
Websites for Nonconformist Ancestors

The following websites provide genealogical or historical information and are intended as a brief guide to just some of the vast number of sites which are available for the family historian.

Civil Registration

After 1837 Nonconformists came under the provisions of the Civil Registration Act, so more recent records are easy to access.

General Register Office Index to Births, Marriages and Deaths* - www.1837online.com

This website is a complete listing of births, marriages and deaths certificates issued in England and Wales from 1837 onwards.

Free BMD - www.freebmd.org.uk

This is as yet an incomplete index to births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales and as the name states is free

NB - In the case of both Websites having accessed the index you will the need to purchase the relevant certificate

General Register Office for England - www.gro.gov.uk

Having searched the GRO indices this then provides details as to how to obtain copies of certificates for England and Wales, costs, methods of payment etc.

The Official Nonconformist register site* - www.bmdregisters.co.uk

This new site has been created in association with The National Archives. It holds the information from the nonconformist registers held in their collections under Class numbers RG4 and RG5.

IGI - www.familysearch.org

The IGI, short for International Genealogical Index, is compiled by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and is an index to millions of names gathered from records worldwide. It contains mainly baptism and marriage entries and is a very useful tool for family research. Nevertheless be warned it is NOT complete: many areas are not covered at all and some have only partial coverage.

Genuki - www.genuki.org.uk

This is a reference site for family history in the UK which contains many links to other sites.

The National Archives – www.tna.gov.uk

The National Archives holds material for most nonconformist religions, including registers collected between 1836 and 1837. It also hosts the A2A online catalogue which lists information held in collections throughout England.

Baptist Historical Society – www.baptisthistory.org.uk

This site explains the history of the Baptist movement and has useful links to other Baptist sites.

Baptist Union of Great Britain – www.baptist.org.uk

This site lists all of the Baptist Churches in Great Britain and also contains links to other Baptist sites.

Strict and Particular Baptists – www.strictbaptisthistory.org.uk

A site explaining the beliefs of the Strict or Particular Baptists. It also contains information on tracing Baptist family history and has links to many other useful sites.

Board of Deputies for British Jews – www.bod.org.uk

This site gives general information on Jews in Britain, and lists some of the available archives. It also contains a useful calendar of Hebrew dates and describes festivals such as Passover.

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies –

www.jewishgen.org/cemetery/brit/england

The project aims to bring together information from the whole of Britain on Jewish cemeteries and where their records may be found.

Methodist Archives and Research Centre – www.library.manchester.ac.uk

This is based in the John Rylands Library at Manchester University. It holds several collections of papers regarding Methodist Ministers, lay officials and lay preachers. It also includes a useful index to preachers with the date they entered the ministry and when they died.

The Wesley Studies Centre – www.brookes.ac.uk

This promotes Methodist teaching, but has a useful library of Archive material with on-line access.

The Library of the Religious Society of Friends – www.quaker.org.uk

This site gives a short history of the Quaker movement as well as a guide to genealogical sources.

Quaker Family History Society – www.qfhs.co.uk

The society is open to members both within and outside the Society of Friends. It gives much useful information on types of records available and also their location.

United Reformed Church History - www.urc.org.uk

Westminster College Library holds information on the history of the United Reformed Church, including biographical information on Congregational Ministers.

Catholic History – www.catholic-history.org.uk

Contains many links to useful sites with information about tracing Catholic ancestry

Catholic Library – www.catholic-library.org.uk

This houses many Mission Registers dating back as early as 1694

*** indicates that either membership or a fee may be payable to view the full details contained on the relevant site**

Bury Record Office, 77 Raingate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2AR

Telephone: 01284 741212

Email: bury.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Ipswich Record Office, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, IP1 2LQ

Telephone: 01473 584541

Fax: 01473 584533

Email: ipswich.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Lowestoft Record Office, Clapham Road, Lowestoft, NR32 1DR

Telephone: 01502 405357

Fax: 01502 405350

Email: lowestoft.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk Record Office web site: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sro>

Suffolk Heritage Direct website: <http://www.suffolkheritagedirect.org.uk>