Bibliographic databases - BBIH

What is BBIH?

Previously known as the *Royal Historical Society Bibliography*, the **Bibliography of British and Irish History** is a comprehensive guide to historical writing about the history of Britain, Ireland, and the British overseas from 55BC to the present. It will show you what has been published in this area and in some cases will provide you with links to online journal articles.
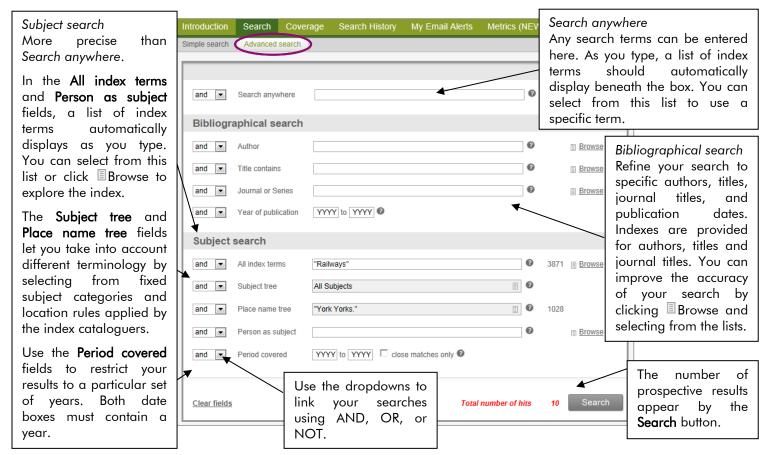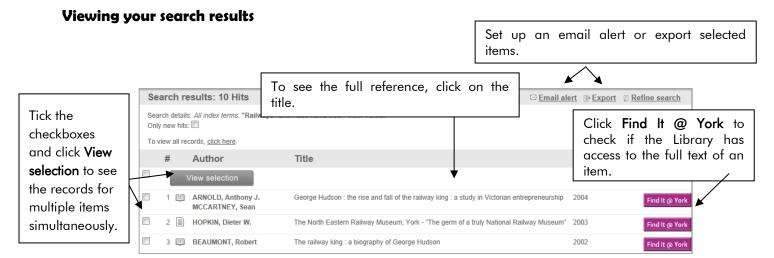
Accessing the BBIH

BBIH is accessed via the E-resources Guide.

1. To open the E-resources Guide, go to: http://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/e-resources
2. When the E-resources Guide has opened select the **B** tab from the A-Z list at the top of the screen. An alphabetical list of resources is then displayed.
3. Click on **Bibliography of British and Irish History (Brepolis)**. You may be asked to log in with your IT Services username and password. The resource will now open in a new window.
4. At the Brepolis homepage click on **Enter databases**.
5. From the list of free-standing databases click **Bibliography of British and Irish History**.

Searching the BBIH

Select **Advanced search** near the top of the screen. This will allow you to make a more precise search. Three sets of search options are available in *Advanced search*: search anywhere, bibliographical search and subject search. You can combine elements from all three options within a single search.

Subject search
More precise than *Search anywhere*.

In the **All index terms** and **Person as subject** fields, a list of index terms automatically displays as you type. You can select from this list or click ▤Browse to explore the index.

The **Subject tree** and **Place name tree** fields let you take into account different terminology by selecting from fixed subject categories and location rules applied by the index cataloguers.

Use the **Period covered** fields to restrict your results to a particular set of years. Both date boxes must contain a year.

Search anywhere
Any search terms can be entered here. As you type, a list of index terms should automatically display beneath the box. You can select from this list to use a specific term.

Bibliographical search
Refine your search to specific authors, titles, journal titles, and publication dates. Indexes are provided for authors, titles and journal titles. You can improve the accuracy of your search by clicking ▤Browse and selecting from the lists.

Use the dropdowns to link your searches using AND, OR, or NOT.

The number of prospective results appear by the **Search** button.

Viewing your search results

Set up an email alert or export selected items.

To see the full reference, click on the title.

Tick the checkboxes and click **View selection** to see the records for multiple items simultaneously.

Click **Find It @ York** to check if the Library has access to the full text of an item.

	#	Author	Title		
Search results: 10 Hits				⊠ Email alert	➔ Export	Refine search
Search details: *All index terms:* "Railway ~~ and ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~"					
Only new hits: ☐					
To view all records, <u>click here</u>.					
☐		View selection			
☐	1	ARNOLD, Anthony J. MCCARTNEY, Sean	George Hudson : the rise and fall of the railway king : a study in Victorian entrepreneurship	2004	Find It @ York
☐	2	HOPKIN, Dieter W.	The North Eastern Railway Museum, York - "The germ of a truly National Railway Museum"	2003	Find It @ York
☐	3	BEAUMONT, Robert	The railway king : a biography of George Hudson	2002	Find It @ York

Saving, printing and e-mailing your results

1. From the list of search results click in the tick box next to each reference you want to keep (or click in the box at the top of the list to select all items on the page).

2. To download the selected references to a file, click on **Export** on the right hand side of the screen. You can save as a webpage (.html), Excel spreadsheet (.xls), or Word document (.xml). You can also save your list as a format readable by a reference management program such as EndNote or RefWorks. You can either download the file immediately (select **Download** and click **Export**) or email it to yourself as an attachment (select **E-Mail** and click **Export**).

3. To print selected results, tick the items you're interested in and click **View selection**. Then use the print options in your web browser.

4. You can also set up an email alert which will automatically notify you whenever a new item matching your search terms is added to the index. Click **Email alert**, give your search a memorable name and enter your email address. Then click **Save**. To subsequently manage your saved alerts, click **My Email Alerts** in the menu at the top of the screen.

Search tips

AND combines search terms so that each search result contains all of the terms. For example, `"george hudson" and york` finds results that contain both terms (use double quotes "like this" to search for a phrase).

OR combines search terms so that each search result contains at least one of the terms. For example, `"steam locomotive" or "steam train"` finds results that contain either term.

Wildcard (`?`) use a question mark to replace a single letter anywhere in a word, except the first character. Wildcards are particularly useful for finding variations in spelling, for example `wom?n` finds results that contain either woman or women.

Truncation (`*`) use an asterisk to truncate (shorten) a word and find all the words made by adding letters to the end of it. For example, `rail*` finds results that contain the terms rail or rails or railings or railway or railways etc.