

Local studies at Eastbourne Library



Local studies at Eastbourne Library

Eastbourne Library has a large local studies collection about the history of Eastbourne and the surrounding area. The collection also covers the development of East Sussex in general.

The reference collection includes books, maps, press cuttings and other material relating to the local area.

You can use the [E-library](#) to find out which books are available on local and family history at Eastbourne Library, and our periodicals list to see full details of what newspapers and magazines we can offer you. A brief list of the main newspapers and magazines at Eastbourne Library is given below.

The local studies area is arranged by Dewey Decimal classification with books on family history preceding books about Eastbourne (prefixed E) and Sussex (prefixed S). Please ask staff for all material marked.

If you are doing lengthy research or just have a general interest in the county's past - contact us. Library staff are happy to help you.

Eastbourne Reference Library
Grove Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4TL
Phone: 0345 60 80 196
Fax: 01323 434202
Email: library.eastbourne.ref@eastsussex.gov.uk

You can email our Enquiry Team at library.enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk to ask for information on any of the following:

- finding out about the history of the place, or house where you live
- researching your family history
- writing a thesis or essay on any aspect of the history of the area
- doing a school project on a local theme

Newspapers

Eastbourne Library has a range of local newspapers you can use to find out about local history.

- Eastbourne Advertiser Apr 1984-
- Eastbourne Chronicle 1865-1950
- Eastbourne Gazette 1862-
- Eastbourne Courier 1937-1951
- Eastbourne Herald 1934-1950
- Eastbourne Herald Chronicle (now Eastbourne Chronicle) 1951-
- Hailsham Gazette
- Sussex Daily News 1881-30 Nov 1918
- Sussex Express (Hailsham edition) 1960-
- Sussex Weekly Advertiser 1749-1822
- The Times (and indexes) 1785-

The library tries to keep a complete set of newspapers. However, some copies may be missing.

Some of the newspapers are available in print and some on microfilm.

It is not usually possible to make photocopies from bound volumes of newspapers. Copies can be made from microfilms. There is a small charge for printing.

General periodicals

Eastbourne Library has a range of general magazines and other periodicals on local and family history in East Sussex. These include:

- Sussex Archaeological Collections 1840-
- Sussex County Magazine 1926-1956
- Sussex Family Historian
- Sussex Genealogist & Local Historian 1979-1986
- Sussex History
- Sussex Industrial History
- Sussex Life
- Sussex Notes and Queries 1926-1971 Sussex Record Society vol 1 -
- Sussex Past and Present
- Sussex Rural News

See our [Periodicals list](#) for a full list of what is available at Eastbourne Library.

Current periodicals

Eastbourne Library currently receives a range of magazines and periodicals on the history of Eastbourne and the surrounding area. These include:

- Eastbourne Local Historian
- Eastbourne Natural History and Archaeology Society
- Family History
- Family Roots
- Local History Link
- Piers
- Rural Sussex
- Sussex Post

See our [Periodicals list](#) for a full list of what is available at Eastbourne Library.

Directories and electoral registers

Eastbourne Library has a range of directories and electoral registers which you can use to find out about local and family history.

There are restrictions on the availability of recent electoral registers. Earlier editions are available for reference. The information at Bexhill Library includes:

Sussex Directories (microfiche)

- Various years 1792-1938

Eastbourne Directories Various editions dating from 1877 to 1973

- Gowland's Eastbourne Directory
various years 1877-1925 (from 1898 includes Hailsham)
continued as Kelly's Directory of Eastbourne & Neighbourhood various years 1926-1973
- Pike's Eastbourne Blue Book and Directory 1885, 1889-1892, 1894-1897, 1899, 1901-1908

Electoral registers

- Eastbourne constituency 1945-

Parish Register Transcripts

Eastbourne Library have copies of parish register transcripts. These contain details about baptisms, marriages and burials and are a great source of information for researching your family history. The parish registers at Eastbourne Library include:

- Eastbourne Parish Registers: Baptisms, Marriages & Burials 1558-1837
- St. Mary's Register of Baptisms 1837-1896
- Holy Trinity Baptisms 1848-Feb 1863

Census Returns

Every 10 years the UK carries out a census to find out information about the population. This is a great source of information for researching your family history.

Details from census returns are made available to the public 100 years after the census has taken place.

The latest information to be released was from the 1911 Census for England and Wales. It is available online at www.1911census.co.uk/

The online 1911 Census allows you to search individuals' names and view images of the original census pages. There are charges for some of the information. You can buy vouchers for the census service in your library. The vouchers can be used either in the library or at your home.

Ancestry (library edition) is available free of charge online in our libraries.

Eastbourne Library also has the following census information:

- Census returns for the whole of Sussex 1841, 1851, 1861 (microfilm)
- Census returns for the whole of Sussex 1871, 1891, 1901 (microfiche)
- British Census and National Index 1881 (CD-Rom)
- *East Sussex Census Index 1851 Index* by June C Bames
volume 8 covers Eastbourne
- International Genealogical Index (IGI) on microfiche 1992 edition
coverage of the whole of the UK

Illustrations, press cuttings and pamphlets

There is a large collection of photographs, prints, postcards, press cuttings and other materials relating to Eastbourne and some of the surrounding area.

These items are not included on the E-library online catalogue or the periodicals list.

Contact us at library.enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk to find out more about what information is available.

Maps

Eastbourne Library have a collection of modern and historical maps covering Eastbourne and the surrounding area which you can use to help you find out about local history and tracing the history of your house.

We have a range of Ordnance Survey maps with various scales and editions including:

- 1870s first edition (scale 25 inches to 1 mile) – part of Eastbourne
- 1910 to 1949 (scale 6 inches to 1 mile) – good coverage of Eastbourne and the surrounding area

Other maps include:

- 1842 Eastbourne Tithe Map 1842 (photographic reduction)
- Transcript of schedule by Eastbourne Local History Society
- Older maps of Eastbourne

Books on the history of Eastbourne

You will find the following books on the history of Eastbourne:

- '[The Book of Eastbourne](#)' edited by Rev W Budgen
- '[Old Eastbourne](#)' by Rev W Budgen, 1912
- '[Lords and Landlords: the aristocracy and the towns 1774–1967](#)' by D Cannadine, 1980
- '[East Bourne memories of the Victorian period, 1845 to 1901](#)' by GF Chambers, 1910
- '[Reminiscences of Eastbourne](#)' by R Cooper, 1903
- '[Eastbourne: a pictorial history](#)' by DR Elleray, 1995
- '[A brief history of Eastbourne](#)' by AGS Enser, 1976
- '[Eastbourne recollections: magisterial and personal](#)' by RJ Graham, 1888
- '[Wartime Eastbourne: the story of the most raided town in the South-East](#)' by G Humphrey, 1989
- '[A municipal history of Eastbourne, 1938–1974](#)' by JC Aspden, 1979
- '[A short history of Eastbourne](#)' by L Stevens, 1988
- '[Bygone Eastbourne](#)' by JC Wright, 1902.