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# Journal

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## of One-Name Studies



[www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org)

Vol 11 Issue 1 January—March 2012



## Cemeteries and Their Records

**FIND A GRAVE**

## More Gravestone Sites

The Guild Digitising Programme

& Much More

GRO Post-2005 BMD Transcription Project

New Publications Award - The Guild Award of Excellence



Cleveland UK Mining and Transport

The Eastlake Surname Comes of Age

All the latest Guild news and updates

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**Forum**

This online discussion forum is open to any member with access to email. You can join the list by sending a message with your membership number to:

[forum@one-name.org](mailto:forum@one-name.org)

To email a message to the forum, send it to:

[goons@rootsweb.com](mailto:goons@rootsweb.com)

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ARTICLES, letters and other contributions are welcomed from members, especially accompanied by illustrations, and should be sent to the Editor. Publication dates will normally be the first day of January, April, July and October.

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# From the Chairman's Keyboard...

By Kirsty Gray

Although many of you will consider me a relative youngster, I cannot help but think I might be wishing my working weeks away a little too much! Can it really be a year ago that we were booking places for the Warrington AGM and Conference weekend? Is it really that time again to nominate volunteers for the Guild Committee, to consider worthy candidates for the award of Master Craftsman of the Guild, and to book for another April Conference!? It would seem so!

There is quite simply never a quiet time of year for the Guild Committee though the end of the calendar year is particularly busy tying up the end of the financial year and preparing the Trustees' Report for the AGM in April. Conference bookings are coming in thick and fast and I would urge you to book sooner rather than later if you want to learn more about the 'Seven Pillars of a one-name study' from eminent speakers and Guild members alike. The final programme includes David Hey and Peter Christian, and is provided on the Guild website, linked from [Event Calendar](#). For those members who have never attended a conference weekend before, there is a 10% discount on the conference price.

Each year since 2010, individuals worthy of honour - either because of their level of expertise in genealogy and one-name studies, or for their contribution to the running of the Guild, or both - are recognised at the AGM by awards of **Master Craftsman of the Guild (MCG)**. Guild members are invited to nominate anyone they consider worthy of receiving this award. Each nomination should include a short description of why the candidate deserves the honour and summarise the contribution they have made. These citations will be considered by a panel of current MCGs and two volunteers from the Guild Committee, Karen Bailey and Ken Mycock. Jan Cooper, Secretary of the Guild, needs to hear your views on eligible individuals by 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012. Her contact details are listed on the inside front cover.

The Guild is instituting a new **Guild Award of Excellence**, to recognise achievements in members' ONS publication. It will be run on similar lines to the existing Master Craftsman of the Guild programme, with the recipients of awards selected by a panel consisting of previous winners and headed up by **Alan Wellbelove** (Member 4884) who originally proposed and developed the idea. For this first year, retrospective awards



are to go to winners of the great Guild Publications Competition of 2009 and the two essay competitions run in 2010 and 2011. Full details can be found on page 28 of this Journal and on the website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/excellence.html>.

The Forum has been particularly active of late with several hot topics inviting plenty of participation, including topics as diverse as accommodation near Kew, BMDs post-2005 and broadband speeds. If you are not currently a member of the email Forum, I would urge you to join, even if you only 'lurk' at first before dipping your toes in and contributing to discussions. We can learn so much from each other and share ideas, opinions and suggestions. Information on how to join the Forum can be found in the Self-Service section of the Members' Room.

In April, we will be saying 'au revoir' to two members of the Guild Committee, both of whom have given long notice periods that they will be standing down. We are therefore hopeful that the nominations for Committee in 2012 will bring some fresh blood to take over key roles within your Guild. The organisation provides many benefits for you - the members. However, the provision of these services depends on having enough people prepared to give up their time and use their skills for the benefit of the Guild membership as a whole. I would urge you to take a look at Anne Shankland's article on page 26 about the many roles you may wish to consider within the Guild and I hope that some of you may be willing to support our future plans.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you all the best for 2012 on behalf of the Guild Committee - may many brick walls be broken down in your one-name studies in the forthcoming year! ■

Do you need help with your One-Name Study?

Do you need advice or guidance?

Do you need an ear to bend?

Why not get a mentor?

**Contact the Guild Mentor Coordinator:**

Steve Williams

<mailto:mentors@one-name.org>

or telephone 01257 262028



# Marriage Challenge Update

## Why 1911?

By Peter Copsey (Member 1522)

Several times I have been asked why Marriage Challenges end in 1911, rather than continue to 1920, 1940 or even later. The Guild Help Desk has also received similar queries.

Firstly, let it be clear that 1911 is a guideline only. If a Challenger wishes to set a later date that is their prerogative. Indeed, our members have taken benefit from Shelagh Mason's many Challenges which generally (and generously) continue to the present day. In other words, Shelagh and her willing helpers will continue to search every marriage register that has been deposited.

But 1911 is a special year. In 1912 the GRO index began to list the spouse's surname. By checking the surname of the spouse directly, the spouse's first name can be determined. After 1911, the need to find the entry in the marriage register becomes less vital.

During the 20<sup>th</sup> century the number of marriages that took place in non-conformist establishments and at register offices increased as the century progressed. Using data from my West Ham Challenge, the percentage in 1890 was 13%, in 1900 it was 16%, but by 1910 it had risen to 27%. By 1920 I suspect the value would be about 35%. Very few non-conformist registers have been deposited at the local Record Offices.

Another factor is the number of Anglican registers deposited. Clearly, the closer you get to the present day, the more likely the registers are still in use or remain at the parish church and less likely to be found in the Record Offices.


Thus there are two reasons why the success in finding requested marriages becomes reduced in later years. The excitement of the Challenge in finding those records prized by our members becomes diluted. So we stop at 1911.

Marriage Challenge is rewarding and enjoyable and you will be helping your fellow Guild members with their studies. You could share the task with a friend or

another Guild member. If you think you could become a Challenger, I look forward to hearing from you. Contact me, the Marriage Challenge Coordinator, on [marriage-challenge@one-name.org](mailto:marriage-challenge@one-name.org).

The number of Challenge beginning in the coming months (see list below) is limited. Many regular Challengers are presently busy with the Challenges they began in recent months - see the list in the last Journal; a record number. I look forward to more Challenges starting in the spring and early summer.

All members are encouraged to send their requests to the Challengers by e-mail, hopefully using the standard "requests.xls" spreadsheet on the MC web-page <http://www.one-name.org/members/mchallenge.html>. However most challengers will accept requests in any form. Send the listing extracted from the GRO Marriage index (FreeBMD will give almost all of them) for the named Registration District between the years given (Year, Quarter, Surname, First names, Full GRO reference). Challengers will search for and often find your marriages in the deposited Church registers and then send you the full particulars. ■



**FREE MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES**

Just send in your list (from the GRO Index or FreeBMD) of the marriages you need from the Registration Districts as listed.

Registration District and Period	Deadline	Challenger	Challenger's e-mail
Castle Ward 1837 - 1911	31 Jan 2012	Phil Thirkell	<a href="mailto:philip.thirkell@one-name.org">philip.thirkell@one-name.org</a>
West Ham - 2nd repeat 1837 - 1911	1 Mar 2012	Peter Copsey	<a href="mailto:copsey@one-name.org">copsey@one-name.org</a>
Market Bosworth 1837 - 1911	1 Mar 2012	Joan Rowbottom	<a href="mailto:truslove@one-name.org">truslove@one-name.org</a>



# The Guild's Digitising Programme

by **Cliff Kemball (Treasurer, Member 3389)**

**T**he Guild's on-line library has over 200,000 pages of digitised material. Much of this comprises one-name newsletters sent to the Guild over the years by individuals and one-name societies. All are available through the Online Library Catalogue (in the Members' Room of the website) and more than half are accessible via a text search. All new material deposited with the Guild's e-Librarian in a digitised format will be incorporated into the Guild's e-Library catalogue.

