



Service Information Bendigo Regional Archives Centre Reading Room

Opening Hours	Wednesdays and Thursdays (except Public Holidays) 10.00 am – 4.30 pm
Location	First floor, Bendigo Library 251-259 Hargreaves St Bendigo VICTORIA 3550
Phone	03 5449 2700
Website	www.brac.vic.gov.au

The Bendigo Regional Archives Centre Inc. (BRAC) was established in 2007 as a unique partnership between Public Record Office Victoria (PROV), the City of Greater Bendigo and the Goldfields Library Corporation (GLC).

BRAC aims to preserve regional records in their place of origin and make them available to the public. It brings together both local government (public) and non-government records (private) which document the rich history of the Bendigo and district region.

As an approved Place of Deposit (POD) under Section 14 of the Public Records Act 1973, BRAC holds records such as the Rate and Minute books created by the region's eight previously-existing Councils:- Sandhurst/Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Heathcote, Huntly, Marong, Mclvor, Raywood, and Strathfieldsaye.

BRAC also holds records created by various branches of the Court system such as Mining, Insolvency, Magistrates and Commonwealth Courts, whose sittings were held in the region's ten Courts:- Bendigo/Sandhurst, Eaglehawk, Elmore, Heathcote, Huntly, Echuca, Kyabram, Rochester, St. Arnaud and Tongala.

Reference Services provided at BRAC

The knowledgeable BRAC staff members are on hand to educate researchers about the format and contents of records relevant to their specific research request. Staff can also assist clients to order records held at the Victorian Archives Centre in North Melbourne or the Ballarat Archives Centre.

Please note: records are only available for viewing at the Reading Room of the repository at which they are held. For example, records held at the Victorian Archives Centre cannot be ordered for viewing at the Bendigo Regional Archives Centre.

There is no cost to access or to view any of these records.

Conditions of entry to BRAC

In order to provide a comfortable research environment, and preserve our valuable collection, researchers are only permitted to bring the following items into the BRAC Reading Room: pencils, loose paper, small notebooks, wallets or purses, lap top (no carry bag), digital camera and mobile phone (switched to silent).

All other items must be placed in the secure lockers provided prior to entering the BRAC Reading Room. All personal items remain the responsibility of the researcher.

Digital Cameras

Researchers are encouraged to bring their own digital camera, to take their own photographic images of the records. The form "Copyright Declaration for the use of Digital cameras" needs to be completed.

No photocopying of BRAC records is permitted.

Visiting the Bendigo Regional Archives Centre

BRAC is located on the first floor of the Bendigo Library, next door to the city's historic Town Hall. For more information go to www.brac.vic.gov.au

There is a café located downstairs in the Library; other eating venues are nearby. The Bendigo Railway Station is a 15 minute walk from the Library.

If you have special needs that you would like to discuss before you visit, or you have any queries about our services, please contact BRAC on (03) 5449 2703 (Wednesday and Thursday) or the Bendigo Library (03) 5449 2700.

Complementary Resources

Goldfields Research Centre (GRC)

The GRC is also located on the first floor of the Bendigo Library. Here you will find extensive secondary resources for family, local and gold mining history research. Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, local Indexes, Newspapers, Shipping and Cemetery Indexes, other databases, along with free access to www.ancestry.com are all available at the GRC.

GRC opening times are Monday- Friday 9.00 am - 7.00 pm, and Saturday 10.00 am -1.00 pm. For more information go to www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Genealogy groups' assistance

At the first floor of the Bendigo Library, Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society members offer research assistance on Mondays from 11.00 am-3.00 pm. www.gsv.org.au

The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, Bendigo branch, offer research assistance on Wednesdays 10.00 am - 4.00 pm and Saturdays 10.00am-1.00pm. www.bendigofamilyhistory.org (email-bendigogen@gmail)