

March 15th 2017

Dear Guild conference delegate,

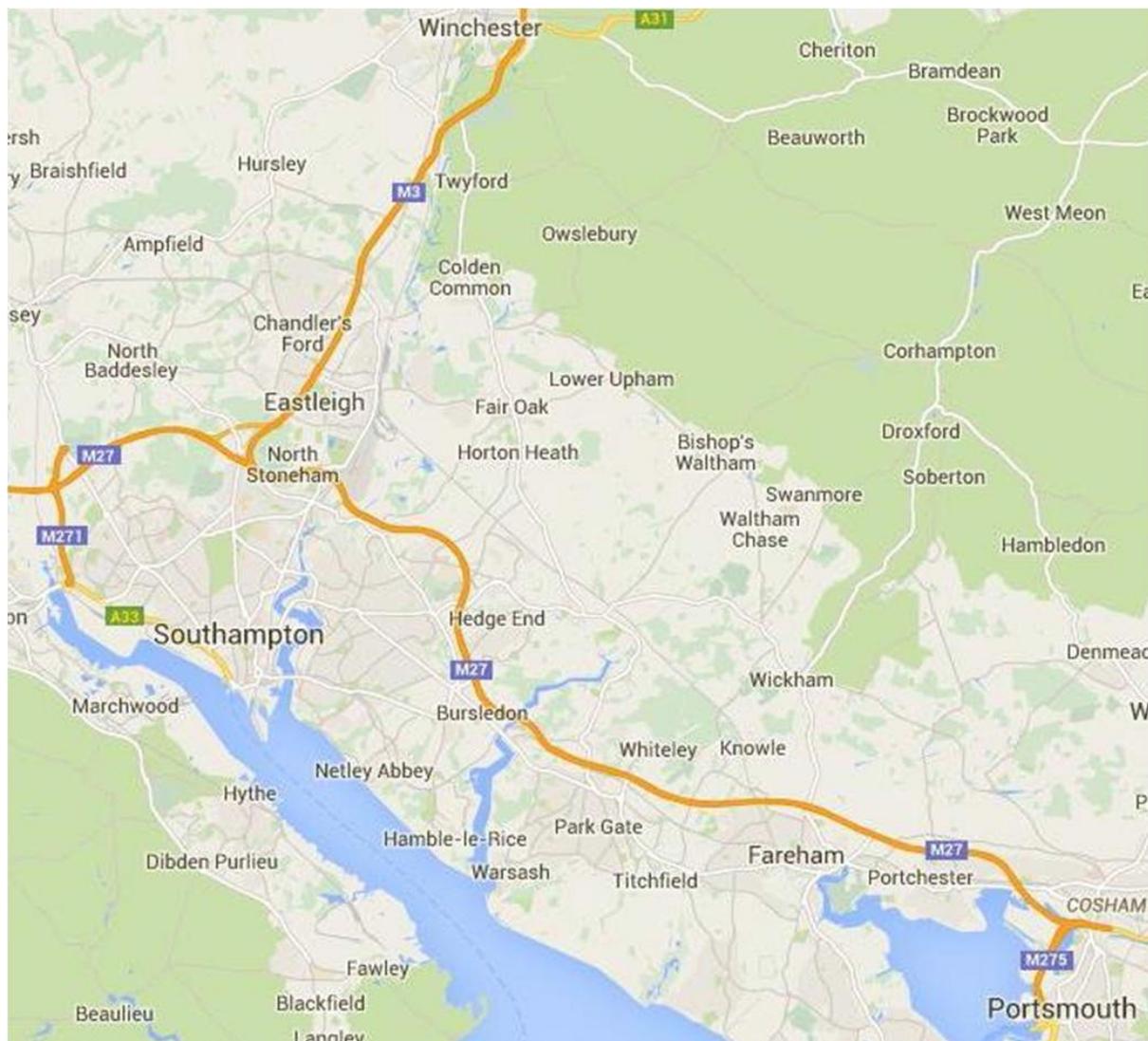
I hope that you are looking forward to the Guild's AGM and conference in a few weeks' time at the Macdonald Botley Park Hotel and Spa near Southampton:

