Contact details

Bridgnorth Library
Listley Street, Bridgnorth WV16 4AW
01746 763358
bridgnorth.library@shropshire.gov.uk

Church Stretton Library
Church Street, Church Stretton SY6 6DQ
01694 722535
chruchstretton.library@shropshire.gov.uk

Craven Arms Library
Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms SY7 9RS
01588 676060
cravenarms,library@shropshire.gov.uk

Ludlow Library
7/9 Parkway, Ludlow SY8 2PG
01584 813600
ludlow.library@shropshire.gov.uk

Oswestry Library
Arthur Street, Oswestry SY11 1JN
0345 6789034
oswestry.library@shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire Archives
Castle Gates, Shrewsbury SY! 2AQ
01743 55350
archives@shropshire.gov.uk

If you can read this but know someone who cannot, please contact us on 0345 6789034 so we can provide this information in a more suitable format.

Leaflet A120 revised May 2010

Shropshire Council

Discover Shropshire

at your local library

Visit your local library to find out more about where you live, your family history and Shropshire's people, places and culture.

Start a journey of discovery

Discover the rich heritage of the county by visiting a library, museum or archive or going online. It may be the starting point for inspiration and encouragement for you to go further with your own learning and research. All libraries have a collection of books and other material on the surrounding area and some have designated Local History Centres.

Local History Centres

You can experience and understand the past of your family and community through the presentation and special display of library, archive and museum material, including a wealth of printed and copied archival resources. Not all centres have the same range of material but many of the following are available:

- local and family history books
- commercial directories
- Census returns 1841- 1901 and indexes
- subject and parish packs
- parish registers, other parish records, monumental inscriptions and nonconformist registers
- maps and plans
- catalogues to sources held elsewhere
- periodicals, including local and national family history and local history publications
- photographic and print collections
- school records
- Electoral Registers
- Borough and local authority records.

Online resources

All libraries have computers for public use free of charge. You can use the power of the internet to find out about places, people and buildings and to assist in researching family history. A major tool is the Ancestry website which is available free of charge in all libraries through a Shropshire Libraries subscription.

Some websites you may find useful:
www.shropshire.gov.uk/library.nsf
www.shropshirehistory.org.uk
www.secretshropshire.org.uk
www.shropshireroots.org.uk
www.discovershropshire.org.uk

Volunteers

Trained local volunteers are on duty in library Local History Centres at certain times most weeks to assist with local and family history enquiries.

If you have a few hours to spare, you may like to become a local and family history volunteer and help other local people to get started with their research. Just drop into one of the library Local History Centres or Shropshire Archives to find out more.

Shropshire Archives

The most comprehensive collection of local history material, including original documents, can be found in Shropshire Archives. This is located in the centre of Shrewsbury and has over five miles of historical records and publications.
www.shropshirearchives.org.uk