

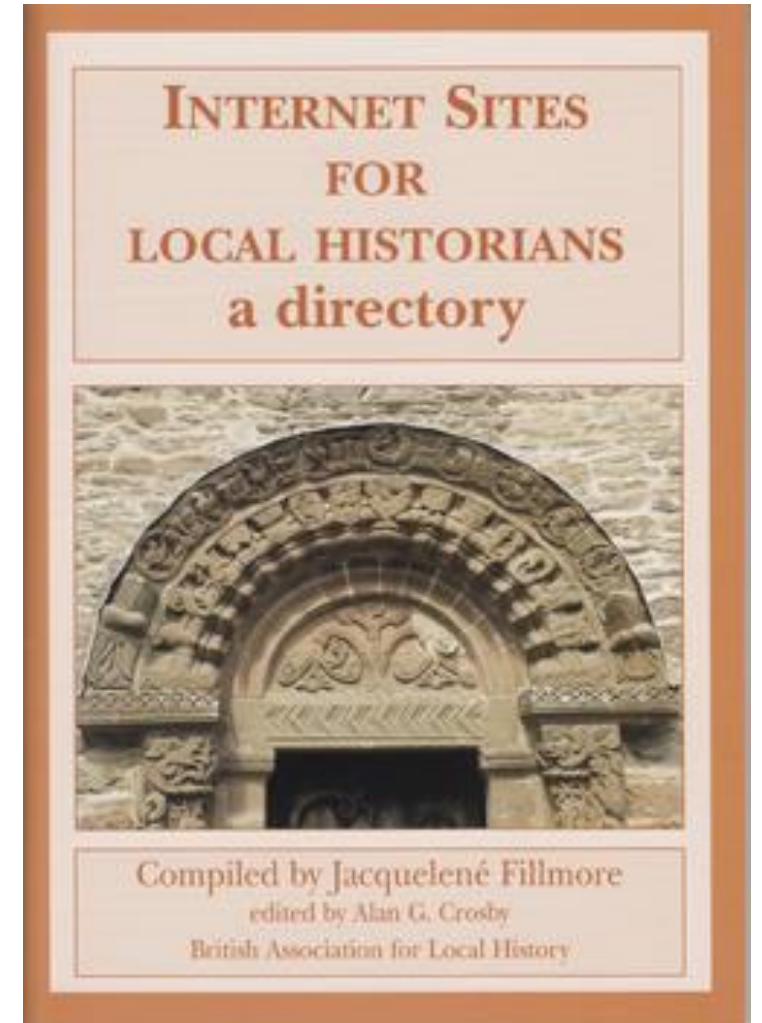
**Going back in time:
free resources for finding people, 13th to 18th centuries**

Dr Gillian Draper
development@balh.org.uk



What I plan to cover or mention today

- Online catalogues
- Websites and downloadable resources
- Free printed resources available in libraries
- Wills
- Records of lives in cities
- Materials on places (documents and maps)
- Family and place names
- The National Archives Discovery
- Where to find out more



A question in *Radio Times* 4-10 March 2017

YOU ASK US

How do they research family history?

Could you please tell me how the programme-makers research the family history series *Who Do You Think You Are?* (Wednesday BBC1)

Bob Kingsland, Stroud, Gloucestershire

RT asked series producer Sarah Feltes, who tells us: "*Who Do You Think You Are?* employs a team of researchers and genealogists to build family trees and develop stories supported by original, primary sources. Development can take anywhere from two to three months – sometimes longer – depending on the records available, locations, any translations needed and so on.

"It's always exciting starting a new family tree – you never know what you're going to find. At the start of every tree we try to talk to as many family members as we can about what they know. Even when a family has a wealth of documentation, it can take a long time to sift through it.