< <http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/macdonald-botley-park-hotel-spa/> >

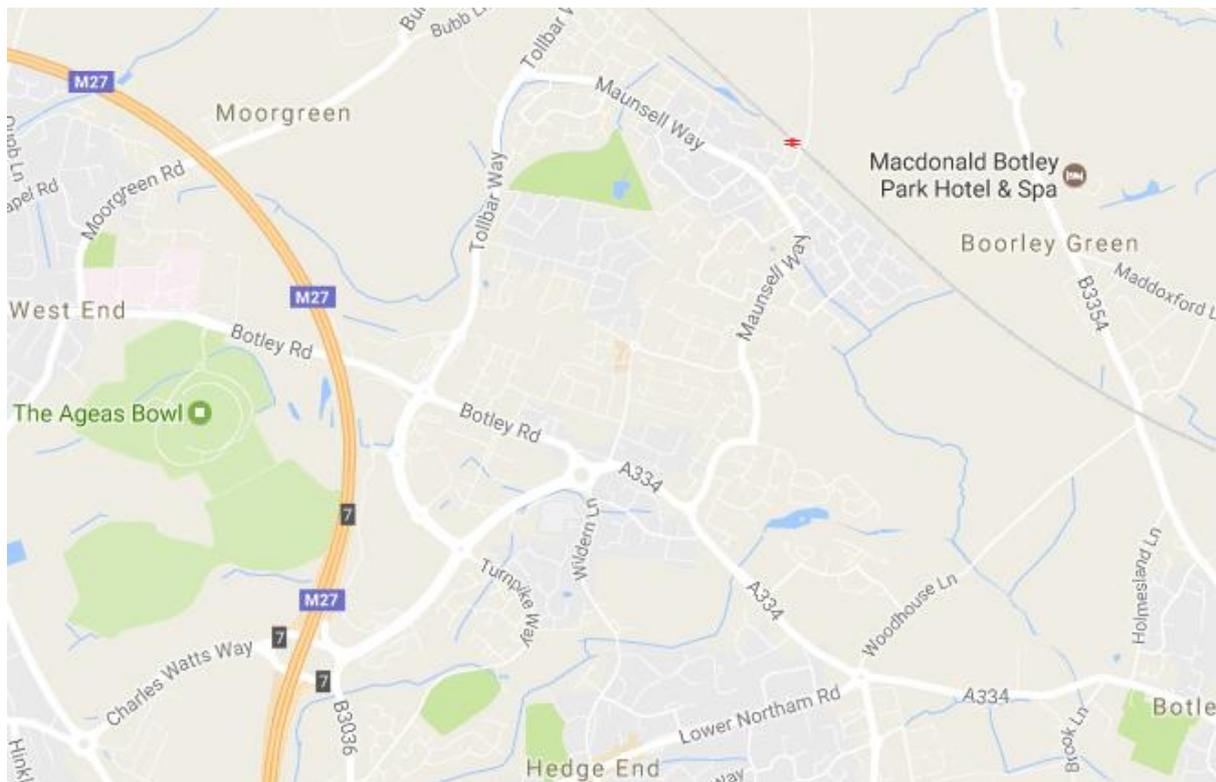
We are certainly looking forward to seeing you there and hope that you all have a great time. Below are some additional details in advance of the conference that will help you get to the venue and enjoy your stay at the hotel.

Map and directions

Macdonald Botley Park Hotel and Spa is situated in rolling Hampshire countryside to the north west of Botley on the B3354 Winchester Road (signposted Fair Oak from the centre of Botley). It is just 3 miles from junction 7 of the M27 and between Hedge End and Botley stations, and just 7 miles from Southampton Airport and Southampton Airport Parkway station.



Details of how to get to the Botley Park Hotel and Spa are included below for easy reference.



By Road from the East/West

From M27 - from Junction 7 (3 miles to hotel) follow the A334 towards Botley. At the first roundabout turn left past M&S store, continue over the next 5 mini roundabouts heading towards Fair Oak and Botley. At 6th mini roundabout turn right, signposted Botley and follow road for ½ a mile. Botley Park Hotel & Spa is on the left hand left hand side.

