Genealogical Research

Find my past

How To Guide

A note on the use of How to Guides:

The help guides included in this toolkit are introductions to the one approach towards undertaking research within online criminal archives, the British Newspaper Archive, Find my Past, and Ancestry. The guides are in no way comprehensive of all approaches taken to research within these databases and are intended as a guide towards getting started.

This How to Guide will need the user to have a personal live subscription to the Find My Past; this is not provided by the Broken Futures team.

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Step 1: Select the individual you would like to research from the Crime and Punishment Archives or Generic Newspaper Research. Open up the Onenote file for the individual, for an example, this How to Guide will utilise Oscar Wilde.
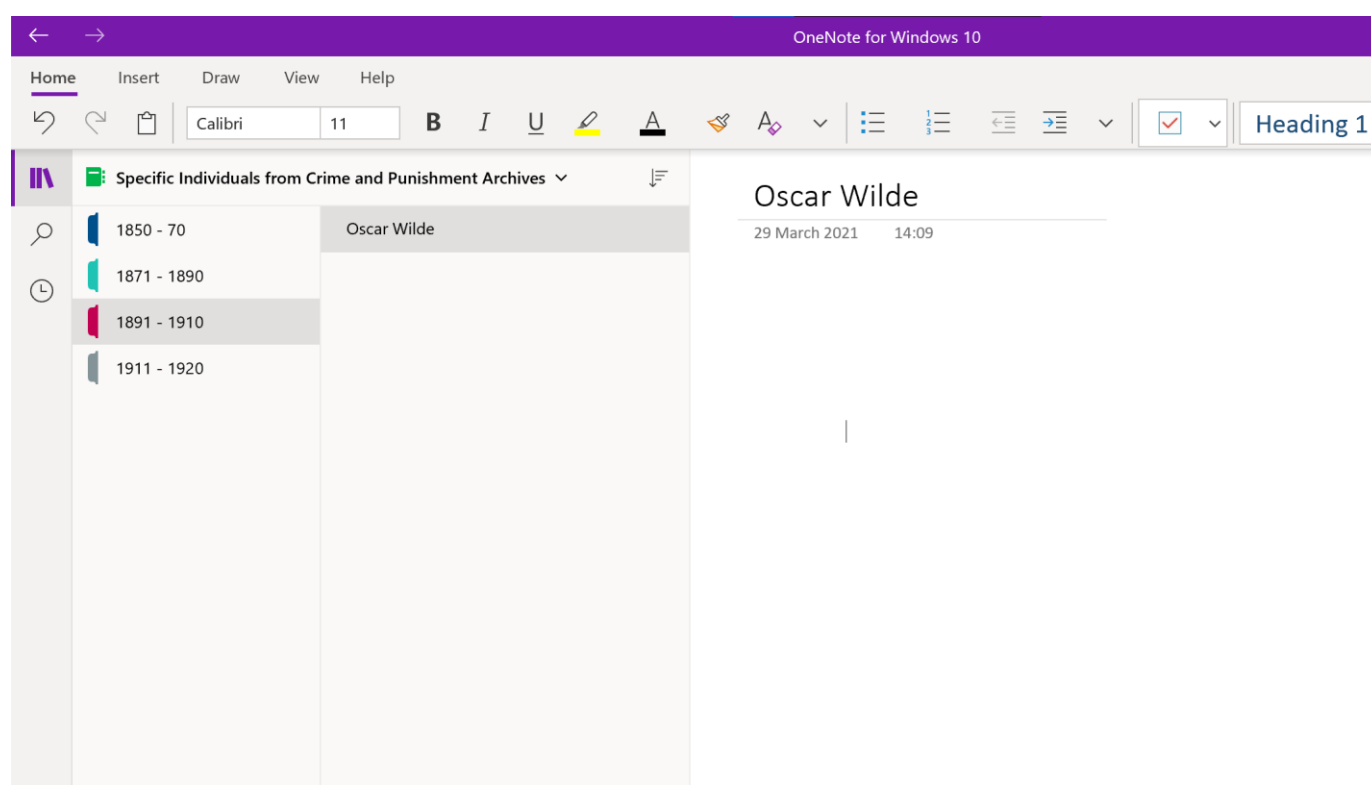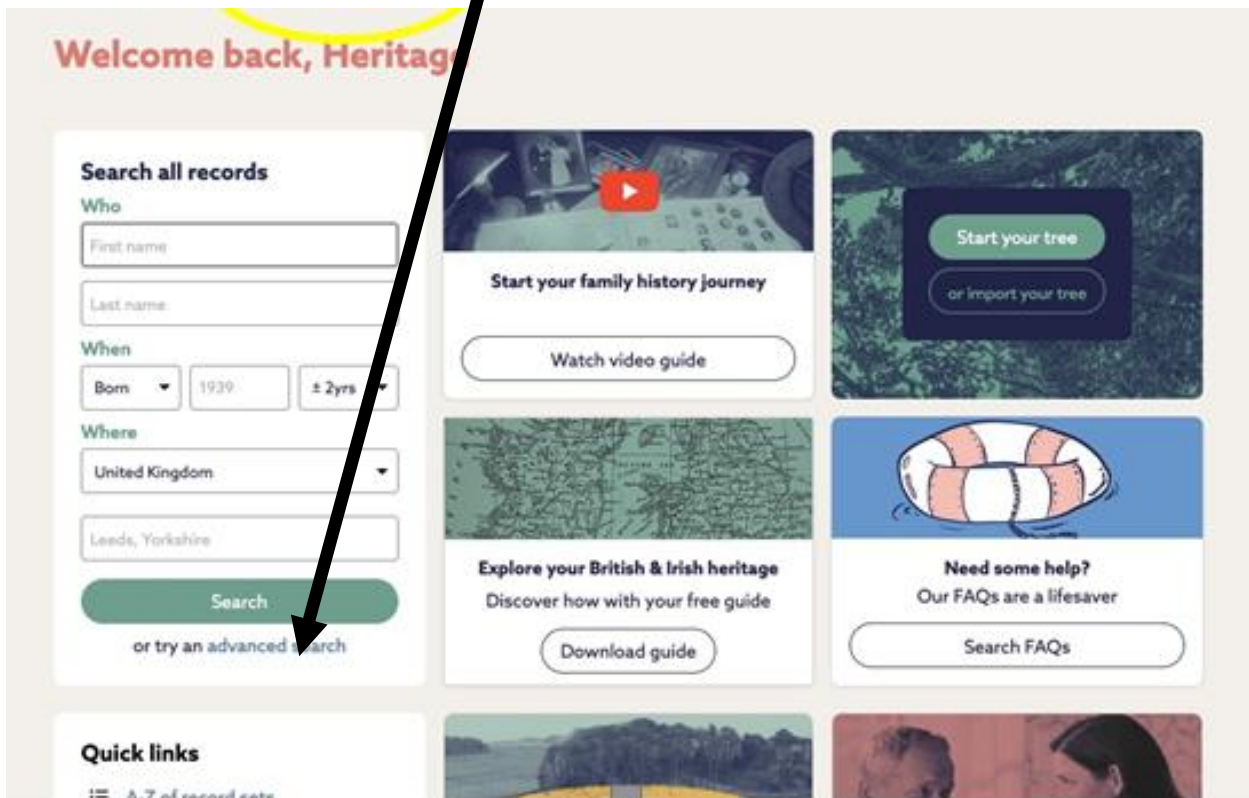
Step 2: Open Find My Past and log in your personal subscription
credentials.

