Find my past
http://www.findmypast.co.uk/

Introduction

Find My Past is a major online commercial family history resource which gives access to over 2 billion records. The website is important because it contains some exclusive family history records. Among other records the resource contains:

- Transcribed OPRs baptism, marriage and burial records (back to 1538)
- Transcribed Scottish Censuses (1841-1901)
- British newspaper collection (1710-1953)
- Crime, prisons and punishment records (England and Wales, 1770-1934)
- British military records (national and international conflicts, 1760 to the 20th Century)
- Passengers list leaving UK (1890-1960)
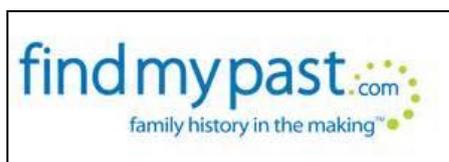
Access
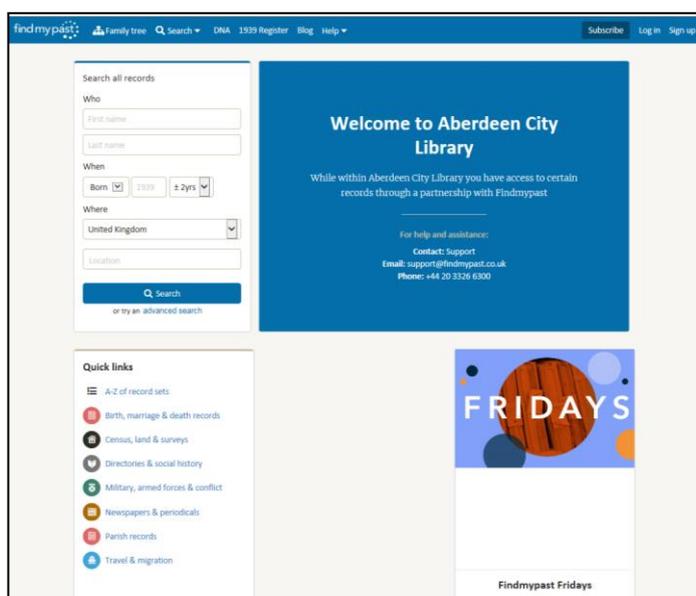
The library offers <u>free access</u> to this website.

There is a link in the Online resources section of the library's website.

Please note: You need to be **in a library building** to get free access.

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This user guide is derived from the "Help" section taken from the Find my Past website.

Create an account

By creating an account you will be able to access to personalised features such as creating a family tree and saving searches. However this is not entirely necessary, you can also use the website as a guest.

From the home page, you can **subscribe or Log in** to access to your account.
Simply click on the tab "Subscribe/Log In".
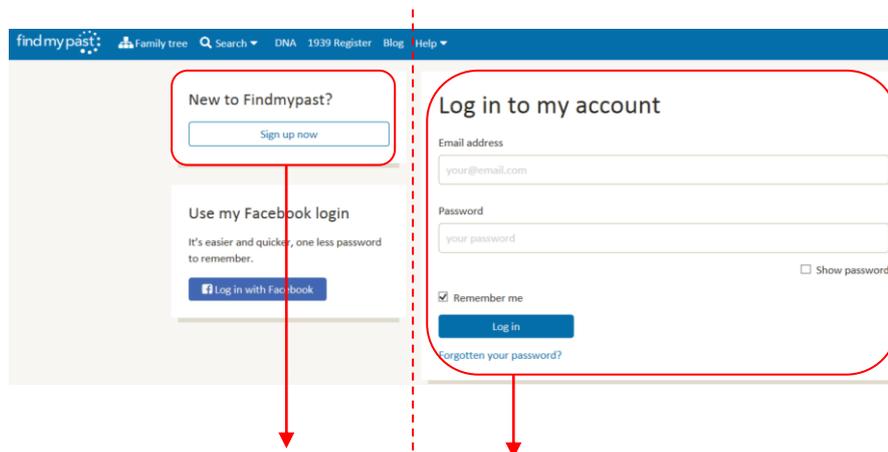
Sign in
If you already have an account. Simply enter your email address and your password, then click on "Login".

Log in
Enter your personal information (first name, last name, country of residence, email address, password).

Please note: You have to accept the terms and conditions and the privacy policy before to click on "Register for free".

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Make a search

There are three ways of searching:
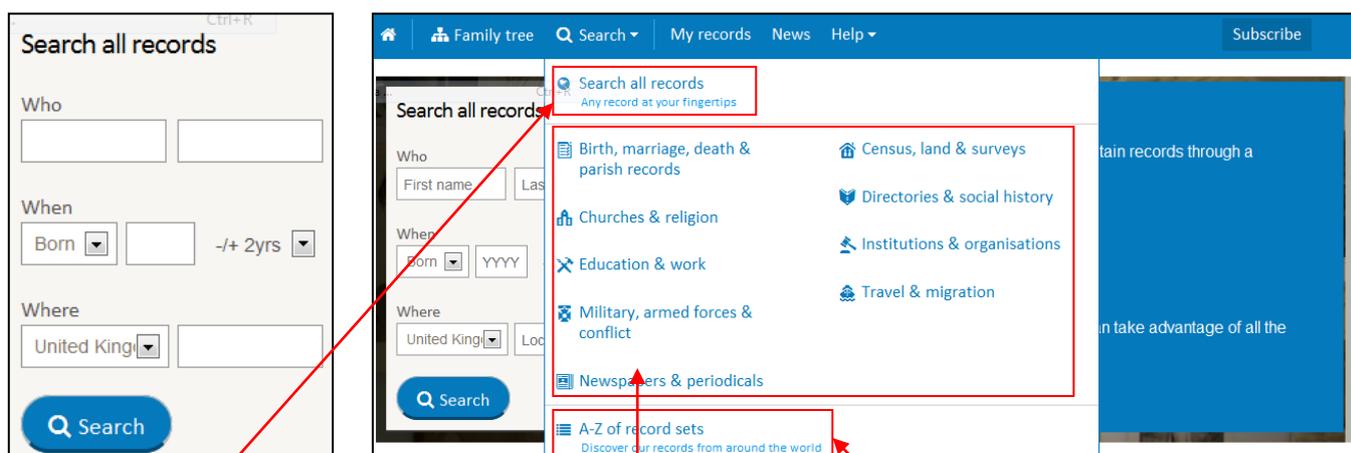
Option n°1: Search all records   **Option n°2:** Use the drop-down list (categories)   **Option n°3:** Use the A –Z listing

