



## Register of Qualified Genealogists Conference 2026

The Register of Qualified Genealogists (RQG) is pleased to announce its **2026 conference**, which will take place at **The Birmingham & Midland Institute in Birmingham (UK) on Saturday 25 April 2026**. The conference is open to everyone — RQG membership is not required, and we warmly welcome non-members, researchers, students, and professionals from related disciplines.

This flagship event brings together professionals, academics, educators, and genealogists from across the UK and internationally for a full day of high-level discussion, professional development, and exchange of expertise. Guided by the conference theme, ***Exploring the Past, Embracing the Future***, the programme will reflect on the foundations of genealogical research while engaging critically with new methodologies, technologies, and ethical frameworks shaping the profession.

Held at one of Birmingham's most distinguished learned institutions, the conference provides an ideal setting for reflection, debate, and professional exchange. Delegates can expect a carefully curated programme of keynote lectures, specialist sessions and a workshop that combine methodological rigour with practical insight.

We are delighted to confirm three distinguished keynote speakers:

- **Professor Rebecca Probert** (University of Exeter) – *Researching bigamy through family history records*
- **Dr Sophie Kay** (Khronicle®) – *Ethics and You: a people-centred guide to genetic genealogy*
- **Professor Julia Laite** (Birkbeck, University of London) – *How family history can change the way we think about history (and the world)*

The conference is designed to support genealogists on an intermediate or advanced level. Sessions will explore research methodologies, professional standards and ethics, complex studies, and engagement with archives and institutions in a rapidly changing research environment. In line with RQG's commitment to excellence, the programme emphasises evidence-based practice, critical analysis, and the clear communication of research findings.

Networking is a core element of the day, with informal opportunities to connect with peers. For those considering professional accreditation, the conference also provides

valuable insight into the competencies and expectations that underpin RQG registration.

**Registration is now open to members and non-members alike:**

<https://www.qualifiedgenealogists.org/2026-conference>

Further details on the programme will be announced in due course. We look forward to welcoming you to The Birmingham & Midland Institute on 25 April 2026!