https://www.findmypast.co.uk/
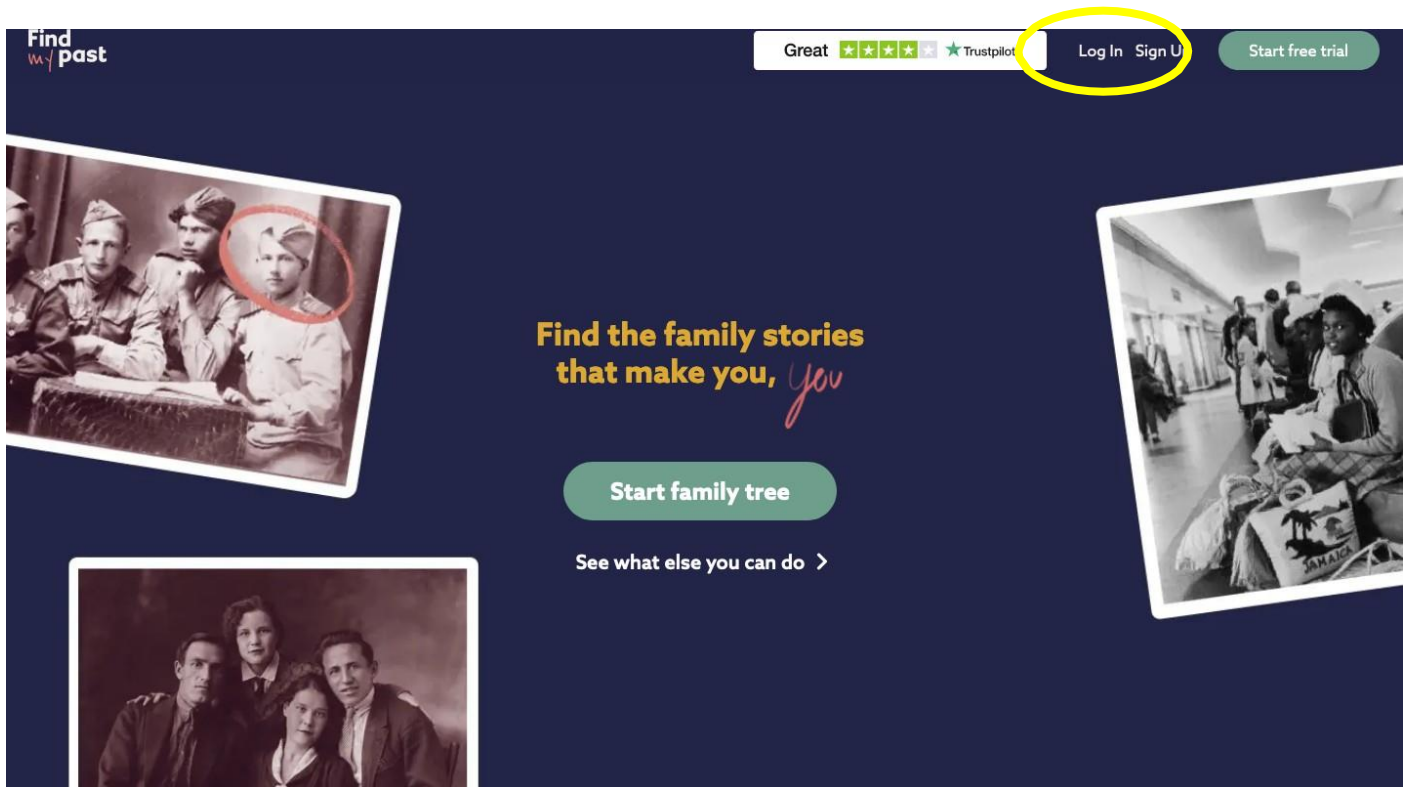
Step 5: Hit advanced search
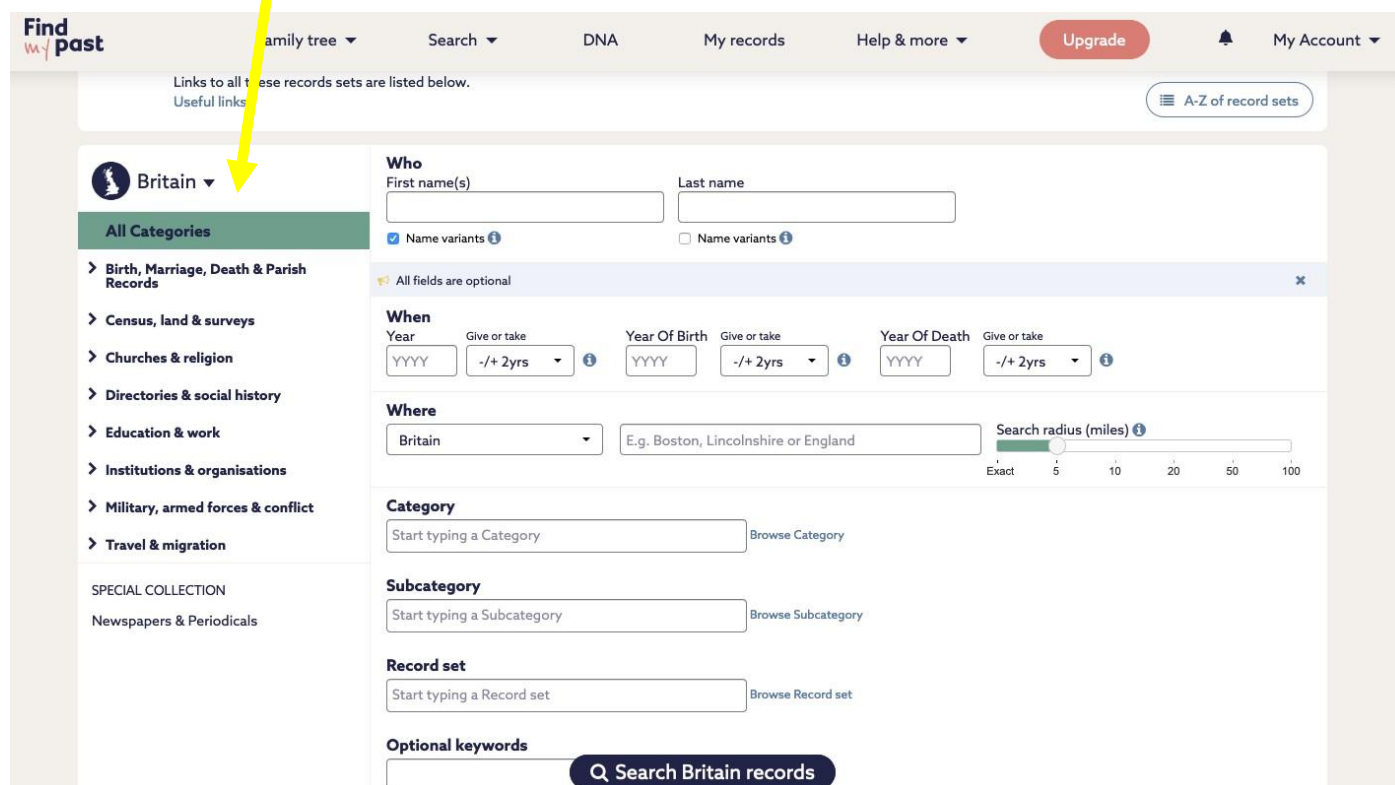
Step 6: Find MY Past has specific filters that, when applied, will show results from different categories. It's best to start with a blanket search and work backwards to fill in the gaps.

