



## The 1939 National Register

### *“Why is the 1939 Register so important now”*

- Firstly, the 1921 Census that will give us more information about our ancestors who survived World War 1, will not be available online until January 2022 on **Findmypast.co.uk**
- The 1931 Census taken on Sunday 26th April 1931, was totally destroyed in a fire in December 1942
- There wasn't a 1941 Census and the 1951 Census will not be available until January 2052...

### *“What happened on Friday 29th September 1939?”*

65,000 enumerators delivered a registration form to all residences for an identity card for each person, the enumerator returned two days later, collected the form and members of the Women's Voluntary Service (WVS) would write your name on the ID card and delivered them to each home. Not everyone was recorded on the Register or is available to view online; there are no serving military personnel. Scotland and Northern Ireland records are held separately, records for the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands have not survived, and only those entered on the night are included, late entries will not be found online!

The Register became available to view on **Findmypast.co.uk** on 2nd November 2015; and it's now available online at **Ancestry.com** and **MyHeritage**

In April 2019, **FamilySearch.org** announced, its free availability in partnership with **Findmypast** however, it is only accessible at their Family History Centres which can be found at **www.familysearch.org/locations** like at Penns Lane, Sutton Coldfield on 0121 386 4902 (call for an appointment to view the register), for example...

The best place to read all about the 1939 Register is the research guide on The National Archive website at :

**<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/1939-register>**

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