The Guild will accept the deposit of a member's one name study research material on paper if the material is not fully computerised and no other suitable repository can be found for it. For long-term storage and easier access and dissemination the Guild may digitise such material. The material, or a digitised copy, will be held until a new member is prepared to continue a one-name study on that name.

The Guild has just appointed a new digitising company to undertake all our future digitising requirements. This means that the Guild can continue to digitise one-name material sent by its members to the librarian. Where the originator has given authority to release the material it can be searched on the Guild web-site. Other material which is copyrighted cannot be included in the accessible part of the Guild library. This includes a large array of certificates, mainly marriage certificates, which have a crown copyright.

## Production of Faux Certificates

The Committee have recently approved a project which will enable the production of faux certificates based on the crown copyright material already held in the e-library. If the data on these certificates is transcribed and entered into a spreadsheet, faux certificates can then be produced. These faux certificates have no copyright and can therefore be included in the on-line library to be searched and copied by Guild members.

The proposal is to implement a new project requesting Guild volunteers to transcribe a batch of certificates so that faux certificates can be produced. Each volunteer would be provided with a batch of 50 certificates - in digitised format to be transcribed. I plan to control the production of the faux certificates based on the transcriptions undertaken by Guild members. I would be grateful for any member who is interested in helping with the transcription to contact via <mailto:kemball@one-name.org>.

## One-Name Societies' Digitised Material

As part of the Guild's digitisation programme the International Relf Society have already had all its magazines for the last twenty years - The Wolfpack - digitised. Furthermore it has produced a CD similar to the Guild's "Celebrating 100 Guild journals" CD. Another one-name society has recently approached the Guild to get all its society's magazines digitised and a CD produced. If any other one-name societies are interesting in making a similar arrangement I would be grateful if they would contact me.

## Members' Scanning Requirements

The Guild has produced some guidance on safeguarding and preserving your one-name study, including photocopying or scanning all essential papers in your one-name study. The Guild are happy for their members to "piggy-back" on the Guild's scanning contract, and thereby gain from the advantageous rates we have negotiated, should they want to scan a quantity of their paper material. Anyone interested should get in contact with me. ■

## Guild Bank Account

The Guild's bank account details are:

Bank:	Santander
Account number:	64819304
Sort Code:	09-01-51

Existing standing orders are still valid using the Guild's old sort code number, but all new standing order forms should use the above details and as shown on the form at [http://www.one-name.org/members/SO\\_2011.pdf](http://www.one-name.org/members/SO_2011.pdf)



Members who have an on-line UK bank account are able to use the above details to transfer money to the Guild using a bank transfer. This method is quick and easy to use and does not incur any cost on the Guild. This can be used for subscription renewals, Guild seminars, Guild Conference or purchases from the Guild's on-line sales manager, or indeed for any donations.

While we make available PayPal as a convenient method of payment, and will continue to do so, as the Guild Treasurer I should point out that the Guild has incurred costs in excess of £990.00 in the 2010-11 financial year by way of PayPal charges. By comparison UK cheques and UK bank transfers do not incur the Guild in any cost. ■



# GRO Post-2005 BMD Transcription Project Volunteers Required

by [Marilyn Johnson \(Member 2618\)](#)

**T**he General Register Office (GRO) project has been set up to help those who are unable to access the seven Libraries and Archive Centres to view all post 2005 Indexes - B,M,D and Civil Marriages.

When I was approached to help the Guild as a volunteer, I explained that, like many others, I did not have a lot of time and was not in the best of health. I tried to explain by telling Kirsty that although I could not eat an Elephant, I could boil an egg. Well, this is my egg; I am hoping volunteers will help me consume it.

People panic when they are asked to volunteer as it's said, 'a volunteer is worth 20 pressed men', but as someone who has been volunteering since the age of nine, I know how much a volunteer can be taken advantage of.

Well, I am not asking for days, weeks, months, just any time you can spare. Whether it is an hour when you go to the centre of town to shop, or a rainy afternoon when gardening is out of the question. Whatever time you can spend will be of great help. I have forms ready for you to use.

The time needed will vary. When I am approached with a name, I will ask how low or high volume the name may be. Mine was very low volume; it took no time at all. I spent more time pulling out the fiche and checking than writing down, I ended up with 6 births, 5 marriages, 7 deaths, and no civil partners. Others, I know, will have many more and take longer: for those I will be giving volunteers the option on a buy or return basis, i.e. take a name, search the births, if you cannot manage marriages or deaths, just return it.

If you do not have a computer but are near a library and can help that would be great! If you have a computer but are not near a library and want to help, that would be great too; there will be opportunities to transcribe hand written sheets. If you are happy to type up the information on your name after it has been transcribed, that would be extremely helpful.

As with everything in life, times and things change, one of those changes is the civil marriage. Civil partnerships started in December 2005 and are available at the GRO. Listed by Surname together with the surname of the partner, year of formation, registration authority and registration entry number, they are held as a separate collection within the GRO Index.

Index information has varied depending on the event and year it was registered. There is a very helpful downloadable Index for BMD and also for identifying the County, I have included website addresses below or one can gain access via the Directgov website: search for GRO and choose '[Using the GRO to Research Family History](#)' hyperlink.

Please think about volunteering, can you spare some time? Could you help someone else when you help yourself? Thank you for thinking about it, please contact me if you can help. [GRO-BMD-2005@one-name.org](mailto:GRO-BMD-2005@one-name.org)

## Full copies of the indexes are available at:

- Birmingham Central Library
- Bridgend Reference and Information Library
- City of Westminster Archives Centre
- Manchester City Library
- Newcastle City Library
- Plymouth Central Library
- The British Library\*

\* Pre-registration process required (2 forms of ID with signature and proof of address)

## Useful Links

### Using the General Records Office

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Governmentcitizensandrights/Registringlifeevents/Familyhistoryandresearch/DG\\_175464](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Governmentcitizensandrights/Registringlifeevents/Familyhistoryandresearch/DG_175464)

### Index Information for Births, Marriages and Deaths

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dg/groups/dg\\_digitalassets/@dg/@en/@government/documents/digitalasset/dg\\_184035.pdf](http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod_consum_dg/groups/dg_digitalassets/@dg/@en/@government/documents/digitalasset/dg_184035.pdf)

### Index Information for County

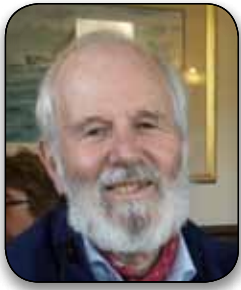
[http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dg/groups/dg\\_digitalassets/@dg/@en/documents/digitalasset/dg\\_176250.pdf](http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod_consum_dg/groups/dg_digitalassets/@dg/@en/documents/digitalasset/dg_176250.pdf)

## SAFHS 2012 Conference - 21 April

The 23rd Annual Conference & Fair of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies (SAFHS) will take place in the D'Arcy Thomson Lecture Theatre which is on the ground floor of the University Tower Block which is just 50 yards west from the Bonar Halls complex in the University of Dundee on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

The theme will be Crops, Cloth, Cod 'n' Coal. Tickets are £12.00 for the day, and available from Tay Valley Family History Society, 179-181 Princes Street Dundee DD4 6DQ. The Conference will be opened by the Lord Provost of Dundee.