By Road from the North

From M3 - from Junction 11 onto slip road on the B3335 travel 8 miles through Twyford, Colden Common, Fair Oak (here the road number changes to B3354), and Horton Heath. After travelling through Horton Heath, continue over the mini roundabout signposted Botley and the Botley Park Hotel & Spa is on the left hand left hand side.

A local delegate advises “approaching from East, West or North you should be aware that there is a new large roundabout just before you reach the hotel, so don't get confused and think you've gone too far. It appeared a few weeks ago; follow the signs towards Botley”.

Car Parking

There are plenty of parking spaces at the Botley Park Hotel and car parking is complimentary.

Nearest Train Station

The nearest stations to the hotel are Hedge End (1.5miles) and Botley (2 miles) which are on the Winchester-Eastleigh-Fareham line. Southampton Airport Parkway on the Winchester-Eastleigh-Southampton line is 7 miles away.

We would ask any delegate travelling by train to arrive at one these three stations rather than Southampton Central as these will be easier for pick-ups than driving into the middle of Southampton.

- anyone travelling from London/the north through Winchester or Eastleigh should be able to change there and get to Hedge End or Botley, or get off at Southampton Airport Parkway?
- anyone travelling from the east through Fareham should be able to change there and get to Hedge End/Botley?
- anyone travelling from the west (Salisbury/Romsey or Poole/Brockenhurst) through Southampton Central (or anyone else arriving there) should be able to change there and get to Southampton Airport Parkway; there look to be 7 or 8 trains an hour during the day from Southampton Central to the airport.

If arriving by train please email < conference-booking@one-name.org > as soon as possible with your station and arrival time so that we can co-ordinate station pick-ups.

Arrivals

We will have a registration desk in the **Atrium** (hotel signs will show you how to get there from the main hotel entrance) which will be staffed from 2.00pm on Friday afternoon and from 8.30am before the AGM and conference on Saturday and 9.00am on Sunday mornings and where you will receive a welcome pack including a programme and conference brochure. After completing your registration please go to the hotel reception to check-in to your room. If you want to charge any additional purchases to your room you will need to provide the hotel reception with a debit/credit card. Please remember to settle your bill when you check out. Volunteers will be on hand to meet and greet “first timers” at a Guild Conference.

Volunteers

We would welcome any offers of help during the weekend

- staffing the registration desk on Friday afternoon or Saturday or Sunday mornings
- station pick-ups on Friday afternoon or Saturday or Sunday mornings
- station returns on Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon
- playing the keyboard at the ecumenical service on Sunday morning

Programme

The AGM will commence at 9.00am on Saturday morning in the **Fair Oak Suite**, followed by the conference at 11.00am, and the conference at 9.30am on Sunday morning. The full updated programme, including the Saturday early evening Special General Meeting, is available on the Guild website < <http://one-name.org/guild-conference-agm/> >

DNA meeting

Following an informal DNA gathering with refreshments in the **Atrium** from 3.00pm to 3.30pm on the afternoon of Friday 31st March 2017 there will be 3 parallel DNA discussion meetings between 3.30pm and 5.00pm in **Fair Oak 1**, **Fair Oak 2** and **Mountbatten** with Debbie Kennett (DNA for beginners), Maurice Gleeson (Y-DNA projects) and Barbara Griffiths (Autosomal DNA). These sessions will be fairly informal to allow all those running a DNA project, or just wanting to know more about DNA, to network with each other and share ideas. If you plan to come along could you please let Debbie Kennett < cruwys@one-name.org > know in advance, indicating which of the 3 sessions you would like to attend (so we can allocate the meeting rooms accordingly). Debbie and the DNA team would also welcome your specific questions in advance of the day to ensure these are covered during the sessions so please email these over to Debbie.

Help Clinic

After the DNA meeting there will be an opportunity for informal face to face discussions with fellow Guild members in the **Atrium** between 5.00pm and 6.00pm.