"Poor or exploited ancestors generally prove more difficult to track down and it can take months of reaching dead ends before we find a clue that yields a fascinating seam or storyline. Sometimes there are no documents at all, and oral history can provide



A REVELATION
Sunetra Sarker's family photos unlocked clues about her illustrious great-grandfather



a breakthrough. The amount of research we do always far exceeds what we are able to include."

Readers interested in learning more about their own family history can nowadays access a wealth of tools and advice online. An excellent starting point is the series' own helpful resources website, at bbc.co.uk/whodoyouthinkyouare/how-we-did-it/key-resources.shtml

You'll find tips on discovering archive documents, birth, death and marriage certificates, military service

and company records, census information and so on, along with lots of ideas of where to get started. Be aware that the site is no longer updated, but it does also carry a great number of useful links to external websites such as the National Archives.

You might also like to look at whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com – for subscriptions, please call 0844 815 0049. Happy hunting!

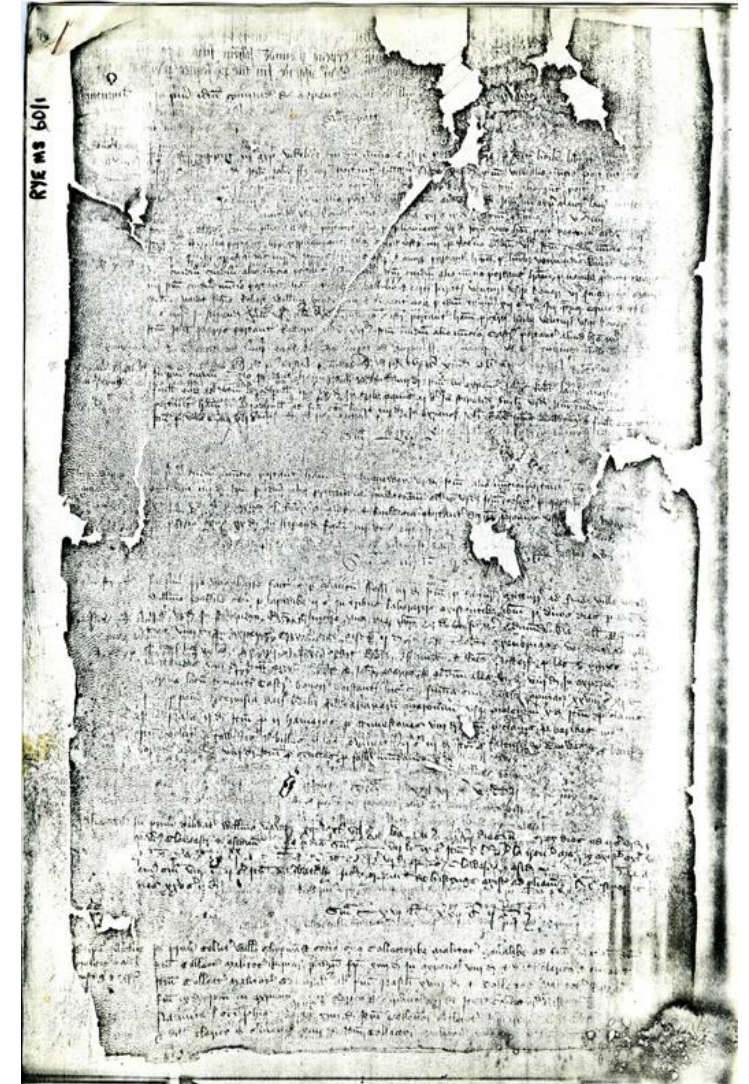


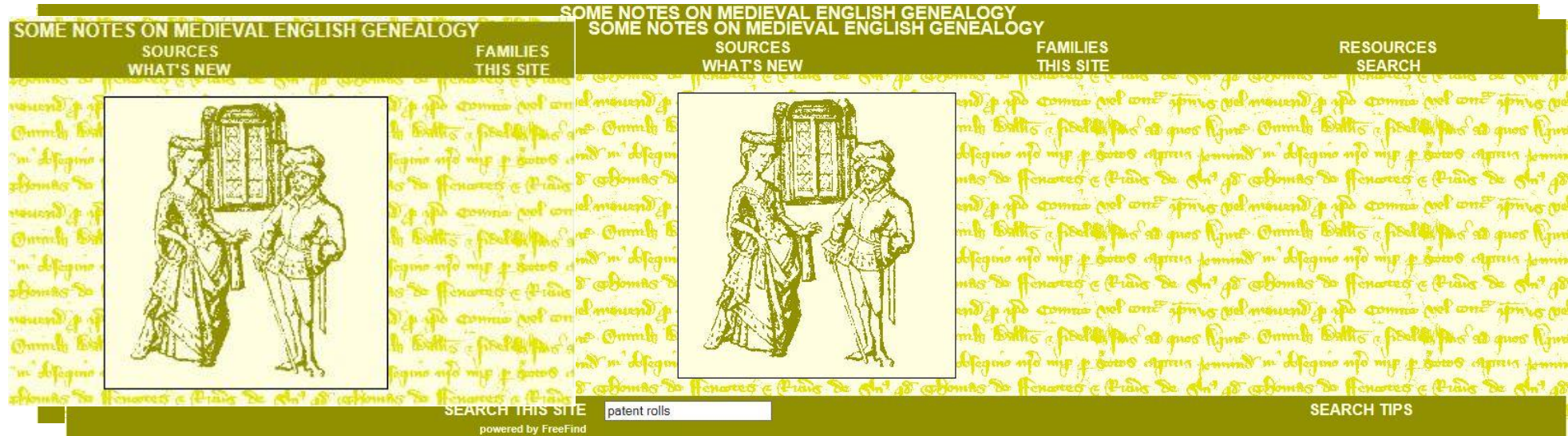
Tips on using online catalogues – The National Archives [TNA] and others

Rye (Sussex) Chamberlains' account 1405-6

Variants of the Sussex place and personal name Oxney-bridge

- Oxenbridge
- Oxenbrigge
- Oxbrigge
- Oxbrydge
- Oxnebrigge
- Oxnebridge
- Oxnebregge
- Uxbrigge
- Ox*, Oxen*, Oxne*, Ux*





New material on Medievalgenealogy.org.uk

In the [Feet of Fines](#) section, abstracts of fines added 30

December 2016

Berkshire (1272-1307) (269 fines)

• **Hampshire (1272-1307)** (299 fines)