Graham Tuley will be looking after the Guild table at the event.



# Cleveland UK Mining and Transport

by [Jim Wem \(Member 5161\)](#)

**T**he name Cleveland in North Yorkshire is derived from the Norse Cliffland. It has some of the highest sea cliffs in England at Boulby.

There has been mineral mining and quarrying activity in North Yorkshire for centuries. A bloomery was in existence at Levisham in 550 BC. Peter de Brus gave the canons of Guisborough Priory rights to work iron ore in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. Alum was recovered from about 1600 to 1871. There is evidence of early iron manufacture by various monasteries and other religious establishments in the area. There were establishments at Whitby, Mount Grace, Guisborough, Rievaulx and Bylands.

Jet was also found in this area and there are still shops in Whitby selling Jet 'jewellery' but using imported material. Lead was mined in the Pennine Dales especially Swaledale and Teesdale also from Roman times. Lead was transported by pack horse. Whinstone was quarried near Great Ayton and was in much demand for road surfacing throughout the UK. Potash is now mined at Boulby in a much deeper pit extending under the sea.

Quarries are opencast operations. Mines are either drifts which enter the ground more or less horizontally and so require no head gear; or pits, which are vertical shafts dug by specialist 'sinkers' and provide access and lift product vertically. Some mines had both sorts of access points. Some mines on the Cleveland Orefield were joined together underground. In particular Eston which had three drifts eventually connected to others under Eston Moor so that stone could be removed much less expensively at Eston which was closest to the Tees and had direct rail access to the Teesside furnaces.

At times ironstone was able to be collected on the sea shore in sufficient quantity to make it economic to transport it by sea to the Tyne or later to Whitby for furnaces at Grosmont.

There were some 80 ironstone mines and up to 10,000 miners working them on the Cleveland Ironstone Field. Many of them were owned by iron and steel companies on Teesside as well as in Co Durham and further afield. Over 63,000,000 tonnes of stone were extracted from Eston alone. Miners came from all over the UK especially Cornwall and other mining centres.

## Ironstone Mining

The ironstone area may be roughly defined to the north east by the coastline, to the East by the rivers Murk Esk and Esk which enters the sea at Whitby, to the south by an East West line through Levisham and to the West by a North South line through Middlesborough.

## Railways

The activity of the North Eastern Railway (NER) and later the London & North Eastern Railway (LNER) was very closely involved with ironstone recovery. In many cases directors of the mining companies were also directors of the various railway companies formed to move ironstone, mainly to the Tees, which eventually became part of the NER. Many of the mines were operated by the iron companies on Teesside. In particular the Rosedale branch railway was built solely to carry ironstone across the North York Moors from both East and West Rosedale to Battersby on the Esk Valley line for onward transport to furnaces on the Tees and elsewhere. Similarly the Scugdale Branch served the drift mines near Swainby and joined the Stockton to Ingleby line near Potto. The stone at Rosedale was calcined to reduce the weight carried by the railway which determined the transport cost. There are still remains of the calcining furnaces at each side of Rosedale some 100 years after mining ceased. The residue tipped at Rosedale after calcining was found to be valuable and the Rosedale branch remained open for some years after mining ceased to allow the removal of that material. It eventually closed in 1929. The Rosedale line included the 1500 metre long incline, at Ingleby, which was rope hauled by gravity, i.e. full wagons pulled up empties or coal trucks.



[Upleatham Horses](#)



It can still be seen easily against the adjacent heather covered hillside. The wagons used were made from steel as the calcined material was loaded hot from the Rosedale furnaces. The line rose about 220 metres with a maximum rise of 1 in 5. Passengers were carried informally at the discretion of train crews, there were no passenger coaches used. Passengers were supposed to walk the incline. The six-wheel locomotives used on the line were maintained at the engine shed at Rosedale and were brought down for more major work only at very long intervals. The shed was equipped with shear legs to allow the removal of the centre set of wheels of the locomotives before, or to replace them after, they were moved along the incline.



Loftus Mine at Skinningrove 1906

A lot of the iron produced on Teesside was sold in the form of railway lines but perhaps the best known example of steel made on Teesside is the Sydney Harbour bridge. 'Dorman Long Middlesbrough' is still clearly visible on the rolled steel joists.

Before iron production on Teesside commenced there was a short lived furnace at Grosmont, upstream of Whitby, on the river Esk near Grosmont Railway Station and at the junction of the Eskdale and Pickering branches of what became the North East Railway. Grosmont is now the engineering centre for the North York Moors Railway.

### Location of Ironstone Strata

There are several ironstone seams at various levels which often outcrop in the sea cliffs and in many inland valleys. The main seam of ironstone, some 16 ft thick at Eston, was discovered as an outcrop near Middlesbrough in 1860. The Pecten seam below the main seam is some 4ft thick there and was mined together with the main seam. The other seams, the Two foot, the Avicular and the Dogger were mined also but to a much lesser extent. The ironstone was all above sea level and occasionally a mine could extend to a cliff opening but not one used for product removal! Such openings were however used occasionally for spoil discharge.

The first (drift) mine of the more modern era was started at Skinningrove in 1846 and that is now the site of the Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum. Stone was taken from this mine to a new iron works on the cliff top on the opposite side of the valley. Initially that was by a zigzag railway but when the railway company put up its rates stone was taken on a new low level bridge across the valley into a drift and then up to the works in a vertical shaft. The works at Skinningrove are still in use but not for the production of molten steel, special sections are rolled there.

Stone was gained throughout the area by quarrying, by drift mining and by sinking pits. When the ironstone was exposed stone was released by first making a 3 or 4 ft deep hole using hand tools in which powder was then packed using clay or other soft materials available in the mine - horses were used to move the tubs of stone and left soft materials around. Miners had to buy their own powder and made their own 'squibs' or explosive cord. Squibs were inserted into the powder and lit to

cause the blast. The removal process used is known as Bord - the part removed initially - and Pillar which is left to support the roof. When the time comes to remove the pillars a JUDD is formed and the roof is allowed to fall. If the stone had a low iron content the pillars were not always removed.

The blasting process is graphically demonstrated during a tour of the Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum. Candles were used for illumination. Deputies were responsible for mine safety and inserted supports as the stone was removed. Operation in later years used various mechanical drilling operations powered by water, by air or by electricity. By that time 'shot firers' were responsible for placing the powder and firing it.

There was a string of pits along the coast and another along the rivers Esk and Murk Esk. The majority however were within 5 miles, or 8 km, of Guisborough. Some 83 places are listed in the Gazetteer of Cleveland Ironstone Mining published by Peter Tuffs of Industrial Archaeology of Cleveland, who has also published lists of people involved in the industry. His various 'name' publications include a DVD.

All ironstone mining has now ceased in Cleveland. The last mine to close was at North Skelton in 1964; the deepest at 720 feet. That site is now used by an engineering company which includes amongst the services it provides a maintenance service for the only mining activity still active in Cleveland at Boulby where Potash is recovered in a much deeper mine and transported on a reinstalled railway to Middlesbrough. The North Skelton pit is still a useful waste dump for its present owners.

The rail line along the coast from Middlesbrough to Whitby and on to Scarborough was open until the Beeching era and was truncated then to serve only the steelworks at Skinningrove. The existing track from Middlesbrough to Skinningrove via Saltburn is now used to provide a rail link to Boulby. A new bridge was required over Skinningrove beck to allow potash wagon trains to reach the Boulby mine via the reused trackbed towards Whitby. Passenger services have not been resumed. Saltburn-by-the-Sea has a Victorian Festival each year and there have been private passenger workings to Boulby at times during those periods.

