

# Early Rocketry and Rocket Propellant

*This note was originally written as a quick reference to early rocketry for the Archive researchers*

*The focus of exhibition work on the site is shifting to rocketry and readers of Touchpaper might find the summary of some use as a reminder of what went before the exhibits in L168.*

*The second part will deal with Germany, the USA and Britain.*

In common with most other technological discoveries, the story of rocketry is one of a progression from the failures and successes of early visionaries working in isolation through gradual improvement and recognition to full scale commercial and where appropriate Governmental involvement.

This skeleton summary briefly traces the development of rocketry and rocket propellant up to around the early 1950's in the form of the careers of some of the early pioneers.