• **Oxfordshire (1319-1326)** (118 fines)

• **Shropshire (1307-1327)** (209 fines)

• **Westmorland (1307-1327)** (46 fines)

• **Worcestershire (1307-1327)** (184 fines)

• **Divers, unknown and various counties (1307-1327)**
(301 fines)

Calendar of Patent Rolls

Calendar of Close Rolls

Calendar of Charter Rolls

Calendar of Fine Rolls

(from the Middle Ages)

Letters and Papers, Foreign and
Domestic (Henry VIII's reign onto
modern times)

Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds

British History Online



British History Online is a digital library of key printed primary and secondary sources for the history of Britain and Ireland, with a primary focus on the period between 1300 and 1800. We aim to support the learning, teaching and research of our users from around the world.

BHO was founded by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust in 2003. Our collection currently contains over 1,270 volumes and is always growing.

[See what's new on British History Online.](#)

Search

Keywords

Title

[Search](#)

Search for an exact phrase by enclosing it in quotation marks

[Search help](#)

Full catalogue



Guides and calendars



Primary sources



Maps



Secondary texts



Datasets



MARRIAGE RECORDS ONLINE

MyHeritage

Easy and free - just enter a name and let our technology do the rest. Start now free!

[>](#)

Visitors' free use of Warwick University library
(a tip on using university libraries: choose a fairly long-established one)

The Library

Search | **Using the Library** | Students | Staff | Subject support | My Library Account

Visiting

External borrowers | School & FE college visitors | Personal belongings

Members of the public

Members of the public may have access to the Library to consult our collections for reference use only.

