

The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* is the national record of men and women who have shaped British history and culture, worldwide, from the Romans to the 21st century. The dictionary offers concise, up-to-date biographies written by named, specialist authors.

WHAT YOU CAN FIND

- Over 60,000 biographies of influential figures from British history
- With over 11,000 portrait images, the ODNB boasts the largest selection of national portraiture ever published
- Regular updates throughout the year extend coverage into the 21st century, whilst also adding new biographies across all historical periods

1. THE HOMEPAGE

- 1 Quick name search is on every page: search names, titles, pen names, nicknames, and colloquial names
- 2 Browse by occupation or religious affiliation
- 3 Browse by theme
- 4 Download ODNB podcast episodes
- 5 Explore featured biographical articles
- 5 Discover a new Life of the Day, everyday

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Tools and Resources', 'Subscribe', 'Customer Services', and 'Personal Profile: Sign In or Create'. Below this is a search bar and a filter menu for 'Occupations' and 'Religious Affiliation'. The main content area includes a 'Welcome to Oxford Dictionary of National Biography' section with a grid of portrait images. Below this are featured articles, including 'Emma, Queen of England' and 'Portraiture in the Oxford DNB'. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Podcasts' and 'Latest Tweets'.

2. THE HELP PAGE

The screenshot shows the 'Help' page of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. The page is titled 'Help' and contains a video player with the text 'Welcome to the online tour for Oxford DNB. This video demonstrates all of the key features and functionality available on the site.' Below the video, there are sections for 'For information about the Oxford DNB, including its history and how often it's updated, please visit our About page.', 'For answers to some common questions about the site visit our Frequently Asked Questions page.', 'Don't have access? Then find out how to subscribe.', and 'Librarians: for information about your subscription, including how to log in to your administrator account, access usage statistics, and download MARC records, please visit our Customer Services page.' At the bottom, there is a section for 'Use the table of contents to find out about a specific area of the site. If you cannot find an answer to your question, please don't hesitate to contact us.'

- 1 Take a virtual tour of the site to learn about key features
- 2 Explore Frequently Asked Questions
- 3 Read answers to common technical questions
- 4 Access MARC records, usage statistics, and account management on the Customer Services page

3. WORKING WITH SEARCH RESULTS

- 1 View by birth or death date, or in alphabetical order
- 2 Modify your search or search within results by adding a term
- 3 Filter results in a number of ways including articles vs. images, type, articles containing, sex, life event, occupation, and religious affiliation.

The screenshot shows the search results for 'Laing, Alexander'. The page includes a search bar at the top, a navigation menu with 'Occupations' and 'Religious Affiliation', and a search filter dropdown set to 'OUP-USA Mirror'. The results list shows 'Laing, Alexander (nicknamed the Brechin poet) (1787–1857), poet' as the first result. To the left of the results, there are three numbered callouts: 1. A dropdown menu for 'Sort by' with 'Relevance' selected. 2. A 'Modify your search' box with 'Article Title' and 'poet' entered. 3. A 'Format' box with 'Article (1,912)' selected. The article text for Laing is visible, mentioning his birth in 1787 and his occupation as a poet and agricultural labourer.

4. NAVIGATING ARTICLES

The screenshot shows the article page for 'Austen, Sir Francis William (1774–1865)'. The page includes a search bar at the top, a navigation menu with 'Occupations' and 'Religious Affiliation', and a search filter dropdown set to 'OUP-USA Mirror'. The article text is visible, mentioning his birth in 1774 and his occupation as a naval officer. To the left of the article, there are three numbered callouts: 1. A 'See also' box with 'Jane Austen' listed. 2. A 'Sources' box with 'Archives', 'Likenesses', and 'Wealth at Death' listed. 3. An 'External resources' box with 'Archive Edition' and 'Abbreviations' listed. At the top right of the article, there is a callout 4 pointing to a set of icons for downloading, saving, emailing, sharing, and citing content.

- 1 Navigate between related people with the hyperlinks in the article
- 2 View references
- 3 Discover related *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* entries
- 4 Download a PDF, save, email, share, or cite content

SEARCH TIPS: Run a blank search by clicking in the search box and hitting enter to browse lists and search options

You can also limit or widen your search results by using these search rules:

Special characters: you need not enter accented letters in order to find words that contain accents

Wildcards: wildcard * may be used to replace letters of which you are unsure. * may be used in place of one or more letters; for example, c*t will find cat, cut, and cot, but also carat, clot, count, chat, etc.