By 1860 the Stockton and Darlington Railway, built to allow coal to be moved avoiding the Tyne, had been extended towards deeper water on the Tees near Middlesbrough farm. That site was initially called Port Darlington and the railway extension to Middlesbrough avoided the meandering part of the river below Stockton on Tees which had made the river part of the journey by ship to London half of the travelling time. Ships could reach what became the town of Middlesbrough on one tide rather than three or four tides. This produced a situation where it was beneficial to produce iron and later steel, mainly along the south bank of the river Tees.

The only remaining blast furnace on Teesside is the 10,000 tonnes per day blast furnace at Lackenby near Redcar. It was closed in 2010 but is to be brought back into operation in December 2011.

There was at one time, long before the present town began, a Monks Cell at Middlesbrough where the Tees could be forded. It was at about the middle of the journey from Whitby Abbey to Durham Cathedral. ■

This is an abridged version of Jim's article. The full version, including references, repositories, and other useful data is available at [http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1\\_article2.html](http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1_article2.html).



## Editor's Comments

by **Teresa Pask née Euridge (Editor, Member 293)**

**A**s we move into Volume 11 of the journal, I have decided to make some subtle changes. I wonder if you have noticed?

The main change is the font. This is in line with the adoption of Trebuchet MS for all Guild publications. Similarly, the colours have slightly changed to comply with the revised Guild Blue.

Another change is that the standard number of pages has been increased to a minimum of 32 pages, increasing to 36 pages in some editions. As mentioned in the previous journal, my appeal for articles has had a superb response. I hope that you will continue to support the journal in the future by providing more, and more varied, articles.

Additionally, I have received several essays as the result of the Pharos Guild Certificate of Attainment Advanced One-Name Studies course. As several of the essays exceed 5 pages, I will work together with the authors to reduce them to a maximum of 3 pages each. A link will be included to the full unabridged version that will be available on the Guild website. These abridged essays will be included in future journals, starting in this issue on page 18 with *Out of Devon: The Eastlake Surname Comes of Age*, by Kim Baldacchino.

Other Pharos essays that will be included in future journals are, in no particular order:

- Adamthwaite ... Adam's Clearing in the Eden Valley
- Hembrough - A locative Surname and Its Places
- A Peak District Family But How Many Variants Do I Need?
- An American's approach to a ONS, or would this be called a "Genealogy" ?
- Genesis to Whillans and Back

All the essays have been submitted to the new publications award - The Guild Award of Excellence, as detailed on page 28.

### Quick Response (QR) Code



Undoubtedly you will have noticed throughout the journal a number of Quick Response (QR) codes, similar to the one on the left. This particular QR code links to my e-mail address [editor@one-name.org](mailto:editor@one-name.org).

These codes will inevitably become part of our lives, as did bar codes, and ISSN numbers. Their purpose is to guide smartphone (iPhone, Blackberry, and Android devices) users to specific content.

You will see QR codes increasingly in museums, libraries, shops, garden centres, magazines, newspapers, and now in this journal. QR codes have been in use since 1994, and are now seeing something of a resurgence in the UK, as the number of smartphone owners significantly increases. The UK is reported to be the seventh-largest national consumer of QR codes.

Accessing a webpage on a mobile phone via a QR code can be quicker than typing a long url or web address. So when we quote a url we will also try to include a QR code to make it easy for you to access the link.

### Suggestion - Electronic Journal

Finally, a recent suggestion, submitted by Graham Walter (Member 4483) is to provide the journal electronically, instead of by post. This would provide definite savings by reducing postage.

I would welcome any comments on this suggestion. Send them to my e-mail address [editor@one-name.org](mailto:editor@one-name.org), or by adding your comments to his suggestion on the Suggestion Board, available at <http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/members/suggestionboard.cgi>. ■



# Guild Speakers

by **Bob Cumberbatch**  
(Education Liaison Officer, Member 4039)

**T**here has been a tremendous response to the Chairman's Newsflash and to my appeal to the Forum for Guild speakers to help to educate the public.

In all 21 Guild members have enrolled themselves with me as Guild speakers. Thank you all very much indeed.

The breadth and depth of expertise within the Guild is amazing. Here are just some of the topics that these Guild speakers give talks about:

- Family, military and local history: History of the Lime and Cement Industry of North Warwickshire
  - Rugby Cement History
  - The Speight family of Photographers of Rugby
  - Fieldwork in Family History - The importance of visiting ancestral sites
  - Your Family Archaeology - Ancestral sites, heirlooms and other artefacts
  - Memorials, Monuments and Gravestones
  - Heraldry inspired by Science and Technology - Ancient & modern symbols in armorial design
  - The Relevance of Heraldry - Non-linguistic signs and symbols of status & ownership
  - Heraldic Evidence in the Church - Monastic, diocesan & other ecclesiastical symbolism
  - Brickmaking
  - Rat catching
  - The Marshside Fishermen & Their Families
  - Surname Origins
  - Surname Distribution
  - Marriage Locator
  - Surname Atlas
  - Military
  - Those Who Left the Dales; the stories of 100 families who left the Yorkshire Dales
  - Migration - Mobility - Demography
- and many more.

## Contributed Articles

In addition to public speaking, Guild members are asked to write articles for publications and journals. Guild members who have been approached to write articles include:

- **Paul Howes** who has been asked to write an article on his one-name study for *Family Tree Magazine* February 2012
- **Katherine Hope Borges** will write an article called "DNA in an ONS" for the New England Historic Genealogical Society journal "American Ancestors" for a 2012 edition.

## Who Do You Think You Are? Live! 2012

There will be at least twelve Guild members giving talks on their specialist subjects for the Society of Genealogists at the Who Do You Think You Are? Live! event in 2012. This is quite an achievement for both the Guild and our members and reflects well on the breadth and depth of knowledge, expertise and willingness to help that makes this organisation so attractive to genealogists and family historians.

## Speakers and topics include:

- **Howard Benbrook** : *What's in a Name?*
- **Bob Cumberbatch** : *Surnames of The Caribbean*
- **Jackie Depelle & Roy Stockdill** on *Researching Your Yorkshire Ancestors*
- **Janet Few** : *Harnessing the Facebook Generation* - a thought-provoking look at how we can encourage the next generation of family historians and ensure a future for our research
- **John Hanson** two talks on finding people in the civil registration indexes - *Why pay for your Family History? - the top free alternatives*, and *Why can't I find them in the Civil Registration Indexes?*
- **Laurence Harris** on *My Ancestor was Jewish - Tips for tracing Jewish Ancestors*
- **Paul Howes** : *A huge One-Name Study via the Internet* How has the internet changed the game? Testing the limits with a huge One-Name Study
- **Dominic Johnson** two talks on *Reading the writing of the past - Palaeography*, and *Nottinghamshire Family History*
- **Chris Pomery** on DNA
- **Gillian Stevens** (with Chad Hanna) on *Wiltshire Wills, Berkshire Beneficiaries, Oxfordshire Obituaries* - alternatives to death and burial records
- **Darris Williams** on *How to get Free Help with your Family History*

More details of these talks are available at <http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/workshop-schedule>.



