



The  
London  
Gazette

The London Gazette claims to be the oldest continuously published newspaper in the UK, tracing its beginnings back to 1665. It is one of the official journals of record of the British government, in which certain statutory notices are required to be published. The fact that it is used to publish these notices makes it an important source for the family historian, especially as its archive is available online.

Information is grouped into almost 20 categories, a few of which include notices about individuals. Using these categories and textual search facilities you can drill down to individual pages of the gazette, which are presented in PDF format on the screen.

Many of our ancestors were involved in business in one form or another and unfortunately, some of these would get into trouble leading to bankruptcy for the proprietor. Notices of bankruptcy proceedings were required to be published in the London Gazette and can be accessed by choosing the category "Personal Insolvency" then proceeding to "Bankruptcy Orders". At this point, you are able to enter parameters for searching the text - typically a name. The results are presented as a list with sufficient detail for you to determine relevance. Choosing from the list presents a page from the Gazette. The details in the notice include dates and places of hearings and addresses of the bankrupt and of his/her business. If you choose to, you can step forwards and backwards from one page to another.

Access the London Gazette at: [www.london-gazette.co.uk](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk)