Civil registration of all births, marriages and deaths was introduced in England and Wales in 1837, this bill was implemented during the reign of Queen Victoria. It was implemented in Scotland in 1855 and 1864 in Ireland.

Before this time there was no legislation in place for the recording of marriages, births and deaths. However, registers were kept in individual parishes from about 1538, but with gaps and no uniformity. These registers are stored at the County Record Office.

**Military Records**
Service records before 1923 are stored in the National Archives, along with information about pensions, pay lists, medal lists, ships logs, operation files etc.

**Working Life**
From 1800 local trade directories were published and included lists of tradesman and professionals. Search the database at [www.historicaldirectories.org](http://www.historicaldirectories.org)

**The National Archives** have staff records for many railway companies up to 1948 and other bodies including the Metropolitan Police, Customs and Excise, merchant seaman and coastguards.
Cheshire Record Office – hold archives as follows

Official and Public –
1. Local authorities
2. Hospitals
3. Schools
4. Quarter sessions
5. Probate records

Church including
1. Church of England parish records
2. Catholic records
3. Non-conformist records

The records that are held are unique. They relate to the people who have lived and worked in the County. They can inform you about their home and working lives and the way that Cheshire was administered. They also hold the County’s local history collection of books, local newspapers, printed maps and photographs. It is free of charge to consult the sources that they hold.

www.cheshire.gov.uk/recoff/home.htm
Useful Addresses

General Register Office for England & Wales
Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Birkdale, Southport
PR8 2HH
Tel: 0151 471 4805
Certificate Services 0845 603 7788

The National Archives
Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU
Tel: 020 8876 3444 – www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

General Register Office, Ireland
Government Offices, Conent Road, Roscommon
www.groireland.ie

General Register Office Northern Ireland
Oxford House, 49-55 Chichester Street, Belfast
BT1 4HL
Tel: 028 9025 2000 – www.groni.uk

General Register Office for Scotland
New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT
www.gro-scotland.gov.uk

Principal Registry of the Family Division
(Copies of decree nisi for England & Wales from 1858)
First Avenue House
42-49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP
Tel: 020 7947 6000
Births & Deaths at Sea – Records are held in Cardiff
Tel: 02920 448800

Warrington Register Office
Museum Street, Warrington WA1 1JX
Tel: 01925 442762
www.warrington.gov.uk
www.cheshirebmd.org.uk

Warrington Library, Museum and Archives Service
Museum Street
Warrington WA1 1JB
Tel: 01925 442890 www.warrington.gov.uk

**Warrington Register Office opened in 1924**

We hold all the records of births, marriages and deaths from 1837 to present date.

Our list of indexes, although not complete, can be found on the following website www.cheshirebmd.org.uk

Births present date – Sept 1991 and 1837 - 1935
Deaths present date – Sept 1991 and 1837 – 1910
Marriages present date – Sept 1991 and 1837 – 1934

The receptionists at the Register Office undertake certificate production usually within a 24 hour period from request. Our team produced 4,500 certificates last year. We also deal with postal applications by return of post. As well as being front of house staff, we book appointments for registrations of birth, death and marriage.
Our contact centre book most appointments for birth registrations and we take all other calls. Several of us also register births and deaths.

We also conduct all ceremonies i.e. Marriage, Civil Partnership, Renewal of Vows, Baby Naming and Citizenship whether here at the Register Office or at a licensed venue.