If you would like to be added to the list of Guild speakers and to share your expertise then please contact me at the email address [education@one-name.org](mailto:education@one-name.org). ■



# Cemeteries and Their Records

by [Margaret Spiller \(Member 1204\)](#)

Up until the 19<sup>th</sup> Century most people were buried in their Parish Churchyard. However, there were some exceptions; Non Conformists disliked being buried in consecrated ground, where only a Church of England service was permitted, so many of them set up their own burial grounds particularly in large cities. Bunhill Fields in the City of London is a good example of a Burial Ground favoured by Non Conformists. The Jews have also had their own Burial Grounds since the 17<sup>th</sup> century when the Commonwealth Government allowed them to return to this country. In addition, there are Army and Naval Burial Grounds attached to institutions such as the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

By the start of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, churchyards were becoming overcrowded and unhygienic especially in large cities like London. Purpose built cemeteries had already been built in Edinburgh and Calcutta in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and Non Conformist Cemeteries were built in Norwich, Manchester, Liverpool and Newcastle in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Private Cemeteries had been established in Liverpool in 1829 and Glasgow in 1831 but London only followed suit from 1833 onwards. Commercial companies were set up to build "Garden Cemeteries" in London inspired by the Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. Seven such cemeteries were built in what was then open countryside surrounding the city; these were Kensal Green (1833), West Norwood (1836), Highgate (1839), Nunhead (1840), Abney Park (1840), Brompton (1840) and Tower Hamlets (1841) and are now known as the "Magnificent Seven". In addition, a large Cemetery was established in 1852 at Brookwood, near Woking in Surrey, where it was intended that the overflow from London Churches be buried. These cemeteries typically had separate areas for Church of England and Non Conformist burials along with separate chapels. Abney Park was the exception as it was unconsecrated and had a Nondenominational Chapel; it was therefore favoured by London's Non Conformists.

By the 1850s, the Government realised that formal provision was required for the setting up of cemeteries in urban areas and several Metropolitan Burial Acts were passed in this decade; included in these was the Health in Towns Act of 1855 which closed the old overcrowded churchyards and burial grounds in towns. The Act of 1857 consolidated all these Acts to cover the entire country including Ireland. The Act made Parish Councils responsible for setting up Burial Boards for the purpose of establishing and running cemeteries. Soon new cemeteries sprang up all over the country and the majority of Victorian cemeteries were established in this way. Responsibility for running these cemeteries has now passed to Local Authorities.

New military cemeteries were also set up in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, for example the military cemetery at Aldershot. However, the end of the First World War saw the establishment of the greatest number of Military Cemeteries, not only in France and Belgium but in parts of this country as well, often attached to or forming a distinct part of existing cemeteries. Brookwood is a good example of this with a military cemetery laid out next to the existing cemetery in 1917-18.

During the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and, particularly towards the end of it, many of the original private garden cemeteries became full and were no longer economic to run. Burial also became less fashionable as cremation grew in popularity. As a result, many cemeteries became neglected and overgrown and some were even abandoned when the companies who owned them could no longer afford to maintain them. Cemeteries such as Highgate and Nunhead were left to be vandalised until taken over by the Friends of Highgate Cemetery and the Local Authority respectively. In recent years, the prospects for historic cemeteries have brightened with the establishment of "Friends" organisations and the rise in the popularity of genealogy.



[Margaret Spiller at Brompton Cemetery](#)

## Cemetery Records

Genealogical information can be obtained both from Monumental Inscriptions and from Burial Registers in the same way as churchyard burials. Monumental Inscriptions from some of the smaller cemeteries have been transcribed and published by Family History Societies; a few websites also have searchable indexes with some Monumental Inscriptions from smaller cemeteries.

Most Burial Registers survive and these provide more extensive information about cemetery burials covering as they do all burials. They can be found in a number of places. Cemeteries still in private hands have generally retained their historic Burial Registers at the cemetery. Local Authority cemeteries and those taken over by Local Authorities have mostly deposited their registers with the Local Authority. Some Burial Registers or transcripts of the registers can be found at institutions such as the Society of Genealogists (SOG), the London Metropolitan Archives (LMA), The National Archives and local libraries and local history centres. The SOG publication "Greater London Cemeteries and Crematoria" by Cliff Webb is a very useful guide to London Cemetery Records.



Highgate Cemetery - Wombwell Tomb



Highgate Cemetery - The Egyptian Avenue

More and more Burial Register records are coming online. Some records, such as those for the [City of London Cemetery](#), are merely scanned copies of the original registers whilst others, such as those for [Abney Park Cemetery](#), are fully searchable by surname. [Deceased Online](#) is a growing resource for cemetery records and now includes large cemeteries such as St Pancras and Islington in North London; searching by surname is free and provides names, places and dates of burial. Some Burial Ground and Cemetery records are also now appearing on pay-to-view sites such as Findmypast and Ancestry.

Online burial records can be found for towns and cities across the British Isles and also for abroad; I have found websites covering burial records for places as far away as South Asia, Tasmania and the United States. Specialist websites include the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's excellent website and [Cemeteryscribes.com](#) which covers Jewish burial records in the UK. The [Guild's Wiki](#) is a good place to find links to online burial records. Genuki is also a useful site to find information about cemeteries and their records. ■

## London Cemeteries

The following table shows details of the original seven London Victorian Cemeteries "The Magnificent Seven", along with Brookwood where many people from east London were buried:

Cemetery	Opened	Deceased from / or were	Now Owned / Managed by	Burial Records
Kensal Green	1833	West London	General Cemetery	Cemetery & LMA
West Norwood	1836	South London	Local Authority	Cemetery & LMA
Nunhead	1840	South London	South London	Local Authority
Highgate	1839	North London	Friends of Highgate Cemetery	Camden Library & LMA
Abney Park	1840	Nonconformist	Local Authority	Online
Tower Hamlets	1841	East London	Local Authority	LMA & SOG
Brompton	1840	South West London	Royal Parks	Cemetery
Brookwood	1852	East London	Brookwood Cemetery Co.	Surrey History Centre



# FIND A GRAVE

by **Adrienne Kiellor-Edwards (Member 1604)**

**W**ww.findagrave.com is prospectively a goldmine for family historians, one-namers and assorted genies. Having used it myself for several years and having watched it grow exponentially during that time, I would recommend a least a glance at the website - but, be warned, it can become very addictive! It's free! - no subscription - no hidden fees - my kind of website. It is exactly what the web address says it is - a means to find someone's grave.

## Now What?

Having found someone you're interested in - now what? Well, if the cemetery is in the US, you have the opportunity to request a picture of the actual grave. Check first that there are no notes regarding the absence of grave markers. This may be on the deceased's memorial page or it may be on the page for that cemetery (click the hyperlink on the name of the cemetery to be taken to the main page for the cemetery). If there is no indication that a grave marker is unavailable then now would be a good time to register with FAG (a very unfortunate abbreviation for Find A Grave but it is the generally accepted short-form). Registration is very quick and painless. You have the opportunity to set up a profile page - this can be as complex or as easy as you choose to make it. You can make yourself virtually anonymous or you can sing out with as much info about yourself as you'd care to share with the world. Put a photograph on the page if you like. In case anyone should need to contact you it's a good idea to have your email address displayed - personally I have it displayed with the hyperlink disabled - saves on address harvesters so I'm told. You could also choose to have all your messages displayed on your profile page - not my personal favourite - fine for Thank Yous but awful when someone's got something to complain about.