Click on "Search" (navigation bar)
to access to the drop-down menu

- **Option n°1: Search all records**

General research across all the records indexed.
This tab is useful if you're just getting started your family research or if you wish to see new results for someone you already know. Especially interesting if you are looking for someone with an unusual name (too many results if name too common).

- **Option n°2: Drop-down list**

This list gives an access to a particular group of records (Birth, marriage, death and parish records, Census, Churches records, directories, School records, Military records, Migration records…).

- **Option n°3: A-Z listing**

A to Z listing of all the record sets held and accessible on the website. **Very useful if you know exactly what you are looking for!**

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An overview of the search page

By selecting a category (drop-down menu, *cf.* above), you will arrive on a tailored search page which looks like this one:

Short introduction to the category + Links to "Learn more" and find "Useful links" (also available below the search box and on the right side – *cf.* bottom of the screen capture). Internal links.

A-Z of record sets
Tab to filter via the A-Z listing (*cf.* 1c).

Filter by country
Click and select the country you are looking for

| World ▼ | Directories & social history ▼ | All Subcategories ▼ |

Directories & social history

Postal and telephone directories, family histories and almanacs are fantastic resources that paint a picture of what life was like in the cities, towns, and villages your ancestors lived in at any given point in time. Some of the records provide information on specific trades and professions, while others reveal the titles and land holdings of your wealthier ancestors.

Learn more   Useful links

≡ A-Z of record sets

📢 Looking for the old search? ⓘ

🌍 World ▼

All Categories
> Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
> Census, land & surveys
> Churches & religion
∨ Directories & social history
    Directories & Almanacs
    Family Histories & Pedigrees
    Government
    Newspapers & Magazines
    Postal & Telephone Directories
    Social History
> Education & work

WHO
First Name
Last Name
☑ Name variants ⓘ   ☐ Name variants ⓘ

📢 All fields are optional   ✖

WHEN
Year   Give or take   Year Of Birth   Give or take   Year Of Death
-/+ 2yrs ▼   -/+ 2yrs ▼
Give or take
-/+ 2yrs ▼

WHERE   .

SUBCATEGORY   Browse Subcategory

RECORD SET   Browse Record set

OPTIONAL KEYWORDS

🔍 Search Directories & social history   Clear search

Learn about these records   Useful Links & Resources

Filter by category and/or subcategories
Simply click on one of the items to filter your research.

Search tools
Select all or part of the information (they can varied according to the category chosen).
To start the research, simply click on "Search… [type of resources]"

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Examining search results

Current research

Search
Possibility to edit/ refine or save your research and/or start a new one.

Number of results

Records available.
Ordered by name, dates (BMD), records sets and location

Filters

A-Z of record sets
Tab to filter via the A-Z listing (*cf*. 1c).

Order by relevance, last name, first name, date of birth/death, any event, record set.

Browse by category or select a location more specific.

Navigation tool
Click on a number or on the arrow to go to the next page.

Record's transcriptions
Click here to see the record's transcription

If you get too many results by using the general research, you can try the categories, focused on more specific records.

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Help and advice

On Find my Past
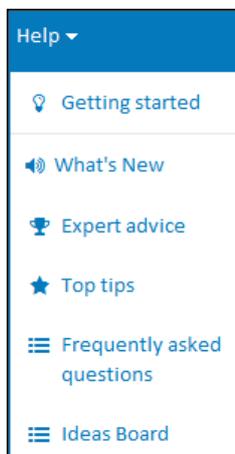
There is advice available for using Find my Past on the website. Visit the "Help" page to access many tips and techniques. The link is on the navigation bar.

On the bottom of each record page, there is a short description of the set and how to use it during your research. Getting to know the record sets is very important.

There is a step-by-step guide to getting started with Find my Past:
http://www.findmypast.co.uk/content/getting-started
It is a quick and easy guide to help you get started using the website and its two billion records. Use the menu on the left to access information about specific records and tips.

If you have any difficulty using the website you can contact the Support Service at support@findmypast.co.uk (+44 20 3326 6300).

On the Internet

Findmypast guide
http://family-tree.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/FT_guide_to_new_findmypast.pdf
Article from Family-tree.co.uk giving useful information to use the website. It highlights some of the problems and teaches you how to manage your research.

Find my Past on Youtube
https://www.youtube.com/user/findmypast
Free videos from Find my Past to use the website.

At the library

For any questions or assistance using the resource get in contact with one of the Local Studies Librarians at LocalStudies@aberdeencity.gov.uk or phone 01224 652543. **We are here to help!**