



# Ask AGRA

## Family History Question Time



December 2020 - Military (inc. British India)

[www.agra.org.uk/podcasts](http://www.agra.org.uk/podcasts)



Mike Trenchard



Helen Tovey (moderator)  
editor of Family Tree magazine



Les Mitchinson



Simon Fowler

### Websites:

The National Archives Website (and Discovery Catalogue)	<a href="http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk">www.nationalarchives.gov.uk</a>
The London Gazette (Gallantry medals)	<a href="https://www.thegazette.co.uk">https://www.thegazette.co.uk</a>
Commonwealth War Graves Commission	<a href="http://www.cwgc.org">www.cwgc.org</a>
Long, Long Trail	<a href="http://www.1914-1918.net">www.1914-1918.net</a>
Western Front Association	<a href="http://www.westernfrontassociation.com">www.westernfrontassociation.com</a>
Service Personnel and Veterans Agency	<a href="http://www.veterans-uk.info">www.veterans-uk.info</a>
Boer War	<a href="https://angloboerwar.com">https://angloboerwar.com</a>
Peninsular War	<a href="http://peninsularwar.org">http://peninsularwar.org</a>
Soldiers of the Queen	<a href="http://soldiersofthequeen.com">http://soldiersofthequeen.com</a>
Naval Ships	<a href="http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/royal.htm">www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/royal.htm</a>
Early Victorian Navy	<a href="http://www.pdavis.nl/index.htm">http://www.pdavis.nl/index.htm</a>
Naval (History) Net	<a href="http://www.naval-history.net">www.naval-history.net</a>
FIBIS (Families in British India Society)	<a href="http://www.fibis.org">www.fibis.org</a>
Indian Mutiny	<a href="http://www.angelfire.com/de/BobSanders/Lucknow/index.html">www.angelfire.com/de/BobSanders/Lucknow/index.html</a>
British Library Archives and Manuscripts Catalogue	<a href="http://www.bl.uk">www.bl.uk</a>
BACSA (British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia)	<a href="http://www.bacsa.org.uk">www.bacsa.org.uk</a>

### Archives/Libraries/Museums:

British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB	<a href="http://www.bl.uk">www.bl.uk</a>
Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ	<a href="http://www.iwm.org.uk">www.iwm.org.uk</a>
The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew TW9 4DU	<a href="http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk">www.nationalarchives.gov.uk</a>

### Army

National Army Museum (includes information for researching recipients of Victoria Cross)	
Royal Hospital Road, London SW34 HT;	<a href="http://www.nam.ac.uk">www.nam.ac.uk</a>

### Navy

Portsmouth History Centre – Guildhall Square, Portsmouth	
The National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Official	<a href="http://www.nmm.ac.uk">www.nmm.ac.uk</a>
(records including papers of Board of Admiralty, Navy Board, Royal Dockyards and related bodies 17th-19th centuries. Personal papers of serving officers including Admirals Beatty, Hawke, Hood and Nelson. Several large collections of naval MSS comprising letters, papers, journals, logs and order books. Romney Road, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF	
The National Royal Navy Museum, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard	
	<a href="http://www.nmrn.org.uk/national-museum-royal-navy-portsmouth">www.nmrn.org.uk/national-museum-royal-navy-portsmouth</a>

Royal Navy Fleet Arm Museum, Yeovilton, Somerset

[www.fleetairarm.com](http://www.fleetairarm.com)

## **Air Force**

RAF Museum, Graeme Park Way, London NW9 5LL

[www.rafmuseum.org.uk](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk)

## **Records and resources and where to find them**

### **Army**

1760 – soldiers service records (WO 97) National Archives

### **Navy**

The National Archives, Kew, Surrey

Ships' Movements: ADM 50 – 54 are ships logs recording voyages on a day-by-day basis.

ADM 31-39 Ships' Pay Books (31-35) 1669-1856

Ships' Muster Books (36-39) 1667-1878

Description Books (mainly in ADM 38, 1836-72

Superseded by: Record and Establishment Books (ADM 115) 1857-73

Ships' Ledgers (ADM 117) 1872-84

### **British In India**

British Library

Thacker's Directories at the British Library

Percy – Smith Collection at the Society of Genealogists

Deaths of Uncovenanted Civil Servants IOR/L/AG/34/14A : 1870-1949 at the British Library

Missionary Records at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University

## **Bibliography**

### **Army**

Fowler, Simon. *Tracing Your First World War Ancestors* (Pen & Sword, 2013)

Fowler, Simon. *Tracing Your Army Ancestors* (2nd edn, Pen & Sword, 2013)

Kitzmilller, J.M. *In Search of the Forlorn Hope: A Comprehensive Guide to Locating British Regiments and Their Records.*

Spencer, William. *Army Service Records of the First World War* (3rd edn, TNA, 2008)

### **Navy**

Fowler, Simon. *Tracing Your Navy Ancestors* (Pen & Sword, 2011)

Lyon, D. – *The Sailing List: all the ships of the Royal Navy, built, purchased and captured 1688-1860*

Colledge, J.J. – *Ships of the Royal Navy*

Warlow, Ben. – *Shore Establishments of the Royal Navy*

Pappalardo, Bruno: *Tracing your Naval Ancestors*, PRO, 2003

### **Air Force**

Tomaselli, Phil. *Tracing Your Air Force Ancestors* (Pen & Sword, 2007)

### **British in India**

Jolly, Emma. *Tracing Your British Indian Ancestors* (Pen & Sword 2012)

*FIBIS Research Guides* –

Baxter's Guide to Biographical Sources in the India Office Records – Ian A Baxter

Researching Ancestors in the East India Companies Armies (up to 1858) – Peter A Bailey

Researching Ancestors in the Indian Army, 1858-1947 – Peter A Bailey

British Ships in Indian Waters – Richard Morgan

Research sources for Indian Railways, 1845-1947