

Poole History Centre

Poole History Centre is presently closed to visitors. You can continue to access our services online at localhistory@bcpcouncil.gov.uk and by telephone on 01202 262621. We look forward to welcoming visitors back as soon as it is safe to do so.

The History Centre is part of Poole Museum and is a rich resource centre about Poole's heritage. Here you can research local and family history as well as find additional information about the Museum displays.

Poole History Centre is housed in the Town Cellars, a wool warehouse dating from the 1300s, which is one of the most important surviving medieval port buildings in northern Europe.

Poole's Local History Centre has resources for all aspects of local history research. An extensive library is supported by microfilmed and digitised material.



Resources

Our resources include a comprehensive range of:

- › Maps and charts - Historic maps show the growth of the town from the sixteenth century up to the 1960s.
- › Newspapers - Over 200 years of newspaper coverage and press cuttings from the past 50 years.
- › Photographs - Thousands of photographs show how the area has changed over the past century.
- › Oral histories - Listen to personal accounts of the D-Day landings, stories of home life, ice-cream making and fishing.
- › Books - Subjects cover the local history of Poole and genealogical research.

Explore historical aspects of Poole

- › People - Find out about community life and local people in biographies and resident directories.
- › Places in Poole - From Canford Magna to Poole Harbour, from Hamworthy to Branksome. Poole is a large Borough with a fascinating past.

Poole History Online

Poole History Online is a website containing thousands of photographs and documents relating to the history of Poole.

- › Maritime history - Find out about Poole's trade links with Newfoundland. See records of ships sailing to and from the port and the cargo they carried.
- › Trade and Industry - Find out about the potteries, boat building, and many other local firms and industries.
- › Transport - Find out about the flying boats in Poole, local trams, and other transport by land, sea and air.

Local history and research services

Our helpful staff can advise on research methods and sources of additional information. We have a large photographic and historic archive of the town's building, events and its former inhabitants. It is advisable to book microfilm machines and computers.

Research services are available at a cost of £25 per hour (initial half hour is free of charge). We would be delighted to discuss your requirements. If you would like further information regarding a search plan and research quote please contact us.

Opening times and facilities

Tuesday - Saturday 10.00am - 3.00pm (closed on Tuesdays following a Bank Holiday).

There is plenty of space to sit and read. You can browse our resources or seek help from our friendly staff.

The Poole History Centre has a lift and facilities for people with disabilities.

Bookings and enquiries

Tel: 01202 262621 or 01202 262613

Email: localhistory@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Further Information

[Poole History Online](#) is a website containing thousands of photographs and documents relating to the history of Poole.

Find us 

Poole Museum Service
4 High St, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1BW

Email us 

museums@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Call us 

01202 262 600



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