- A day visitor pass gives reference access to the Library for the day of issue and are issued during [staffed service](#) hours only
- You may apply for reference-only membership of the University Library free of charge providing you show proof of your identity (preferably photographic). An application form will need to be completed for the registration to be processed
- Reference-only Membership allows unlimited access to the University Library Monday to Sunday 8.30-21:30. Access to printed materials on the open shelves and copying facilities using photocopy cards that can be purchased from the Helpdesk on Floor 1

Walk-in user e-resources service

Suppliers have given walk-in users permission to access the following databases, subject to their terms & conditions & subject to copyright law. They can only be accessed in person from the single PC reserved for this purpose on Floor 1 of the University Library.

Please note the conditions of use below.

- There is no general internet access, email or word processing
- No printing or download is available
- Neither CD roms or DVD's may be played on the Walk-In User computer
- Activity on the PC may be monitored by the University as permitted by UK legislation
- Helpdesk staff are unable to offer in-depth support to external customers. Priority is given to providing services for University of Warwick staff and students

Another tip: see G. Draper, 'Connect to the Native Interface: electronic resources for independent scholars', *The Local Historian: the Journal of the British Association for Local History*, Vol 40:4 (November 2010) or Hannah Spencer 'The world of internet research', *Local History News* 122 January 2017 (again from BALH)

Public Record Office Staff

Calendar of
State Papers:
Domestic
Series

Hardback

Calendar of state papers, domestic series, of the reign of Edward VI, 1547-1553, preserved in the Public Record Office.

 Print Book | 1992.

Available at Main Library Oversize (DA 25.44.J47) [Show all](#)

J.L. Kirby (Editor)

Calendar of
Inquisitions
Post-Mortem and
Other Analogous
Documents
Preserved in ...

Hardback

Calendar of inquisitions post mortem and other analogous documents preserved in the Public Record Office. Vol.19, 7-14 Henry IV (1405-1413) / edited by J.L. Kirby.

 Print Book | 1992.

Available at Main Library Oversize (DA 25.425.N2) [Show all](#)

