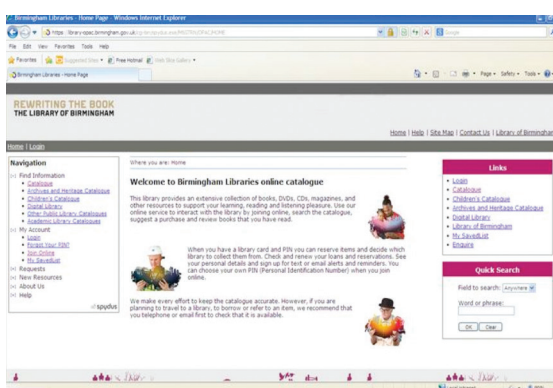


QUICK GUIDE

LIBRARY CATALOGUES

Using catalogues to locate resources

ONLINE



REWRITING THE BOOK THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

The Library of Birmingham is unique in that it is also the Archives and Heritage Centre for the region. The two services work hand in hand but deliver services in different ways. As a result resources are listed in four catalogue types:

Spydus

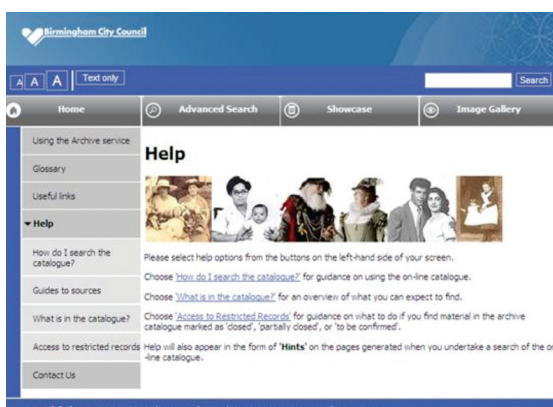
Spydus is the library's on-line catalogue accessible in ALL Birmingham libraries and via the library website. The catalogue allows you to search for any resource held in The Library of Birmingham or any of the 39 Community Libraries.

Library resources include: books; DVDs; CDs; electronic resources; graphic novels; music manuscripts; maps; music scores and periodicals; talking books; large print books; dual language books and CDs; open learning packs and CD ROMS. Library members are able to reserve and/or request resources, renew loan items, and update their profile.

CALM & CALMVIEW

Calm

Calm is the cataloguing software for archives. It is only accessible to Archives, Heritage and Photography staff, and is used to find answers for other staff or customers who have a query. We are in the process of converting all our old paper catalogues to electronic records in Calm, which allows us to search them more easily. Calm currently contains around 280,000 records.



CalmView

CalmView is the public interface of Calm on the web <http://calmview.birmingham.gov.uk>. The information is presented in a hierarchical structure and can be difficult to navigate. The 'Help' option will provide you with useful hints and tips to searching. Not every collection is on CalmView: currently there are about 1600 collections (out of 8000 total). These 1600 collections are described in approx. 80,000 individual records.

All items in CalmView can only be viewed in the Wolfson Centre, with the exception of items for which a surrogate is available (e.g. a microfilm copy) – this is noted on the record. CalmView searches all the fields in Calm, not just the ones visible to the public, so if you're getting odd search results this is probably why.

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LIBRARY CATALOGUES

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CARD CATALOGUES



Card catalogues were traditionally used to locate exact references and to identify material on a given subject or theme. In many instances they remain the only way to access certain collections or types of material.

On Level 4 these include, for example, the card catalogue to the main map collection and an index to late 20th century building plans for Birmingham. Card catalogues have been digitised as part of a recent retro-conversion programme and further conversions are planned, subject to funding

PAPER CATALOGUES



In the Wolfson Centre (floor 4) you will find printed catalogues arranged in folders. You can browse through them or locate a specific collection. The printed catalogues show a hierarchical list of the items in a collection. To order items to view in the Wolfson Centre you will need the reference number, which can be found on the left hand side of the page.

**Please ask a member of staff if you need help
to use the equipment.**