

Births, marriages and deaths go on-line.

A NEW website has just gone on line that will enable people to access marriage indexes held at Bath & North East Somerset Council's Registration Office in Bath.

The Bath website can be found at www.bathBMD.org.uk – and is the 15th registration county in the UK to start putting its records on-line.

So far there are some 30,000 marriage indexes on-line out of 155,000 held at the office in Bath.

Once the marriage section is completed work will then start on getting the births and deaths records on-line.

In addition, people can also print an order form for certificates with the reference details already completed.

Andrea Fairlie, Officer Manager at the Registration Office in Bath, has been working on the project with her husband, a genealogist and IT enthusiast, and a team of around nine volunteers.

Andrea said: "Bath & North East Somerset Council is pleased to be one of the first registration authorities in the UK to offer this new service which will prove to be a fantastic resource for genealogists."

"It will also have a positive impact for staff who can now refer to easily produced, computer printed indexes instead of the worn out stitched and bound books with difficult to read copper plate writing.

"Data is being added as fast as we can and once we get the marriages on-line the other indexes will follow until all the records are on line – although this will take many years."

The site has been set up as part of the UK Births, Marriages and Deaths (UKBMD) Project which has also provided the standard search software.

Ian Hartas, sponsor for UKBMD, said: "Bath & North East Somerset will be a welcome addition to the group and I hope that it proves as successful for them as it has been for the other Registration Services around the UK."

ENDS

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