

BRITISH NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE

HAWKESBURY LIBRARY SERVICE - LOCAL STUDIES FACT SHEET

British Newspaper Archive

Newspapers may provide an insight into the past whether you are seeking information about a person, place or event. The British Newspaper Archive (BNA) covers the regional newspapers of UK and Ireland between 1700–1950. The project between the British Library & brightsolid was established in 2011, and now operates in partnership with Find my Past. Researchers can trace, view and download original documents.



Hawkesbury Library Service provides free access to British Newspaper Archives on our premises.

What is included?

- A wide range of material from all over UK (England, Scotland & Wales) plus Ireland
- Also includes some newspapers from the Caribbean, India, and beyond.
- Date range is 1700 – 1950, with most content from 19th & 20th century
- There are about 2,500 titles with hundreds of pages added daily. To see a full list of titles and what is coming, go to <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/home/NewspaperTitles>

Getting started

Searching the index to the British Newspaper Archives is FREE. Click on icon on catalogue in the Library or go to <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

- To look at articles in full, you need to register and create an account on the British Newspaper Archives. Go to <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> click on REGISTER on top bar of website and follow instructions.
- To access articles in full, a subscription is required. Hawkesbury Library subscribes to British Newspaper Archives, so it is free at Windsor and Richmond when you go to <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> using our free Wi-Fi and your own device.
- It is also available for Library members at Windsor and Richmond for FREE by booking a PC.

Basic search

Click on the 'Search' tab to enter your search term/keywords.

- Avoid putting dates in the search box
- Quotation marks can be used around names and phrases.
- Be creative with names and phrases e.g. Elizabeth Moses (nee Jenkins) could turn up as Lizzie Jenkins, Mrs Moses, Mrs Arthur Moses etc.
- Some phrases may not be in use for the time you are searching e.g. "World War One" would only appear after WW2.
- Don't apply filters to start, only narrow down if too many results. Newspapers often reported on events from around the country.
- If you get no results for a name, try looking for an event or place.

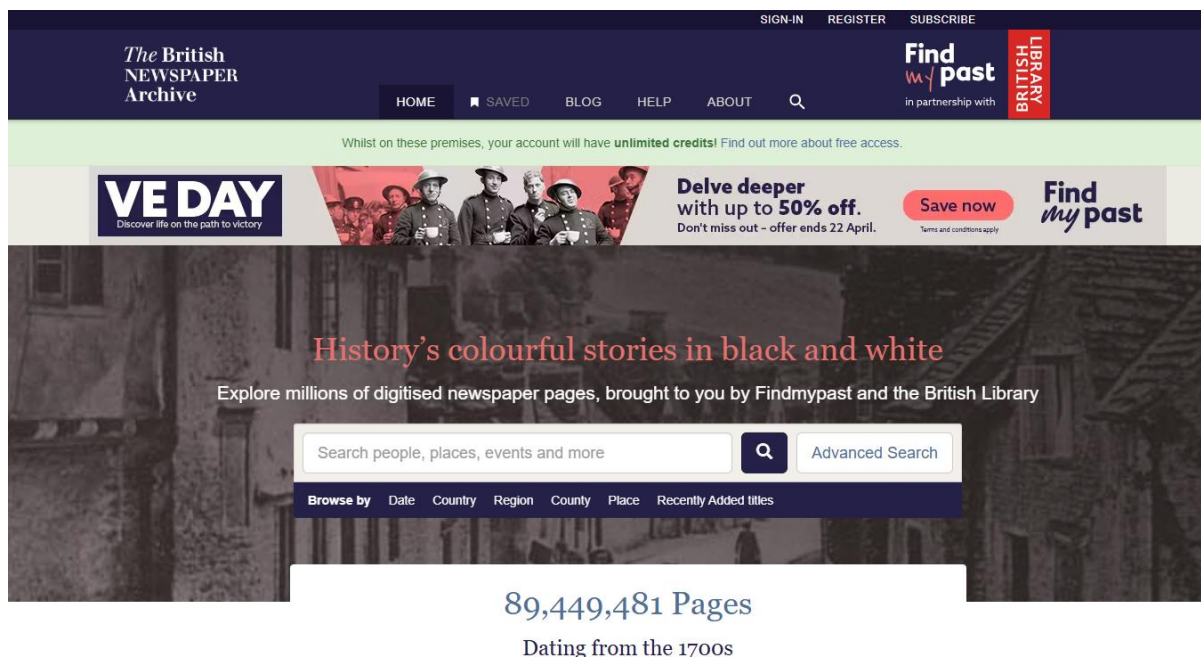
Advanced search (recommended)

Click on 'Advanced' to the right of the search box. Advanced search fields as follows:

- All of these words – this will search EVERY word entered, e.g. British AND Newspaper
- Some of these words – this will search some words, depending on how many words you enter. E.g. 1-2 words entered will match all words, 3 words will match at least 2 words, 4-8 words will match at least 2 (if you search for 4) up to a minimum of 6 (if you search for 8), 9+ will match at least 6
- Without these words – these will be excluded from your search
- Phrase – this will search for words which appear together. e.g. 'Robert Jennings Havens.

Printing & saving

When you find something of interest, you are given the option to print, save or share. We suggest you save onto your own USB. Then if you need to print, use our printing services.



More information

BNA also offers further assistance – click on the HELP tab or go to <http://help-and-advice.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> which gives in-depth assistance through the Knowledge Base.

Video Tutorials

Several video tutorials are available at <https://www.youtube.com/BNArchive>

Other Historical Newspapers

- eResources at the State Library of NSW <https://eresources.sl.nsw.gov.au/>
** use your library card and access several overseas historical newspaper collections **
- Welsh Newspapers Online (FREE) <https://newspapers.library.wales/>
- Chronicling America <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
- Newspapers SG (Singapore) <https://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/newspapers/>
- TROVE (Australia) <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>
- Papers Past (New Zealand) <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/all>

Prepared by Local History Librarian & updated 14/04/2025

Contact Information

ADDRESS

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Hawkesbury Central Library
Deerubbin Centre (Ground floor)
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HOURS

Monday to Friday 9am-7pm
Saturday 9am-1pm
Sunday 2pm-5pm
Closed Public Holidays

LOCAL HISTORY CONTACTS

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history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library>
<http://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary>

Access the catalogue <https://aurora.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/>