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The History Centre

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History centre

The history centre is located on the first floor of Blackpool Central Library. It serves a dual purpose, as a local studies space and as the viewing room for the heritage collections.

For the general researcher there is a wide variety of material on open access in the history centre which is available to all visitors without an appointment. This material includes:

- Blackpool electoral registers 1930 to 2009
- Historic Ordnance Survey maps of the Fylde area
- Local trade directories 1816 to 1969
- Local newspapers from 1845
- Historic local holiday guides for Blackpool
- Our local history photograph collection

For any material not on open access in the history centre an appointment should be made 2 working days prior to your visit. Please see the [collections page](#) for more details.

Preparing for your visit

Visitors wanting the newspapers, especially those travelling long distances, are advised to contact us in advance as you may require pre-booking of reader-printer machines.

We have six Chromebook computers with subscription access to [Ancestry](#) and [Find My Past](#). A Blackpool library ticket is required for access to these.

If you are not a member of Blackpool libraries you can join at any library or [join online now](#).

Our reading room has space for 12 readers and booking an appointment 48 hours before your visit is required for accessing the collections not on open access. We will advise you of any delays when you book your appointment and tell us what you would like to see.

Facilities include 2 microfilm reader and printers.

Photocopying, personal camera use, digital reproductions and prints are all available but terms, conditions and charges apply. Please read reproduction guidance for more information. We offer a research service for remote enquiries at a cost of £5 for 15 minutes.

We aim to provide an efficient and helpful service. If you have any queries our reading room staff are on hand to help you navigate the catalogues, handle the material, or attend to any other issue you may encounter.

Useful information

There is lift access from the ground floor to the history centre on the first floor, and paid public toilets costing 20p are on site on the ground floor.

There is a car park on Queen Street close by and buses stop right outside the building. Blackpool North train station is a five minute walk away.

Contact

Enquiries are welcome on 01253 478090 or Email: historycentre@blackpool.gov.uk

The History Centre,
First floor
Blackpool Central Library
Queen Street
Blackpool
FY1 1PX

Opening hours

The History Centre is open at the following dates and times:

Monday: closed
Tuesday: 9.30am to 5.00pm
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: 9.30am to 7.00pm
Friday: 9.30am to 5.00pm
Saturday: 9.30am to 4.00pm
Sunday: Closed

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