<http://www.findagrave.com> home page

## First Glance

The natural thing for a one-namer to do when approaching this site is to click on search, fill in the desired surname, click on "Include maiden name(s) in my search", and see what is already on file - worldwide. At the time of writing, the count stands at 70 million records so there is a good chance of a hit, especially if the name ever found its way to North America. You can expect to find as little as just a family name with a burial site. On the other hand, you may be treated to photographs of the graves, portraits and a complete obituary. This information has been gathered and submitted by volunteers - that's you, me and us. Sometimes it comprises of just a photograph of the gravesite with a best-possible transcription (maybe). Sometimes it has been submitted by a family-member or a genie (I do so love that word for genealogist), there may be no grave photograph but there may be a wealth of information given. There is the facility to make a search weeding out all but the most recent entries (up to 90 days). This is especially useful when returning to the site, having already gathered all the applicable entries, and needing to know just what's been added recently.



## Adrienne's Profile Page

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=mr&MRid=47022212>

Back to requesting that grave photograph. Now that you've registered you can go back to the memorial page, you click on Photo Request, you are given the opportunity to enter any notes that you'd like the prospective photographer to see, hit enter and off go umpteen email requests to volunteers in the area of the cemetery. If you're lucky, you may get someone picking up and actioning your request immediately - I've had pictures back within 24 hours of my request. On the other hand there may be no one available at the time and your request may sit there for months/years.

Let's assume some kind soul, who lives round the corner from the cemetery, decides to action your request. They will "claim" your request - this is designed to stop several people going for the same picture. They take the requested picture and upload it to the memorial page. This then produces an email to you advising that nice-kind-soul has filled your photo request. You get to see your requested picture on the memorial page and shoot off a Thank You email to the volunteer photographer.

Most photographs are of reasonable standard - 750kb is the max size uploadable which usually results in good resolution. Some folks unfortunately don't take into consideration things like shadows and reflections - yes, I've been caught out there too - beautiful picture of a pristine gravestone with a pair of legs in the reflection! I soon learned to take pictures from a side angle and to watch where the sun is throwing my shadow. Apparently an overcast day is ideal for taking such pictures - saves on sunburn too.

The facility to specifically request a photograph of a grave currently covers the US only.

**Joan Hurn Huggett**

Memorial Photos Flowers Edit

[Learn about upgrading this memorial...](#)

Birth: Jan. 14, 1924  
Penge  
Greater London, England

Death: Sep. 8, 2007  
Watford  
Hertfordshire, England

Family links:  
Spouse:  
Arthur James Huggett (1923 - 1974)\*  
[\\*Point here for explanation](#)

Burial:  
[North Watford Cemetery](#)  
Watford  
Hertfordshire, England

Created by: [Adrienne](#)  
Record added: Sep 16, 2008  
Find A Grave Memorial# 29850152

Added by: [Adrienne](#)

Added by: [Adrienne](#)

[Adrienne's Mother's Page](#)

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=29850152>

## Entering Your Own Study Info

In a one-name study, or any family history research, it's quite likely that you'd know the place of burial for several persons who are not yet in the FAG database. There's nothing that says you can't put them in the database yourself. Even if you don't know where they're buried you can still enter deceased persons - you'll just be entering them as "burial location unknown". This is an opportunity to place persons from your own research in the public domain and possibly gather some interest along the way. You have several methods of adding burial records, from individually entering each person's details to submitting an Excel spreadsheet. Personally I go for the one-at-a time and check-it-carefully method. Once you've got a page established for your deceased person, you can add photographs if you choose. If the cemetery is in the US, you could immediately request a grave photograph if you'd like one. If the cemetery is located outside of the US you'll have to wait until someone happens to photograph that particular grave in that particular cemetery. You could put the word out through the FAG forum that you're looking for something specific in a "foreign" country but I'm not sure how much attention such a request will receive. (FAG forum requires a further registration.)

## Photographing Cemeteries

Do you drag your long-suffering spouse or your grandchildren along with you when you go looking for Great Auntie Lizzie's grave? Give him/her/them a digital camera and enlist help in photographing graves - any graves - all graves! (Grandchildren are very receptive to this.) Then, when you have some free time, start entering the info from those grave pictures into FAG. Unfortunately, 10 minutes photographing in a cemetery will take a good chunk of a day to get all the info written out and the photographs resized and uploaded. But, you may well make somebody somewhere in the world very, very happy. I took lots of grave pictures while I was visiting family in the Cayman Islands - a few weeks later I got a delightful email from a lady in Texas, whose family came from Cayman, saying I'd managed to photograph the graves of her grandparents, aunts and uncles and a few cousins, all who were buried in the same little cemetery by the sea in Cayman. That makes it all worth while. If you have a cemetery in your home neighbourhood it's a good idea to spend a few minutes there from time to time, taking photographs and uploading them. Think of all that lovely fresh air and exercise! Yes, there are other websites where this information may be available - <http://www.deceasedonline.com> comes to mind - but you have to pay for that.

*"Search 70 million records"*

*"It's very addictive."*

<http://www.findagrave.com>



## Pitfalls

1. It's very addictive. I started this when an American friend of mine died in Germany. It dawned on me that his distant cousins in the US would have no idea that he was buried in Germany so I made up a FAG page for him. Then I went on to include other ex-pats buried here in Germany. (Oh yes, I forgot to mention, I live in Germany.) Then I graduated to photographing, during lunch breaks, the whole cemetery around the corner from where I work. Now my long-suffering husband can bargain on at least 2 days in any given holiday being spend at a neighbourhood cemetery!
2. Strict guidelines from the folks who run the show. They get to say what photographs can and cannot appear on the cemetery pages (though absolutely no one is monitoring what appears on the memorial pages - see 3.) I find myself having heated emails with the administrators because I would like to put a picture on a cemetery page that they say is not in accordance with the guidelines - they like pictures of the cemetery sign (for example) - but if it doesn't say that it's a cemetery, or at least have a couple of headstones showing, then it will be thrown out - very annoying when you've come home from half way round the world, having taken some beautiful shots in the local churchyard, and the sign you've photographed just says the name of the church but doesn't mention the fairly obvious fact that the churchyard is full of graves.
3. No one is monitoring what appears on the memorial pages. You have to be registered in order to post a picture to the site but some people's idea of a suitable picture is not everybody's idea. Although pictures can easily be removed by contacting the photographer or the site administrators, you have to know they're there first. There is no system in place yet that notifies the memorial manager (that's possibly you) when a memorial page has been amended (i.e. a photo added) except when the photo has been added as a result of a specific request.
4. Geography is based on current places. If your deceased person died in Middlesex you're out of luck - he died in Greater London!
5. Typos and incomplete/incorrect information. Each page has an Edit tab and from there you get a hyperlink to submit a correction/suggestion to the memorial manager. Like any database that's compiled by multiple people, there are typos galore (hence my check-it-carefully method). I would encourage anyone seeing anything even remotely wrong to shoot off a note to the appropriate memorial manager. It would be very unfortunate for someone doing a one-name study on Woodward not to be able to find something because it's been entered as Woodward. If the memorial manager doesn't respond or react within 30 days, you then have the option of contacting the administrators so that they can make the change (takes about a month usually). Email for administrator requests: [edit@findagrave.com](mailto:edit@findagrave.com). If entering data regarding deaths that occurred in England or Wales, this is an excellent opportunity to check the death record on FreeBMD <http://www.freebmd.org.uk/> and make corrections in that database too as is necessary.
6. Sad bunnies. Most people that use this site are bright, cheerful, friendly, want-to-help-you type people. Unfortunately, you do come across the occasional miserable so 'n' so, especially when submitting corrections, who gets bent out of shape at the mere suggestion that they could possibly have input something incorrectly. Either way, you try and be extremely polite to everyone you make contact with - most will warm the cockles of your heart, the sad bunnies you just have to shrug off.

