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Logo



URL

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

Subject

Newspapers - United Kingdom - Archives

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Findmypast Newspaper Archive Limited

Brief History

The British Newspaper Archive web site provides access to searchable digitised archives of British newspapers. It was launched in November 2011.

The British Library Newspapers section was based in Colindale in North London, until 2013, and is now divided between the St Pancras and Boston Spa sites. The Library has an almost complete collection of British and Irish newspapers since 1840. This is partly because of the legal deposit legislation of 1869, which required

newspapers to supply a copy of each edition of a newspaper to the library. London editions of national daily and Sunday newspapers are complete back to 1801. In total the collection consists of 660,000 bound volumes and 370,000 reels of microfilm containing tens of millions of newspapers with 52,000 titles on 45 km of shelves.

After the closure of Colindale in November 2013, access to the 750 million original printed pages was maintained via an automated and climate-controlled storage facility in Boston Spa. This opened in April 2014.

### *Scope and Coverage*

The British Newspaper Archive is a partnership between the British Library and findmypast to digitise up to 40 million newspaper pages from the British Library's vast collection over the next 10 years.

The British Library's newspaper collections are among the finest in the world, containing most of the runs of newspapers published in the UK since 1800. They are now also adding a wealth of material from the 20th century, right up to the 1950s.

### *Kind of Information*

#### **Millions of stories: from the street to the world**

The beauty of The British Newspaper Archive is the sheer diversity of topics and areas it covers. Whatever for researching or interested in, their historic newspapers will have something interesting to tell you.

#### **An unusually outward-looking press**

The majority of the titles that they have digitised so far are local and regional newspapers from Britain and Ireland: but don't imagine that local news is all that they covered. Local newspapers historically were very different from today: as well as covering (in incredible detail compared to modern times) all the local events, and the people and places that featured in them, they would also report news stories from around the country, and indeed from around the world. So you will discover stories of international importance recorded within the same issue as a report of prizes awarded at the local agricultural show.

#### **Newspapers are mirrors of the time they were published, and bring history to life**

Wonderful as the stories within the newspapers are, it is often the peripheral details that allow you to get under the skin of the times and understand the past. Whether it's understanding the opinions, concerns and attitudes of our ancestors from letters pages and editorials, the development of commerce and advertising from advertisements, or the development of an area from planning notices, they are a truly comprehensive record of times past.

## Historical newspapers cover every topic under the sun

The topics you will find covered in their historical archive are as broad as your imagination. Within their pages you'll find the stories of Britain's cultural and economic development; their diplomatic relations with Tsarist Russia and the post-revolution Soviet Union; the development of sport locally, nationally and internationally; the development of photography and advertising; the changing nature of fashion and many, many more.

## The British newspapers archive provides the facilities to search:

**News Articles** - read about national events, as well as issues of local and regional importance.

**Family Notices** - search for the family's birth, marriage and death notices plus related announcements including engagements, anniversaries, birthdays and congratulations.

**Letters** - read letters to the editor written by the newspaper's readers, including illuminating contemporary debates, aspirations and anxieties.

**Obituaries** - view a wealth of contemporary information on the lives of notable individuals and ancestors.

**Advertisements** - these include classifieds, shipping notices and appointments.

**Illustrations** - see photographs, engravings, graphics, maps and editorial cartoons.

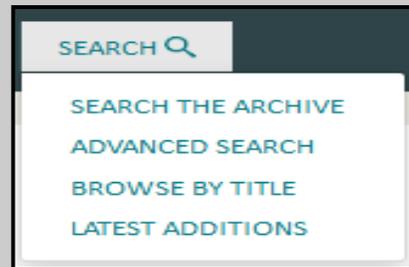
❖ Archives can be filtered by Date, Newspaper, Region, Country, Place etc.

### Special Features

As for examples,

<b>Filter by Date</b> (Number of Issues) <a href="#">1700-1749</a> (9,920) <a href="#">1750-1799</a> (55,144) <a href="#">1800-1849</a> (406,883) <a href="#">1850-1899</a> (1,174,226) <a href="#">1900-1949</a> (681,447) <a href="#">1950-1999</a> (37,308) <a href="#">2000-2016</a> (58)	<b>Filter by Region</b> (Number of Issues) <a href="#">London, England</a> (322,031) <a href="#">South West, England</a> (267,574) <a href="#">Republic of Ireland, Republic of Ireland</a> (254,905) <a href="#">Yorkshire and the Humber, England</a> (217,536) <a href="#">South East, England</a> (171,599) <a href="#">+ more regions...</a>	<b>Filter by County</b> (Number of Issues) <a href="#">London, England</a> (322,031) <a href="#">Dublin, Republic of Ireland</a> (139,558) <a href="#">West Yorkshire, England</a> (97,218) <a href="#">Antrim, Northern Ireland</a> (88,483) <a href="#">Devon, England</a> (86,538) <a href="#">+ more counties...</a>
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- ❖ There are four types of search facilities for the archives are available, these are:



**Arrangement Pattern** Archives are arranged alphabetically



**Remarks** The British Library's newspaper collections are among the finest in the world, containing most of the runs of newspapers published in the UK since 1800. These collections are very helpful for the researchers on the topics related to UK.

- Comparable Tools**
- ProQuest Historical Newspapers (<http://www.proquest.com/products-services/pq-hist-news.html>)
  - The Times of India : archive (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/archive.cms>)
  - Keesing's World News Archive ( <http://keesings.com/>)

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