Elizabeth Ralph

Calendar of
the Bristol
Apprentice
Book

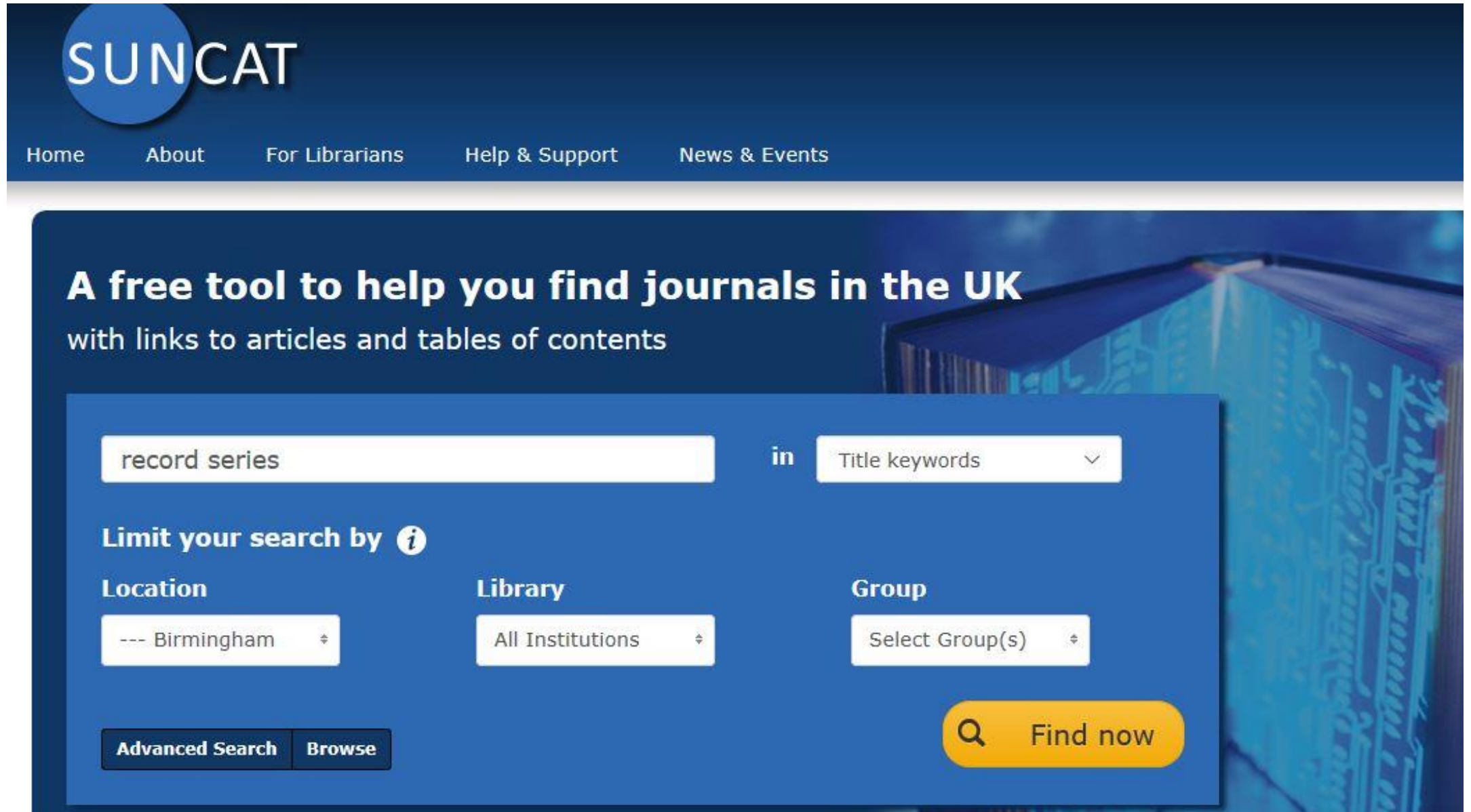
Hardback

Calendar of the Bristol Apprentice Book, [1532-1565]. Part 3, 1552-1565 / edited by Elizabeth Ralph.

 Print Book | 1992.

Available at Main Library (DA 670.31.B7) [Show all](#)

<https://suncat.ac.uk/search>



The image shows the SUNCAT search interface. At the top, the SUNCAT logo is on the left, and navigation links for Home, About, For Librarians, Help & Support, and News & Events are on the right. Below the navigation bar, a large banner features the text 'A free tool to help you find journals in the UK' and 'with links to articles and tables of contents'. The main search area is a blue box containing a search input field with the text 'record series', a dropdown menu for 'in' with 'Title keywords' selected, and a section titled 'Limit your search by' with an information icon. This section includes three filters: 'Location' (set to '--- Birmingham'), 'Library' (set to 'All Institutions'), and 'Group' (set to 'Select Group(s)'). At the bottom of the search box are two buttons: 'Advanced Search' and 'Browse'. A large yellow button with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Find now' is positioned to the right of the search box. The background of the page features a stylized image of a book with circuitry patterns.