Dinner on Friday 31st March

Dinner on Friday evening will be a two course hot and cold buffet in the **Fair Oak Suite** with two sittings from 6.00pm to 7.00pm and 7.00pm to 8.00pm; this is not a formal meal and delegates can go to either sitting.

Quiz

At 8.00pm Alan Moorhouse will be hosting the annual conference quiz in the **Fair Oak Suite**. Please come along and demonstrate your expertise and knowledge. Quiz teams will be for up to a maximum of six people so plan to make up a team of six or come along and join 5 others to create one. Prizes will be awarded to the best teams.

The Banquet dinner on Saturday evening

The dinner on Saturday evening will be held in the **Hampshire Grove Suite**; delegates are invited to a drinks reception hosted by the President and Committee in the **Hampshire Grove Lobby** from 7.30pm, with dinner served at 8.00pm. The bar will remain open through and after dinner until midnight.

Please sign up to join a table of ten for the dinner: pro-formas will be available in the **Atrium** after the AGM on Saturday. Please put your name on the plan before the Saturday afternoon conference sessions start. There will one bottle each of red and white wine placed on each table. If you wish to pre-order additional wine for your table, please complete the Guild wine order form (in your welcome pack) quoting your table number and return it, along with your payment in cash or by cheque, to Julie Goucher by 5.00pm on Saturday; the following six wines available at the quoted discounted prices:

Whites:

- Pinot Grigio, La Maglia Rosa, Italy **£24.50**
Fresh with green apples and lemon flavours.
- Colombard Ugni Blanc, La Troubadour, Vin de Pays, France **£22.50**
Refreshing & crisp with flavours of pear & stone fruit
- Chardonnay Trebbiano, Terre Forti, Italy **£21.00**
Apples & pears with some citrus fruit

Reds:

- Sangiovese, Terre Forti, Italy **£21.00**
Fruity and juicy! Easy drinking
- Cabernet Sauvignon, Gable View, South Africa **£22.50**
Full-bodied and has soft red and black fruit flavours with some minty and spicy flavour

Rose:

- Sangiovese, Terre Forti Rosata, Italy **£22.00**
Fruity easy drinking

There will, of course, be a more extensive range of wines you can purchase from the hotel but these will not be at discounted prices.

Dress code for the Saturday evening dinner is smart casual - therefore suggest perhaps not jeans and a sweatshirt!

Ecumenical Service

There will be an ecumenical service, led by the Revd. David Gynes, at 8.45am - 9.15am (in the **Knightwood Oak Suite**) on Sunday morning.

Bookstalls & Poster Displays

To make the Conference weekend more interactive we encourage delegates to bring along details of their studies for display and sharing. Poster boards will be available for your use. The Guild also has its own bookstall at the conference alongside other displays of interest. These and the following tables can be found in the **Atrium** and the **Fair Oak Suite**:

- Guild Bookstall - the latest version of Surname Atlas (version 2.20) will be available
- The Members Website project table
- BMD Vault table - scan your own certificates for the Guild's BMD Vault project
- DNA Kits table

Scanning your own certificates for the BMD Vault

There will be an opportunity for you all to bring your own certificates to the Conference to be scanned for the BMD project so that the BMD Vault volunteers can transcribe the data for Guild members to subsequently search. You will alternatively be able to scan your certificates yourselves using the Guild scanner which will be located in the **Atrium**. Don't forget to bring a flash drive so that you can copy your scanned documents to take away with you.

DNA test kits

DNA test kits and Family Finder (Autosomal) kits from FamilyTreeDNA will be available to purchase at the special Guild member discounted price of £95.00 for Y-DNA 37 markers and £58.00 for Family Finder kits. The DNA kits table will not be manned at all times. If you are interested in purchasing a DNA kit you will need to speak to either Jan Cooper, Teresa Pask or the conference organisers during the weekend.

Enquiries

If you have any queries during the Conference, phone the conference team on 07590 604539 (Julie Goucher) or 07970 770546 (Alan Moorhouse).

I hope everyone has a most enjoyable Conference weekend. For those of you planning to take advantage of the hotel's swimming pool and spa don't forget to bring along your swimming costume.

Kind regards

Julie Goucher

< Conference-booking@one-name.org >