

Resources available in West Sussex Libraries for researching family and local history of Sussex people in the First World War.

Websites and Online Resources

Ancestry.com

Ancestry Library provides access to a wide range of unique resources for genealogical and historical research. Useful databases of use for research on WW1 include:

British Army WWI Service Records, 1914-1920
British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920
British Army WWI Pension Records 1914-1920
UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919
UK, Military Campaign Medal and Award Rolls, 1793-1949
UK, Naval Medal and Award Rolls, 1793-1972
British Commonwealth War Graves Registers, 1914-1918
UK, Silver War Badge Records, 1914-1920
UK, Victoria Cross Medals, 1857-2007
UK, De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour, 1914-1924
UK, Navy Lists, 1908, 1914
Great Britain, Royal Aero Club Aviators' Certificates, 1910-1950
UK, Royal Navy and Royal Marine War Graves Roll, 1914-1919
England, The National Roll of the Great War, 1914-1918
UK, Citations of the Distinguished Conduct Medal, 1914-1920

Available at Worthing, Crawley, East Grinstead and Horsham libraries via the chargeable People's Network service.

The National Archive

The official public archive of the United Kingdom government, the National Archive holds records covering more than 1,000 years of history. Government records which have been selected for permanent preservation are sent to The National Archives. The website gives guidance on how to find information recorded on particular subjects in the National Archives and elsewhere.

Guidance on general military records research relating to the First World War

Army

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/britisharmysoldierafter1913.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/officerbritisharmyafter1913.htm>

Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and Royal Air Force (RAF)

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/officerroyalflyingcorps.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/royalflyingcorpsairmen.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/airmanraf.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/officerroyalairforce.htm>

Royal Navy

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/royalnavyrating1853-1923.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/commissionedofficerroyalnavy.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/warrantofficerroyalnavy.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/royalnavaldivision.htm>

Imperial and Commonwealth Unit

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/indianarmy.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/africanforces.htm>

Online Research Guides on specific subjects relating to the first world war

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/british-army-soldiers-1914-1918.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/british-army-war-diaries-1914-1918.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/maps-military-first-world-war.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/medals-british-armed-services-campaign-service.htm>

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/medals-british-armed-services-gallantry.htm>

Imperial War Museum

IWM is unique in its coverage of conflicts, especially those involving Britain and the Commonwealth, from the First World War to the present day. The Research Room at IWM London is a dedicated reference facility for accessing original documents, sound recordings, published items and digital resources.

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

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/exhibitions/first-world-war-galleries>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/history>

RAF Museum

Welcome to the Royal Air Force Museum, Britain's only national Museum dedicated wholly to aviation. It also focuses on the thousands of ordinary Service men and women whose contribution shaped the World today. Original documents from the museums archive and books from the museums extensive library can be consulted in our reading room at RAF Museum London.

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

<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/>

Royal Naval Museum

The Royal Naval Museum, in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard, is one of Britain's oldest maritime museums. The Museum's aim is to preserve and present the history of the 'Fleet' - the ships and the men and women who manned them. The Museum's research collections comprise all of the Library and manuscript collections, including that part of the Admiralty Library that was moved to Portsmouth in 1997.

<http://www.royalnavalmuseum.org/>

<http://www.royalnavalmuseum.org/research.htm>

National Army Museum

The National Army Museum's study collection reflects the rich history and traditions of the British Army. Researchers can access this collection via the links below. Advice on carrying out genealogical research and curatorial assistance in identifying and interpreting military artefacts is also available.

<http://www.nam.ac.uk/>

<http://www.nam.ac.uk/research>

Western Front Association

The Western Front Association (WFA) was formed with the aim of furthering interest in The Great War of 1914-1918.. The website contains

a considerable amount of reference information useful to researchers interested in the history of the First World War.
<http://www.westernfrontassociation.com/>

Long Long Trail – The British Army in the Great War

A comprehensive online order of battle for the British Army in the First World War. Sections have been added on how to research a soldier; the battles and battlefields of the war; and much more.
<http://www.1914-1918.net/>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The CWG cares for cemeteries and memorials at 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. The CWG casualty database lists the names and place of commemoration of the 1.7 million men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died during the two world wars. It is possible to search by surname, date, war, rank, regiment, awards or any combination of those criteria.
<http://www.cwgc.org/>

War Memorials Trust

War Memorials Trust works for the protection and conservation of war memorials in the UK. The War Memorials Trust provides advice and information to anyone as well as running grant schemes for the repair and conservation of war memorials. The website provides a range of resources to help you discover more about war memorials and their preservation.
<http://www.warmemorials.org/>

Old Front Line - Battlefields of WW1

This is a web site is run by the military historian Paul Reed. It is dedicated to the history and battlefields of the Great War 1914-1918. It aims to provide information about the war itself as well as details of how to visit the battlefields in France & Flanders, and Gallipoli - and what to see.
<http://battlefields1418.50megs.com/>

Royal Sussex Regiment

The Royal Sussex Living History Group is a small group dedicated to recreating the Royal Sussex Regiment as it would have been in the Victorian period and the Great War. Website contains an account of the Battle of the Boars Head, Richebourg 30th June 1916.
<http://www.royalsussex.org.uk/>
<http://www.royalsussex.org.uk/Richebourg.htm>

Redoubt fortress and Military Museum - Eastbourne

Military Museum of Sussex housed in the Redoubt Fortress is the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in the South of England. The Royal Sussex Regimental Collection was moved from its base in Chichester to the Fortress and today makes up the largest of the three collections.

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

West Sussex Record Office - Chichester

The Royal Sussex Regiment archives deposited in the West Sussex Record Office since 1979 consist of documents, photographs, audio-visual records and printed works. These cover the history of the Regiment from its establishment in 1701 as the 35th Regiment of Foot to its amalgamation in The Queen's Regiment in 1966. To date the collection comprises some 200 boxes of documents, 40,000 photographs, 1,250 printed books and 50 films.

http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure/explore_west_sussex/record_office_and_archives/collections_and_archives/military_history_royal_sussex.aspx

Royal Sussex Southdowns -Royal Sussex Regiments,Southdown Battalions,Lowthers Lambs

Website attempting to record a biography of every soldier who was an original member of the Southdown Battalions, of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

<http://royalsussex-southdowns.co.uk/>