SUNCAT

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A free tool to help you find journals in the UK
with links to articles and tables of contents

record series in Title keywords

Limit your search by 

Location
--- Birmingham

Library
All Institutions

Group
Select Group(s)

[Advanced Search](#) [Browse](#)

 **Find now**

From SUNCAT (for journals and record series). Use COPAC also for books

 Position	 Title	 First published	 Location
☐ 1	Rutland record series.	1980	• Birmingham University ...
☐ 2	Gloucestershire record series / Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.	1988	• Birmingham University ...
☐ 3	Shropshire Record Series.	1997	• Birmingham University ...
☐ 4	Record series - Thoroton Society	1903	• Birmingham University ...
☐ 5	Cymmrodorion record series.		• Birmingham University ...
☐ 6	Record series - Derbyshire Archaeological Society.		• Birmingham University ...
☐ 7	Kent records / Kent Archaeological Society.	1912	• Birmingham University ...
☐ 8	Record series - Yorkshire Archaeological Society.		• Birmingham University ...
☐ 9	Hampshire record series.		• Birmingham University
☐ 10	Portsmouth record series. Portfolio.		• Birmingham University

The Institute of Historical Research [IHR], London
<http://www.history.ac.uk>

One example from this library

- The Calendars of royal and state papers
 - Many Calendars published by county historical and record societies
 - City, town and village histories, some published as far back as the 18th century, some very recent.
 - The Victoria County History (the 'big red books') of every county
 - Bibliography of British and Irish History [BBIH] to consult
 - It has an online catalogue which you can freely search from home
- *Reports of the Historic(al) Manuscripts Commission* on urban records, e.g. vol. 5 includes lengthy summaries of the borough records of Lydd, New Romney, Folkestone, Fordwich, St Alban's, Dartmouth, Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and High Wycombe; vol. 13 has those of Rye and Hereford

1 ☐	Administrations in the Archdeaconry of Northampton (1667-1710), now preserved in the District Probate Registry at Birmingham Church of England. Archdeaconry of Northampton. London : The British Record Society, 1947.	1947  Book						
<table> <tr> <th>LOCATION</th><th>CLASSMARK</th><th>STATUS</th></tr> <tr> <td>IHR OPEN ACCESS</td><td>B.2812/Nor</td><td>AVAILABLE</td></tr> </table>			LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS	IHR OPEN ACCESS	B.2812/Nor	AVAILABLE
LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS						
IHR OPEN ACCESS	B.2812/Nor	AVAILABLE						
2 ☐	Birmingham Foster, Andy. New Haven ; London : Yale University Press, 2005.	2005  Book						
<table> <tr> <th>LOCATION</th><th>CLASSMARK</th><th>STATUS</th></tr> <tr> <td>IHR OPEN ACCESS</td><td>BC.8492/Fos</td><td>AVAILABLE</td></tr> </table>			LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS	IHR OPEN ACCESS	BC.8492/Fos	AVAILABLE
LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS						
IHR OPEN ACCESS	BC.8492/Fos	AVAILABLE						
3 ☐	Birmingham 120 years ago : being a reprint of an old directory, published in 1777, to which has been added a streets directory, a trades directory, and a few notes of comparison between Birmingham of 1776 and the city of to-day Birmingham [Eng.] : Scarse, 1896.	1896  Book						
<table> <tr> <th>LOCATION</th><th>CLASSMARK</th><th>STATUS</th></tr> <tr> <td>IHR ONSITE STORE</td><td>BC.24</td><td>REF ASK STAFF</td></tr> </table>			LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS	IHR ONSITE STORE	BC.24	REF ASK STAFF
LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS						
IHR ONSITE STORE	BC.24	REF ASK STAFF						
4 ☐	The Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway Clinker, C. R. Oxford : Printed for the Dugdale Society by C. Batey, 1956.	1956  Book						
<table> <tr> <th>LOCATION</th><th>CLASSMARK</th><th>STATUS</th></tr> <tr> <td>IHR OPEN ACCESS</td><td>BC.8411/Dug/Occ Bound in Dugdale Society Occasional ... (CLICK FOR MORE)</td><td>AVAILABLE</td></tr> </table>			LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS	IHR OPEN ACCESS	BC.8411/Dug/Occ Bound in Dugdale Society Occasional ... (CLICK FOR MORE)	AVAILABLE
LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS						
IHR OPEN ACCESS	BC.8411/Dug/Occ Bound in Dugdale Society Occasional ... (CLICK FOR MORE)	AVAILABLE						
5 ☐	Birmingham : bibliography of a city Chinn, Carl. Birmingham : University of Birmingham Press, c2003.	c2003  Book						
<table> <tr> <th>LOCATION</th><th>CLASSMARK</th><th>STATUS</th></tr> <tr> <td>IHR ONSITE STORE</td><td>BC.0639/Bir/Chi</td><td>REF ASK STAFF</td></tr> </table>			LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS	IHR ONSITE STORE	BC.0639/Bir/Chi	REF ASK STAFF
LOCATION	CLASSMARK	STATUS						
IHR ONSITE STORE	BC.0639/Bir/Chi	REF ASK STAFF						
6 ☐	A Birmingham boyhood 1923-40 Armstrong, Eric, 1923- Oxford : Fonthill Media, 2015.	2015  Book						

