person.

If you need help or have any concerns, you can contact the National Archives of Australia directly by phone: + 61 2 6212 3600 or by email: archives@naa.gov.au
International Tracing Service (ITS)

If your research involves tracing the movement of family members who found themselves in Germany during or after WWII, then the ITS archives may prove invaluable. The ITS archives hold approximately 30 million documents relating to concentration camps, prisons, forced labour camps, displaced persons camps, migration records, ship manifests and employment details.

The Central Name Index search system is arranged alphabetically and phonetically and contains over 50 million reference cards for more than 17.5 million people.

The ITS also have a collection of photographs and items from WWII that they are trying to return to families. To request information:

1. Go to the ITS website: "www.its-arolsen.org/en"
2. Click on: "Information"
3. Click on: "The search service of the ITS"
4. Click on: "To the form"
5. Fill out the form and include as much information as possible. The archivists should be able to find records with just the names, birth dates and nationalities, but any extra information is welcome.

Hint: Include known aliases and provide spelling variants for both given name and maiden name (if known).

6. To request documents for multiple persons, at the end there will be an option to add a person and then you will repeat part of the process in a new form. If papers are found, the ITS will send them to you free of charge.

If you need help or have any concerns, you can contact the ITS directly by email: communications@its-arolsen.org