Step 7: Using the information collected from either/or the crime and punishment archives, or the generic research within the newspaper archives, let's fill out the search box:

Step 8: Hit View!

Step 9: The following returns loaded for our above search... many different types of records are located from our general search as you can see from the list titled, 'Record Set'. The top find refers to a census for Oscar Wilde, whereas the bottom finds are references to his crime and punishment records. Work through each record set.

Your search   Clear All

First name(s)
Oscar

☑ Include name variants ⓘ
Last name
Wilde

☐ Include name variants ⓘ

Year Of Birth   Give or take
1854   −/+ 2yrs

Year Of Death   Give or take
e.g. 1965   −/+ 2yrs

Year   Give or take
e.g. 1908   −/+ 2yrs

Location
London, England

Search radius (miles) ⓘ
Exact 5   10   20   50   100

🔍 View 901 results

Advanced options

🔖 Save this search

901 results

Last name ⌄	First name(s) ⌄	Year Of Birth ⌄	Year Of Death ⌄	Year ⌄	Record set ⌄	Location		
Wilde	Oscar	1856	—	1891	1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Chelsea, London & Middlesex, England		
Wilde	Oscar	—	—	1895	Middlesex, London, Old Bailey Court Records 1674-1913	Great Britain		
Wilde	Oscar Fingal O F	—	—	1884	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Kensington, London, England		
Wilde	Oscar Fingal O'Fflahartie Wills	—	—	1895	Middlesex, London, Old Bailey Court Records 1674-1913	Great Britain		
Wilde	Oscar Fingal O'Fflahartie Wills	—	—	1895	Middlesex, London, Old Bailey Court Records 1674-1913	Great Britain		
Wilde	Oscar P	—	—	1917	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Southwark, London, England		
Wilde	Oscar Wade	—	—	1891	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	St. George Hanover Square, London, England		
Wilde	Oscar Wade	—	1945	1946	England & Wales Government Probate Death Index 1858-20..	London, England		
Wilde	Robert O	—	—	1919	England & Wales Marriage 1837-2005	Pancras, London, England		
Wilde	Oscar Fingal O'Fflahertie Wills	1855	—	1895	England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935	England		
Wilde	Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills	1855	—	1895	England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935	England		

Step 10: Let's look at the census first... make sure to make use of the helpful functions and features of Find My Past for viewing records!

Name		Relation	Condition	Age	Profession		Where Born	
Edith M Bull	do		S	74	do		Dorset	
Walter Wm Smith	Head	m	49	Mayor R.A. Army off		Devon Beam	
Alice M do	Wife	m	44			London	
Constance G.M do	Daur		S			St Georges Bermuda	
Vera R.M do	do		9			Devon St Mary's Clyst	
Henrietta Ley	Mother in law	Wid	72			Dorset Dorchester	
Eliza A Ollivei	Serv	S	39	Cook	Dom	Kent Horsmonden	
Hannah Ballard	do	S	22	Gen Serv		do do	
Frances E Ord	do	S	24	do do			
Emma B Blackburn	Daur	S	45			Devon Dartmouth	
Mary C do	do	S	40			U.S.A. Bristol Subject	
Mary Levett	Serv	S	38	Gen Serv		Wilts Woollen Bassett	
Ann Staplehurst	do	S	44	do do	Dom	Sussex Maresfield	
Ellen Gittard	do	S	24	do do		Devon Kingswear	
Oscar Wilde	Head	m	36	Literature	X	Ireland	
Sarah Bey	Serv	S	26	Cook	Dom	Norfolk Mattishall	
Rhoda Cade	do	S	32	Housemaid		Hunts St Neots	
Blanche Coly Trinli...	Head	Wid	62	Living on own means		Lond St Georges	
Leah Samuels	Comp.	S	34	Companion	Dom	Ireland	
Mary Combe	Serv	S	35	Gen Serv Lady's maid		Dorset Portland	
Lizzie Budd	do	S	38	do do Housemaid	Dom	Hants Bournemouth	
Hannah Walter	do	Wid	62	do do Cook		Surrey Thursley	
Ephraim G Alderman	do	m	30	Butler		Bucks Swanbourne	

Step 11: Let's check the transcription of the file:

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Oscar	Wilde	Head	Married	Male	35	1856	Literature	Ireland
Sarah	Rey	Servant	Single	Female	25	1866	Cook	Mattishall, Norfolk, England
Rhoda	Cade	Servant	Single	Female	22	1869	Housemaid	Huntingdonshire, England

Oscar Wilde's Census Details ⓘ

First name(s)	Oscar
Last name	Wilde
Relationship	Head
Marital status	Married
Sex	Male
Age	35
Birth year	1856
Birth town	-
Birth county	-
Birth place	Ireland
Birth place other as transcribed	IRELAND
Occupation	Literature
Street	Tite Street
Town	-
Parish	Chelsea
City	-
County	London, Middlesex
Country	England
Registration district	Chelsea
Archive reference	RG12
Piece number	63
Folio	154
Page	13
Record set	1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census

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Step 12: Now that we've read the transcription, record this return in the Microsoft Onenote file for the individual, including the URL of the Find My Past page:

Step 13: For each record return, complete the same steps as above until you have collated the available records for the individual to build up a broader picture of their life and it's events.

End of Help Guide