Special Collections Online



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Historical Directories of England & Wales



Directory & Topography of Sheffield, 1862

About this collection

A collection of digitised trade directories, part of the University of Leicester's [Special Collections Online](#), covering England and Wales from the 1760s to the 1910s.

Please note that free text searching for names, towns, villages and occupations may prove difficult and time consuming. The site may also run slowly on occasion due to the volume of data being searched.

If you are undertaking genealogical or one-name study research you may find resources supplied by commercial genealogy suppliers more suited to your needs.

The directories can be [browsed by location](#) and either viewed online one page at a time or downloaded and accessed via a PDF viewer such as Adobe Reader.

For advice on searching the collection see the [Directories Help](#) page.

These pages replace the Historical Directories website, withdrawn in March 2014. The site ran for ten years but could no longer be maintained due to hardware and software obsolescence.

Recent Additions



[Bennett's Business
Directory for
Warwickshire,
1914]



White's Directory of
Sheffield,
Rotherham ...,
1879



Kelly's Directory of
Staffordshire, 1896



Post Office
Directory of
Birmingham,
Staffordshire &
Worcestershire,
1850

Maritime records at TNA available online:
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/enewsletter.htm>



French muster rolls from the Battle of Trafalgar 1805

Keywords: [high court of admiralty](#) [log books \(ships\)](#) [shipping](#) [trafalgar \(battle of\)](#)

✓ All records viewable online



Logs and journals of ships of exploration 1757-1904

Keywords: [admiralty](#) [log books \(ships\)](#) [navy](#) [royal navy](#) [shipping](#)

✓ All records viewable online



Maritime births 1867-1960

Keywords: [births](#) [merchant navy](#) [passengers](#)

✓ All records viewable online

Available on:
[findmypast](#)

LOG of the <i>Felix</i> - discovery vessel from						towards					
H.	Courses.	K.	F.	Winds, &c.	Lee Way.	Wednesday 29 th May 1850					
2	WNW	13		SSW 8	by	A.M. Heavy sea from SE.					
4		13				Landed 4 shot & the Broadland Pelican					
6		13				14 Heavy shot down -					
8	NW 6 W	14			by	Noon - Yacht in tow					
10		11				Course 175° N Latitude N Longitude W					
12		10			6	Distance 131 Ch ^o 12-115-15					
2	SE 6 S	8	6			DR 56-58 DR 14-45					
4		11				Cape Farewell N 82° W - 464 m.					
6	drifting	4				4-30 Chained sail & brought to the wind					
8	head	2			180°	under Main-mast & close reefed & sail					
10	118° W	2				for the security of the Yacht in tow					
12		2				Midnight Continued heavy swell					
						Dist. per Log.					
H.	Courses.	K.	F.	Winds, &c.	Lee Way.	Thursday 30 th May 1850					
2	head	2		SSW		A.M. 7-50 Bore up under easy sail					
4	WSW	1	4			Yacht in tow -					
6	drifting to the NW	1	4		6c	Set up the Rigging -					
8	WNW	3				Course N 72° W Lat det 57-52-55 Long det 15-59-45 W					
10		4			6c	Dist 76 m Det 57-50 Det 15-45					
12		4			6c	Cape Farewell N 82° W 880 m.					
2		5		SW 6	6c	P.M. 4 Shot sail to secure the tow					
4		5		Rain		5 Made sail					
6	Head to NW 6 W	4		SSW 6	6c						
8		4									
10		8	4			Midnight Yacht in tow -					
12		8	4		180°	Dist. per Log.					
H.	Courses.	K.	F.	Winds, &c.	Lee Way.	Friday 31 st May 1850					
2	NW 6 W	9		St W 6	6c	A.M. Long swell from SW					
4		9									
6		9			R						
8		9			R.M.	Made and shot sail as requisite for the safety of the tow -					
10		8	4		m	Noon					
12		8	4		180°	No Observation - (then obscured)					
2		4	4		m	Course N 85° W Lat 58-00 N Long 18-35 W					
4	Head NW 6 W			Calm 6c		Distance 93 Cape Farewell N 82° W - 792 m.					
6					m	P.M. 2 Made all sail					
8											

