

Useful Genealogical Website Addresses

Introduction

The websites listed in this leaflet guide are just a small selection of the many million sites currently available worldwide. They have been selected as being particularly useful to family historians and many are genealogy portal sites, which will lead you to yet more helpful sources of information and advice.

A Word of Warning

Many aspects of genealogy websites are compiled by volunteers, who spend their free time indexing and transcribing the original records. Thus, as with anything, there is always the possibility of human error, so we advise that any reference be checked against the original records wherever possible. Websites also have a tendency to spring up and then disappear overnight, so we offer our apologies for any included in this leaflet, which have since disappeared.

Major genealogy sites

www.ancestry.co.uk This site allows you to search the 1851-1901 censuses on a pay-per-view basis. Also available are civil birth, marriages and death indexes, plus parish and probate

www.genuki.org.uk A website aiming to serve as a virtual reference library of genealogical information, it covers every county in the UK and includes information on places, libraries, archive and family history societies.

www.cyndislist.com A vast collection of web links covering genealogy and related historical and geographical information, somewhere you can find information on adoption to voters' registers.

www.familysearch.org A massive site that pools the resources of a wide range of international genealogy databases, which includes the International Genealogical Index.

www.rootsweb.com The main aim of this site is to connect people so that they can share their research. It is a major US genealogical co-operative with links to many other projects such as the Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild and FreeBMD (see entry below).

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk The website of the National Archives contains their online catalogue, along with useful leaflet guides to the records they hold. Also available on a per-view basis are the 1901 census, World War I campaign medal rolls, wills for the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, service registers for Royal Naval Seamen, 1873-1923, World War II seamen's medals and the Victoria Cross Register.

www.gro.gov.uk The General Register Office's website, providing on-line ordering and information on post-1837 registration certificates of births, death and marriages.

www.cwgc.org The website of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, including the Debt of Honour Register, which provides personal and service details, and places of commemoration for those who died whilst serving with the Commonwealth forces during both World Wars.

www.ukgenealogy.co.uk An easy to navigate site of UK genealogy links containing surname lists organised by county, along with research guides to common sources.

www.findmypast.com A pay-per-view site providing access to the indexes for births, marriages and deaths from 1837-2002, along with those overseas of British citizens.

www.genesreunited.co.uk Now the largest UK genealogy site with over 22 million names, it is primarily a huge database of family trees that can be matched and shared by the sites subscribers.

www.freebmd.org.uk FreeBMD is an ongoing project, the aim of which is to transcribe the Civil Registration index of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales, with free internet access to the transcriptions. Linked to this site are **www.freecen.org.uk**, which provides similar access to the census and **www.freereg.org.uk** with access to parish registers.

Libraries, Archives and Societies

www.swheritage.org.uk/somerset-archives The website of the Somerset Heritage Centre, containing full online catalogues of our holdings, maps and postcard views of the county, guides to research and details on the services available.

www.friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk The website of the Friends of Somerset Archives, containing details on how to join the society, volunteer projects run by the group and a full programme of social events.

www.a2a.org.uk An initiative run by the National Archives, Access to Archives (A2A) contains a searchable database of catalogues from repositories all over England.

www.bl.uk The website of the British Library, containing details on their holdings, plus research and information on the India Office archives.

www.sdfhs.org The website of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society, containing details on joining the society, publications, research, local groups and research aids.

www.ffhs.org.uk The website of the Federation of Family History Societies, with contact details for all registered local and family history societies, details on the National Burial Index and links to other useful sites.

www.sog.org.uk The website of the Society of Genealogists, containing information on the Society, how to join, what services it provides and an online list of publications.

www.ihgs.ac.uk The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies website, providing details on their services, such as educational courses, handwriting analysis, publications for sale and heraldic or genealogical research.

Local history websites

www.curiousfox.com A village by village contact site for anyone researching family history, genealogy and local history.

www.oldtowns.co.uk A website containing details on market towns and villages of England, exactly as they were described during the second quarter of the 19th century.

Other useful sites

www.fhsc.org.uk/genuki/REG/regoff An alphabetical list of Register Offices in England and Wales.

www.veteransagency.mod.uk Ministry of Defence site with details on obtaining service records.

www.family-tree.co.uk The Family Tree Magazine website.

www.multimap.com Street maps of England and Wales.

rmhh.co.uk/illness Lists of old diseases with modern explanations.

Somerset Archives & Local Studies
Somerset Heritage Centre
Brunel Way
Norton Fitzwarren
Taunton
Somerset
TA2 6SF

Tel: 01823 278805 (enquiries)
Tel: 01823 337600 (appointments)
Email: somersetarchives@swheritaget.org.uk
Website: www.swheritage.org.uk/somerset-archives

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