

101 Top Tips to help you with your Genealogy Research Part 5

Computers And The Internet

86 A computer is a useful tool, but it is still perfectly possible to compile your family tree without one. Despite the resources on the internet and on CD, nothing beats handling original documents!

87 All modern computers are powerful enough to handle your family history. However you'll need a more advanced machine if you plan to manipulate images.

88 There may already be programs on your computer which can be a great help in organising your research, such as word processors, image editors and spreadsheets.

89 Be aware of the limitations of online sources. Even the most established online indexes may be riddled with errors. Use them as a guide and always check the original.

90 The internet is a great way to share your researches - either by setting up your own website or by providing material to an online database.

91 There are increasing numbers of pay-per-view databases. However, much of the data they are offering may be available for free somewhere else.

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21 Essential Websites

Five free sites

www.genuki.org.uk

For British and Irish research.

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

Links to 200,000 genealogical websites.

<http://www.familysearch.org>

For the online IGI and 1881 census index.

<http://www.freebmd.co.uk>

Indexes to births, marriages and deaths between 1837 and 1903.

<http://www.rootsweb.com>

An excellent site but with a US bias.

<http://genealogy-family-history.info/>

Five official sites to archives and archival resources online

<http://www.a2a.pro.gov.uk>

Indexes to the holdings of many local record offices.

<http://www.pro.gov.uk>

The Public Record Office's website.

www.familyrecords.gov.uk

Links to government departments and museums with family history holdings.

<http://www.cwgc.org>

The Debt of Honour database to Britain's war dead.

<http://www.gazettes-online.co.uk>

Scans and indexes to the London Gazette.

Five miscellaneous sites with lots of resources

<http://www.movinghere.org.uk>

The experiences of migrants to Britain.

www.historicaldirectories.org

Scanned images of selected trade directories.

<http://www.britishpathe.com>

View 20th century newsreels.

<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org>

Old Bailey criminal proceedings 1660-1834.

<http://www.sog.org.uk>

The Society of Genealogists.

Six pay-to-view sites

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk>

Contains 1.5 billion names worldwide in hundreds of different databases.

<http://www.1837online.com>

Indexes to GRO registers from 1837 to the present day.

www.1911census.co.uk

1911 census

www.census.pro.gov.uk

1901 census.

<http://www.documentsonline.pro.gov.uk>

Scans of pre-1858 wills and other documents.

<http://www.familyhistoryonline.net>

The resources of family history societies.

<http://genealogy-family-history.info/>