Voyages of Discovery and Surveying:

Final page of ship's log of journey of *Adventure* to Madeira and back in 1789-90 signed by [Lieutenant] PN Inglefield, free to download on the website of the Centre for Environmental Protection Data

Remarks &c in the Channel					At the
H	R	Hours	Minutes	Remarks &c in the Channel	At the
Saturday, May the 29 th 1790					
1	up	8	00	Light Breeze & hazy weather, 2 past 12 made	
2	3	01	00	Sail, parted company with the Southampton.	
3	3	14	00	at 2 saw the Land from N. by N. to S. by E. 3 or 4	
4	2	00	00	Leagues, at 3 made the Fairy's signal to come	PH
5	10	00	00	within half an hour ordered her to board a Brig to	
6	14	00	00	East N. by E. towards which had made the signal of distress - at	PH
7	5	14	00	to the Salisbury, Southampton & several sail	
8	6	14	00	in sight, backed the main top-sail for the Fairy -	PH
9	7	00	00	at 4 past 4 found in 55 fathoms Stones & broken	
10	6	00	00	shells, at 6 moderate weather, Snow in C. -	
11	2	14	00	at sunset the Lizard Light Houses N. by E. -	
12	1	14	00	at 9 a Light bearing N. by E. 5 or 6 Leagues -	PH
1	2	14	00	shortened sail for the Fairy, 2 past 11 up Main	
2	1	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
3	2	2	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
4	1	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
5	1	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
6	1	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
7	1	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
8	2	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
9	3	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
10	5	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
11	7	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
12	9	14	00	at 12 Light 4 or 5 with heavy Rain -	
Sunday May the 30 th 1790					
1	8	14	00	Light Breeze and cloudy	108
2	9	14	00	Spoke two vessels from Inymal.	END
3	9	14	00	down Studding-sails and Royals	
4	8	14	00	The Star N. by W. dist. 6 or 7 Miles.	PH
5	7	14	00	at 5 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	PH
6	6	14	00	at 6 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
7	7	14	00	at 7 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
8	2	14	00	at 8 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
9	6	14	00	at 9 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
10	5	2	00	at 10 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
11	6	14	00	at 11 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
12	5	14	00	at 12 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
1	1	14	00	at 1 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
2	1	14	00	at 2 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
3	1	14	00	at 3 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
4	1	14	00	at 4 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
5	5	14	00	at 5 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
6	5	14	00	at 6 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
7	1	14	00	at 7 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
8	1	14	00	at 8 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
9	1	14	00	at 9 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
10	1	14	00	at 10 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
11	1	14	00	at 11 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	
12	1	14	00	at 12 past 5 Derry Head North 3 or 4 Leagues.	

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- Local History Day every June
- And much more...

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Do bring your questions to us.

