



# Family History Indexes

from sources at the Public Record Office  
by Stuart Tamblin

**Military Courts, 1879-1994**

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# Military Courts

## Introduction

This index replaces and much enlarges upon "Courts Martial and Executions" which was published in April 1998. Whereas the latter only covered Army personnel and broadly the First World War period, there is now coverage of all three major services and a large part of the twentieth century.

Much has been written about those executed, with detailed biographies being published but the aim of this publication is to bring together as many names as possible, with brief, defining details in a format which will suit the family historian. If some events seem recent at the time of publication, remember that these details will be invaluable to the next few generations of people tracing their family trees. The index is fully cross-referenced between all the sources.

## Content

The index is arranged alphabetically by surname, forename and year. Also provided are the branch of the services and unit or ship, rank, service number, type of court, the subject of the enquiry or offence and references to PRO documents. Five classes or series of Admiralty documents are listed (for the Navy), with one for the RAF (AIR) and two for the Army (WO). The relevant source material consulted is listed as appropriate. Other documents may be available in other classes. For example, information on the outcome of the proceedings in AIR 18 may be found in AIR 21.

Where there is no indication of guilt in the index, none must be presumed. These are just lists of names of persons, about whom there are documents in the PRO. At the end of the database, there are several entries without names. These have been taken from the same source material which does not name individuals but which may relate to them all the same.

In the case of WO 93/49, the theatre of operations is listed. In the index, this has only been noted if other than *France*.

## Source material

Royal Navy, 1911-1965	Class list for ADM 156
Royal Air Force, 1941-1994	Class list for AIR 18
British Army, 1879-1986	Class list for WO 71
Soldiers Executed, 1914-1920	Document WO 93/49

All of the above are at the Public Record Office, Kew.

## Bibliography

Further information may be found in:

- A Bevan (Ed), *Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office*  
(PRO, Richmond, 5th Edition, 1999)
- J Cox, *New to Kew?* (PRO, Richmond, 1997)
- J Cox and S Colwell, *Never Been Here Before?* (PRO, Richmond, 1997)
- S Fowler, W Spencer & S Tamblin, *Army Service Records of the First World War* (PRO, Richmond, 2nd Edition, 1997)
- S Fowler & W Spencer, *Army Records for Family Historians* (PRO, Richmond, 1998)

## Disclaimer

Although every effort has been made in the production and checking of this index, no warranty as to its accuracy can be made. No responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracy or incompleteness whatsoever.

Useful addresses, telephone numbers and World Wide Web sites:

Public Record Office

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TW9 4DU

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Family Records Centre

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EC1R 1UW

Tel 02083-925300 (+44-20 8392 5300)

Federation of Family History Societies

Tel 07041-492032 (+44-70 4149 2032) <http://www.ffhs.org.uk/>

Society of Genealogists

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EC1M 7BA

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*That Palace by the Thames* - the Public Record Office, Kew.

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# Sample

## **Abbott C A S**

RN

Rank: LS

HMS Greenwich

Type: Case

Subject: Mutiny & Desertion

**1919**

ADM 1/

ADM 116/

ADM 137/

ADM 156/47

ADM 167/

Notes:

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## **Abigail J H**

Army

Rank: Pte

8th (S) Norfolk R

Type: Home & Overseas Field General Court Martial

Subject: Desertion

**24 August 1917**

WO 71/592

WO 93/ 49

Notes: Shot by Sentence of Court Martial. Age 20y 115d.

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## **Abraham B**

Army

Rank:

Type: Home & Overseas Field General Court Martial

Subject: Murder

**1947**

WO 71/1022

Notes:

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## **Abras M S**

Army

Rank:

Type: Home & Overseas Field General Court Martial

Subject: Murder

**1943**

WO 71/793

WO 93/

Notes:

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