

## **ARCHIVES AND HERITAGE SERVICE**

### **BIRMINGHAM CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**This service has a wide range of material available to assist with family history reseach located on floor 6.**

#### **General Register Office Indexes (GRO/St. Catherine's House)**

The Indexes began in July 1837 with the introduction of civil registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths in England and Wales. Microfiche of the quarterly or annual indexes from 1837 to the present day are held.

There are also microfiche of the Adoption Index 1927 onwards, the Civil Partnership Index 2005 onwards and the Overseas index.

#### **International Genealogical Index (IGI)**

These microfiche, mainly of baptisms and marriages before 1875, cover many churches in Great Britain, Ireland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Carribean.

#### **Census**

Microfiche copies of the ten-yearly returns are available for the Birmingham area from 1841 to 1901. There is a microfiche of the names index to the 1881 census for the whole of England and Wales, and for various counties for 1851. The 1911 census is available at present only on [www.1911census.co.uk](http://www.1911census.co.uk) and [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) (vouchers can be purchased here)

#### **C D Rom**

These include the National Burial Index and the Soldiers Who Died in WW1 and WW2

#### **Ancestry –Library edition**

This is now available for hourly seesions, free of charge on computers in Birmingham libraries. This includes records from England, Scotland and Wales, census from 1841 to 1901, Birth, marriages and death records and UK parish and probate records.

#### **Directories**

British and Irish Trade Directories can be found in the public shelves with coverage from the late 18<sup>th</sup>. Century to the late 20<sup>th</sup>. Century. Local telephone directories from 1906 are also held.

## **Newspapers**

Microfilm copies of local newspapers from the mid 18<sup>th</sup>. Century to the present day are available. Original copies are served where there is no microfilm and the condition is suitable.; these will be served in the archive search room and prior notice is required. Biographical newscuttings have been abstracted from these and there is also an index of obituaries from Aris's Birmingham Gazette up to 1861.

## **Parish Registers**

Most Church of England parish registers for Birmingham are available on microfilm in the open access area. However, for some parishes the researcher will need to consult the original register in the archive search room. There are some nonconformist registers and also a large number of printed parish registers for other areas throughout England. They do not hold original Catholic registers. The majority of these are held at St. Chad's. The archivist can be contacted at Cathedral House, St. Chad's Queensway. Tel : 0121-230-6252.

## **Wills**

The National Wills Index from 1858 to 1998 is available and also Birmingham Wills from 1858 till 1941 are found in the archive search room. Some wills and indexes from earlier times are also held.

## **Military information on open shelves**

The Navy Memorial registers 1924 vols. 1 – 3  
The War Graves of the British Empire. Volumes by Countries between the 2 World Wars  
Roll of Honour – Land Forces WW2 6 vols  
Birmingham Air Raid Rebenbrance Association's Roll of Honour.  
Index of Graveyard Names to French War Graves 2 volumes.  
National roll of Honour of the Great War. 15 volumes  
Vol 6 has Birmingham's Roll of Honour  
Soldiers who died in the Great War 1914 –1919. Volumes by Regiment  
Prisoners of War 1939 – 1945 2 volumes  
Prison Service Roll of Honour  
War Graves Commission Registers of War Graves  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission 1939 – 1945

## **Monumental Inscriptions**

There is a wide selection of published transcripts relating to burial grounds in Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

## **Indexes to Cemetery Burials**

These are held for all local authority cemeteries in Birmingham from the dates of opening up to mid 1980s (1973 for Brandwood End)

## **Army, Navy and Air Force lists**

These cover the Officer Class only.

Monthly Air Force Lists (1918 - 2006)

Retired Air force Lists (1973 - 1998)

Navy Lists (1861 - 2005)

(the latest editions are available at the enquiry desk)

Retired Navy officers (1977 - 2001)

Army Lists (1860 - 2001)

London Gazette 1914 - 1919/20

1939 - 1947

## **Burke' Peerage and Landed Gentry**

There is a near complete set of these on the public shelves.

## **Coroner's Inquests**

A coroner's Court Roll is available on microfilm from 1839 to 1875. Original coroner's inquest files from the Birmingham Coroner are held from 1875 onwards. Inquests over 75 years old are available in the archives search room. To enquire about inquests less than 75 years old contact the Coroner's court, 50 Newton Street, Birmingham B4 6NE Tel. 0121 303 4274. There are also some scrapbooks of inquest news cuttings from 1876.

## **Archives of Soho Calthorpe Estate**

Sir Benjamin Stone Collection.

All of the above material and much else is available to users of the library. A CARN (County Archive Research Network) ticket is required for access to the archives search room.