Some of the sources you can use at The Family History Centre.

Parish Registers and other transcripts
The majority of christenings, marriages and burials are available on the Sussex Data Archive. If you are not familiar with using the online database our helpers can show you how to use it.

Marriage Licences
Details from these can often give you more information than the entry in a transcript or on the IGI.

The I.G.I. (International Genealogical Index)
A computer index collated by the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) from filmed copies of Parish Registers. The Index is on fiche, Christenings and Marriages are listed alphabetically by county, this makes it possible to see all the names of one spelling together. The index does not include all parishes, it should be used as a guide, entries should be checked against original register or fiche or film copy. The Library fiche covers all counties in the British Isles. There are also some fiche for overseas.

Census
We provide access to all censuses via Ancestry and Findmypast.

Wills - Archdeaconry of Lewes and South Malling Wills on micro film
A search through the Lewes Wills Register 1680-1858 may find the ancestor or relative whose Will provides useful information.

Directories and Lists
Kelly's and other directories can be very useful for establishing where people lived, particularly if they were shopkeepers, innkeepers or farmers etc. Sussex Kelly's in the Library are for various years from 1862 to 1938. There are also some professional directories.

Other lists
There are many names in lists such Land Tax, Hearth Tax, Poll Books, Poor Law, and Settlement. Many of our ancestors fell on hard times, there are many names and parishes included in Catalogues of Settlement Orders & Cases 1661-1770.

Apprentices
There are lists of Sussex Apprentices and Masters.

Family Histories and Pedigrees
You may well discover that another member has already researched one of your family surnames and has deposited notes in the Library.

Members' Interests

You can consult these and get in touch with another member sharing your interest.

Monumental Inscriptions
Transcriptions of many Sussex churchyards and burial places, this is the work of the Group MI Project. The inscription on a gravestone may include useful information about an ancestor. (Some transcriptions may have been removed for checking)

Services
This section of the Library contains information on service in the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force. There are lists of casualties, names on War Memorials and Muster Rolls.

Reference books and helpful booklets
The Library has a large collection of these, some to help you with your Family History research and some to guide you when using different types of records. Putting flesh on the bones (a phrase much used by Family Historians, does not involve visiting graveyards!!) The Library has additional information on many Sussex places - church guides - Directories - Local History publications, Sussex Record Society publications. These sources can be used to find out more about your ancestors, where they lived - how they earned their living, to make your Family History more than just a list of names and dates.

What if I have no known Sussex Ancestors?
The vast majority of our material is Sussex based although via online databases it is possible to search worldwide. We have a limited collection of books covering the counties around Sussex as well as books on basic and more advanced genealogical research.

Please Note:

- The items contained in the Library are available for you to study on the premises. Items may not be borrowed. Please return books to the same place on the shelf when you have finished with them.
- We must rely on the honesty of members to replace all items after use; remember that others will also want to make use of them.
- No children under the age of 12 in the Family History Centre, please.

Prints of pages of fiche may be ordered. To obtain prints by post please write to:
Mr. Eric Appleton, 147 Carden Avenue, Patcham, Brighton, BN1 8NH