So that's it - Find A Grave; the basics. For me it has been a very important finding tool for both my Keillor ONS and for my family history work as a whole. I am the memorial manager for over 11,000 FAG pages - the vast majority are not my family nor are they related to my ONS but each one is loaded carefully, treated respectfully and, where possible, has been researched. If you find the site useful as a finding aid, I would say it is only fair that you give a little back and add some data of your own, whether it be from your own research or from strolling through the local cemetery. Someone somewhere will appreciate it - sooner or later. ■

### St. Helena Research

I have recently moved to the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic. Sadly the bandwidth available is both limited and expensive, so I fear my web research will be on hold for the time being.

However, should there be anyone with St Helena links who requires any research done here on island I would be happy to oblige. I have already analysed the phone book for all the family names currently in use on island!

#### Chris Hillman

(a.k.a. Dr Jesse Christopher Hillman,  
Member 3868)  
Contact: [hillman@one-name.org](mailto:hillman@one-name.org)

### Family Names of the UK (FaNUK) Project

Following the articles in the July edition of the Journal I am pleased to announce that the promised questionnaire for Guild members is now available on the Guild website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/fanuk.html>. I and the FaNUK team apologise that it has taken longer than anticipated to make this available. Members who have questions about completing the form should contact me in the first instance.

Andrew Millard  
Academic Coordinator  
[academic-coordinator@one-name.org](mailto:academic-coordinator@one-name.org)





# More Gravestone Sites

by **Stephen DGLISH (Registrar, Member 4509)**

**W**e seem to be in an exciting phase during which more and more online resources are becoming available relating to graves, memorials and burial records. Some sites are global in their scope while others cover a specific area or location. Almost all rely on contributions from enthusiastic volunteers.

In May of this year a new site **Billion Graves** (<http://www.billiongraves.com/>) was launched. The goal is “to provide an expansive family history database for records and images from the world’s cemeteries”.



This would seem to put the newcomer in the same area as the long established Find A Grave. The key difference is that Billion Graves makes use of GPS technology to get an accurate location for each grave. However this means that photos must be taken on a mobile or cell phone using a dedicated “app” - it is not possible to use standard digital cameras. Another difference is to split the taking of photos and the transcription - the transcription may be done by the person taking the photo or by a different user.

Searches can be made by name or by location. For any match you can be sure that you will find a photo, whereas on Find A Grave a majority of entries do not have any photo, and in some cases entries may have been taken from burial records and there may be no existing marker to be found.

From a slow start, the Billion Graves site appears to be building a base of users and data. No statistics are published but the blog site showed that more than 200,000 records had been transcribed by early September. The blog also tells how the target of a billion graves might be achieved!



Other sites that may be of interest to one-namers are:

The **Gravestone Photographic Resource** project (<http://www.gravestonephotos.com/>) aims to place online details of all UK gravestones or monuments that are currently legible. The project is a labour of love by its founder Charles Sale. The site includes over 70,000 graves and 150,000 names. Downloads of the images are available on request for free, or for a donation.

The **War Graves Photographic Project** (<http://twgpp.org/>) works alongside the regular CWGC site with the objective of photographing every war grave and memorial from the First World War to the present day (although a note on the site states the scope has been extended to cover all nationalities and military conflicts). The images are shown at low resolution - with the option to obtain either a high resolution download or hard copy print for a donation.

The **National Archive of Memorial Inscriptions** (<http://www.memorialinscriptions.org.uk/index.aspx>) was set up with funding from the UK Heritage Lottery Fund working with the FFHS. The site contains data from Norfolk and Bedfordshire.

For Northern Ireland, **History from Headstones** (<http://www.historyfromheadstones.com>) contains over 50,000 inscriptions. Searches are free but there is a credits system to view a full inscription.

For Canada, the **Canadian Headstone Photo Project** (<http://www.canadianheadstones.com/>) contains nearly 300,000 gravestone records. Ancestry has recently indexed the entries with a link to the record.

The **Names In Stone** site (<http://namesinstone.com/>) was named in the Family Tree Magazine 101 Best Websites for 2011. The site contains nearly 900,000 records covering the US and Canada with free limited membership to search the records.



There are also web sites with photos for individual states created as part of the IDGenWeb Project. The largest is for Arkansas, which has almost 600,000 photos (<http://arkansasgravestones.org/>). Others include Arizona (80,000), New York (43,000), Pennsylvania (35,000), South Dakota (134,000) and Utah (31,000).

These are just a selection of the wonderful gravestone photo resources that are now available. Most are continuing to expand so it is worth taking a fresh look from time to time. ■



# Out of Devon: The Eastlake Surname Comes of Age

This is an abridged version of an essay written by Kim for The Guild Certificate of Attainment in Advanced One-Name Studies.

by **Kim Baldacchino (Member 5434)**

**B**eginning with an exploration of the origin and meaning of the Eastlake surname, the evolution of the name and its spread through southwest England is followed to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. By that time, the name was sufficiently established to enable the global distribution seen today.

## In the Beginning

In 1377, Thomas Estlake's oats were trampled in the Bratton Parish of the ancient Lyfton Hundred.<sup>1</sup> Bratton Clovelly, the modern name for Bratton, is a small Devon village nestled in the southwestern peninsula of England. The area has a long history; 'Baldwin' the Sheriff held the manor of Bratton in 1086.<sup>2</sup> Structures still stand today that my early ancestors might recognise. The Church of St Mary the Virgin has overlooked the village since Norman times and the area is still characterised by substantial farmhouses, some dating from the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. The great Dartmoor rises just east of Bratton Clovelly. In later centuries, the natural resources of this strikingly rugged landscape would provide the livelihoods of Eastlake families as they moved from farming to mining occupations.



Figure 1. Bratton Clovelly 2011

It is not surprising to find several 'East Lake' farms in this part of Devon. However, one large 'Eastlake' dairy farm standing just a few miles from the village centre captures the imagination, set in an idyllic protected position amongst the rolling countryside. Could this have been the site of Thomas' home?

From the time of Thomas' mention in 1377, there is a document trail that points to the Estlake surname originating in West Devon. The trail provides evidence that the Estlake surname, including its later Eastlake variant, has survived in Devon since at least the 1300s. Following a quitclaim from Richard Estlake to John Shilston of the Estlake messuages in 1452, the lands join the more general property consolidation occurring in Devon at the time, passing to various members of the Shilston family, possibly then to Peter Courtenay and ultimately to the Calmady family. By the early 1600s, the



Figure 2. Eastlake Farm 2011

Calmady Manuscripts make multiple references to Sir Shilston Calmady of Eastlake, Bratton Clovelly.<sup>3</sup> Interestingly, a relatively late reference in 1699 refers to the 'Barton Farm and demesne lands called Eastlake',<sup>4</sup> supporting the ancient lineage of this property. The transition from the property name of Estlake to Eastlake appears to have taken place in the latter 1500s. As will be shown, the transition of the surname itself was considerably more complicated.

## Toward a Surname Meaning

The definition of the Eastlake surname only appears in a handful of surname dictionaries but they agree that it derives from Old English *ēast lacu*, defined as 'Dweller at the East Lake', or more generally from the Lake surname, 'Dweller by the Water'. There is specific mention that in Devonshire a lake is 'any small rivulet',<sup>15</sup> so time might not be well spent on a search for any particular lake. However, it is difficult to ignore the massive Roadford Lake just west of Eastlake Farm. The lake is a man-made reservoir but in the beginning, there was the minor River Wolf. With a small adjustment to the suggested surname meaning, might it be 'Dweller east of the rivulet'?

