

# Jumping “The Pond” - Research in England

Presented by Bret Petersen - [mbpetey@yahoo.com](mailto:mbpetey@yahoo.com)

*Find out where to start your English research, what records are available and how to get them without it being a “royal” pain.*

## 1<sup>st</sup> - Learn how to research English records

- Family records guides at -- <http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/guides.htm>
- All of the guides from the UK National topics -- <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue/researchguidesindex.asp>
- The Society of Genealogists instructional leaflets -- <http://www.sog.org.uk/leaflets/leaflets.shtml>
- Use Research Helps -- [www.familysearch.org/sg/](http://www.familysearch.org/sg/) -- Family History Library research outlines and other publications
- Use Research Guidance -- [www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/frameset\\_rg.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/frameset_rg.asp), which tells what records to use to reach the information you want from where your ancestor lived.
- Use Online University -- [www.genealogy.com/genealogy/university.html](http://www.genealogy.com/genealogy/university.html), which has tutorials on how to research your family and use specific records.
- Explore this portal to all kinds of information in England and elsewhere -- [www.pricegen.com/english\\_genealogy.html](http://www.pricegen.com/english_genealogy.html)
- Attend a family history conference, workshop or fair to learn more.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> - Find the records

- GENUKI is meant to serve as a "virtual reference library" of genealogical information that is of particular relevance to the UK & Ireland. It is provided by an ever-growing group of volunteers in cooperation with the Federation of Family History Societies and a number of its member societies.-- [www.genuki.org.uk/big/](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/)
- UK Genealogy – another categorized list -- [www.ukgenealogy.co.uk/england.htm](http://www.ukgenealogy.co.uk/england.htm)
- Major online document archival sites
  - UK National Archives -- [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)
  - Family Records -- [www.familyrecords.gov.uk](http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk)
  - Documents Online -- [www.documentsonline.nationalarchives.gov.uk/](http://www.documentsonline.nationalarchives.gov.uk/) Part of the national archives site that has digital images of more than a million wills from 1384 to 1858. Search for free; about \$6 to download most wills.
  - Access to Archives -- [www.a2a.pro.gov.uk](http://www.a2a.pro.gov.uk) 8.6 million English records dating back more than one thousand years. Summaries of wills, court and property records and tell what record offices have those items.

- Major British *commercial* web sites
  - The Genealogist has civil registration index images, census, directories, and more [www.thegenealogist.co.uk](http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk) – operates on a subscription basis starting at about \$9 a month or get free access in exchange for indexing help.
  - Find My Past - [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) - Searching is free on findmypast.com, as is building an online family tree. To view the records you will need to purchase credits, either by buying pay-per-view units or one of three subscription options. Formerly named 1837online.com it has expanded markedly from just birth, marriage and death records to now include the 1841, 1861, 1871 and 1891 censuses for England and Wales, an extensive collection of military records, a number of occupations directories and an electoral roll search.
  - Family History Online – contains a database of 58 million transcribed church, cemetery and census records. Search for free and pay a small fee to view an index entry or transcription. [www.familyhistoryonline.net](http://www.familyhistoryonline.net)
  - FamilyRelatives.org – Search vital-records indexes from 1866 to 1920 and 1984 to 2003. [www.familyrelatives.org/](http://www.familyrelatives.org/) Searching is free and pay 2 units to view each page of results. Buy 60 units for \$10.
  - Ancestry.com England section -- [www.ancestry.com/search/locality/dbpage.aspx?tp=3257&p=3251](http://www.ancestry.com/search/locality/dbpage.aspx?tp=3257&p=3251)
- There are many extractions and indexes to specific databases, for example:
  - London marriages (searchable) -- [www.angelfire.com/fl/Sumter/Middlesex.html](http://www.angelfire.com/fl/Sumter/Middlesex.html)
  - Emigration pages -- [freespace.virgin.net/alan.tupman/sites/ships\\_us.htm](http://freespace.virgin.net/alan.tupman/sites/ships_us.htm)
  - Birth, Marriage, & Death indexes from 1837-1925 at -- [freebmd.rootsweb.com](http://freebmd.rootsweb.com) transcribed by volunteers.
  - Old Bailey index (criminal court indexed 1674-1834 at -- [www.oldbaileyonline.org/](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/)
  - Genes Reunited - [www.genesreunited.com/genesreunited.asp](http://www.genesreunited.com/genesreunited.asp) - For-pay site (\$14.49 for six months) where you can post your British ancestors and share information with others. Matches information in your tree to ancestors in trees.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> – Use Additional Helps / Resources

- British Isles GenWeb Project -- [www.britishtislesgenweb.org/](http://www.britishtislesgenweb.org/) a volunteer-based project that helps to gather and share data for British Isles research.
- Gazetteer Landranger Maps -- [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/freesun/didyouknow/](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/freesun/didyouknow/)  
See also – [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com)
- Historical Maps -- [www.old-maps.co.uk/](http://www.old-maps.co.uk/)
- The British Library (official copyright office of the UK) -- [www.bl.uk/](http://www.bl.uk/)
- Parish locator (& radius search tool) -- [www.genuki.org.uk/big/parloc/search.html](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/parloc/search.html)
- Manorial Documents Register (Wales, York, Hampshire) - [www.mdr.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr/](http://www.mdr.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr/)

