

Literature Online

Database guide

Education Services

University Services

Literature Online is a set of full-text databases to which the University Libraries Subscribes; it is located on the *The Electronic Library* page of the Library's homepage.

www.newcastle.edu.au/library

The Library does not subscribe to all the databases available, only the selected ones listed. They are:

- [*Bible in English \(990-1970\)*](#)
- [*Editions and Adaptions of Shakespeare \(1591-1911\)*](#)
- [*Eighteenth-Century Fiction \(1700-1780\)*](#)
- [*English Drama \(1280-1915\)*](#)
- [*English Poetry \(600-1900\)*](#)
- [*The King James Bible*](#)
- [*Webster's Third International Dictionary. Unabridged*](#)

It is possible to search across all these databases at once, or in each separately. There are different search fields in each database to suit its specific needs.

How to Access the Poetry Database on Literature Online

From the University Library Homepage (<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/library>)

- Select **The Electronic Library**
- Select **L** and then on **Literature Online**
- Select **English Poetry (600-1900)**

English Poetry (600-1900) - contains some 165,000 poems by over 1250 poets.

You can search by

- *Keyword**First line/Title keyword*
- *Poet*
- *Period*
- *Gender of poet*
- *An alphabetical index of the above fields*

Keyword Searching

- Select a keyword that you feel could be in a 16th century poem
- e.g. *Sonnet, love*
- *Place* the cursor in the *keyword* box and type in your keyword
- If we are only interested in poetry in the age of Shakespeare, *pull down* the drop down *menu* next to the **Period** box, and select **Tudor Poetry 1500-1603**

- Click on **Submit Search** [Interpreting the Results of your Search](#)

Summary of Matches Screen

Indicates the number of hits (i.e. the number of times the search terms appear in the database) and the number of documents containing the hits.

It also lists the documents retrieved and gives brief details of each.

- Author
- Source volume or collection
- Number of hits

The author and title details are also hyperlinked to the **Context of Matches** page

The red-outlined icon on the right leads you to the **Table of Contents** page for the work

Context of Matches Screen

Click on the author and title to go to the **Context of Matches** Screen

This gives you a hierarchical summary of the author's works down to the poem which contains the keywords for which you are searching.

Click on the red dot next to the keyword to bring up the full text of the relevant poem. If there were multiple entries for your keyword(s), a list of entries will come up.

Table of Contents Screen

Click on the square icon on the right to see the **Table of Contents** of the author's work: these are all the works in the database by that author, not just those containing the keyword(s).

The icon denotes that you can expand the reference to get a more detailed list of contents; the icon denotes that you can condense the list of contents to a broader list. Many files in these lists of contents are large, and the size is indicated in **kb**.

Author Searching

- If you know the exact name of the poet you are looking for, e.g. Thomas Nash, *type* it in the **Poet** line, surname first.
- Select **Tudor Poetry 1500-1603** from the **Period** menu.
- Click on *Submit Search* to get a **Summary of Matches** report.
- You may go to the **Context of Matches** or **Table of Contents** report.
- If you are not sure of the exact name of the poet, *type* what you know, e.g. Smith, in the **Poet** line and click on *Browse*
- Select **Tudor Poetry 1500-1603** from the **Period** menu
- Click on **Browse** to bring up a list of poets with the surname Smith
- Select the one you want and click on **Search**.

Combined Author/Keyword Searching

If you know the name of the poet and also the keyword(s), you can combine them in one search