Topographical surnames were common in Devon and by the 1332 Lay Subsidy the surname 'Lake' was already prevalent.<sup>16</sup> My first assumption was that 'Eastlake' was a topographical surname, as I would have assumed for 'Westlake', 'Karslake' and other similar names occurring early in the formation of Devon surnames. However, the reference to Richard Estlake's quitclaim on Estlake property in 1452 and subsequent references to Estlake as a place indicate that the Estlake surname was locative and that those who bore the hereditary surname held at least partial ownership of the settlement in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The evidence fits well with one of David Postles' conclusions regarding Devon surnames:<sup>17</sup>

One distinctive aspect of naming in the county [of Devon] in the middle ages was the high proportion of locative surnames. Although the level declined over the

later middle ages, yet a very large number of surnames - derived from local places in the county - persisted into modern times. Amongst the *corpus* were surnames derived from place-names which were in turn derived from topographical features.

A key reason that these locative surnames were so prevalent was the dispersed nature of settlement in Devon, especially in areas such as the west of Devon and other rural settings. The names could easily refer to one small hamlet or farmstead.

### And Then There was Byestelake

Having already drafted the preceding part of this article, I got a new contact from an Eastlake researcher. He asked if I was aware that there was a place called Byestelake amongst the early place names of Devon. Tracking down the reference, in *The Place -Names of Devon*<sup>18</sup>, Byestelake was identified in the Assise Rolls of 1244 in the Broadwoodwider parish, a village as close to the Eastlake Farm as Bratton Clovelly only three miles away. Eastlake itself was listed as the modern place name. From independent research, this stunning information corroborates my own findings. The book also confirmed another of my suspicions regarding the meaning of the name:<sup>19</sup>

Names like *Eastwood*, *Northway*, have commonly been interpreted as 'east wood', 'north way'. The Devon evidence suggests beyond any possibility of ambiguity that in many of these names we have the short form of old compounds *bi eastan wuda*, *bi nor pan wege*, 'to the east of the wood', 'to the north of the way' ... 'Walter *Bysudebrok*' lived 'to the south of the brok'.



Figure 3. Eastlake in 1797

So Byestelake is interpreted as 'East of the Stream'.<sup>20</sup> While looking for the place name book, I happened to see a large book on the history of Devon. It contained a map from 1797 which actually showed Eastlake,<sup>21</sup> sitting where the modern farm does today. My contact had taken the opportunity to meet the current farm owners and learned that one part of the property, Eastlake Wood, had been lost in a snail race.

Several other Eastlake seekers had preceded him in visiting the farm. These discoveries highlight why sharing information is such a critical aspect of my research approach.

### Spreading Roots in Devon

The availability of parish registers beginning in the mid 1500s provides the first opportunity for viewing the broader Estlake family rather than just those who held property or paid taxes. The registers show that the Estlake surname had survived the devastating pestilences and dramatic population decrease of the latter middle ages<sup>22</sup> and was slowly permeating West Devon. Eastlake had become the variant of choice in Devon by about 1660, similar to other Est- to East- transitions in the move from older forms of English.<sup>23</sup>

The geography of Devon was a major contributor to the Eastlake migration pattern. Devon is bounded by north and south coasts and a significant portion of south central Devon is covered by the mostly uninhabited Dartmoor. The River Tamar forms the historic boundary between Devon and Cornwall or, as some would phrase it, between the English and the Cornish.<sup>25</sup>

The surname quickly reached the key port of Exeter and also Plymouth which was growing in importance as a commercial centre. It spread through West Devon to Lamerton as well as Marytavy and Petertavy on the edge of Dartmoor. Near the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it reached the well-established market town of Tavistock.

Figure 4 shows the Eastlake baptism locations in Devon to 1800.<sup>26</sup> By then, the families had mostly concentrated in the major economic centres of Tavistock, Exeter and the port area of Plymouth and Stoke Damerel. A strong preference for West Devon remains clear. Interestingly, the name doesn't feature in North Devon which needs investigation.

By this time, the holders of the Devon Eastlake and related surnames could be found in a variety of occupations including farmers, miners, merchants and solicitors. Many were prominent in their communities. John Eastlake (1730 - 1818) and his son Henry were tailors listed as Exeter Freeman.<sup>27</sup> According to the obituary of John's wife Priscilla (circa 1736 - 1820), '[t]his aged couple were amongst the earliest Methodists in this city -- and the first who entertained the Rev. John Wesley, the founder of that numerous and increasingly respectable society which bears his name.'<sup>28</sup>



Figure 4. Eastlake Baptisms in Devon to 1800

## The Cornwall Identity Crisis

Prior to 1600, the Estlake surname was present in only one location beyond Devon, beginning with the birth of Robart Estlake's son Nicholas in 1566 in Bodmin, Cornwall. This very localised migration pattern continued, with almost 95% of the baptisms, marriages and burials found to date of Eastlake and related surnames prior to 1800 still contained to Devon and Cornwall. A smattering of marriages occurred elsewhere but there is no evidence of a persistent presence of the name in any other location except London until the 1800s.

Unconfirmed evidence identifies that Robart Estlake crossed the Tamar River, the boundary between Devon and Cornwall, in about 1550 with his parents.<sup>32</sup> Robart raised his large family in Bodmin, only thirty miles from Bratton Clovelly, and is almost single-handedly responsible for the survival of the surname in the British Isles today, one of the 'portal couples' referred to by Peter Walker.<sup>33</sup> Robart also had a son Robart who had at least four sons. The family was so genetically successful that of the 172 Eastlake baptisms found to date in the British Isles before 1700, Bodmin accounted for well over half of them.<sup>34</sup>

As well as ensuring the survival of the family line, the Cornwall branch made another central contribution to the history of the Eastlake surname. The surname had been quite stable in Devon, gradually evolving from Estlake to Eastlake. However, it was a very different story in Cornwall. A plethora of variant and deviant names arose, providing an early window into the many variant names that occur worldwide today. The reasons for this divergence are not yet known, whether related to dialect, illiteracy, more general surname instability or perhaps because it was in the process of change from Estlake to Eastlake when Robart left Devon.



Figure 5. Eastlake Baptisms in Cornwall to 1800

Through the 1700s, the surname reached the length of Cornwall, as shown in Figure 5. The variants Eastlake, Eslick, Estlick and Eastlick persisted, and all of these forms can still be found in the British Isles today. Key locations included the communities of Bodmin, Kenwyn, Gwennap and Cubert, where the families engaged primarily in mining and the building trades. The Eslick variant that took root in Kenwyn later became so prevalent in North America that it is listed in the *Dictionary of American Family Names*:<sup>35</sup>

ESLICK: English (Devon and Cornwall): altered form of Eastlake, habitational name from Eastlake in Devon, named in Old English as *ēast lacu* 'the eastern stream'.

One family moved to Fowey during this period, a location that would sustain the Easlick and Eastlick variants. Another family settled in Penzance and Madron near the southwest end of the peninsula in the latter 1600s, headed by a merchant named Thomas Eastlake who would serve as the 'The Wirshipfull Thomas Eastlake, Mayor' of Penzance in 1693. There is some possibility that this family migrated directly from the Devon Eastlake line rather than from the Cornwall Bodmin line.

## The Inevitable London Contingent

Until the 1700s, the Eastlake surname had no footprint in London. However, the economic opportunities of the City finally drew Eastlake families just as it drew migrants from across the British Isles. By 1800, the surname was represented in the 'square mile' of the City and various Middlesex and Surrey locations in Greater London. Middlesex remains a prevalent birth location for holders of the Eastlake surname.

## Toward a Worldwide Family

From this very gradual and geographically isolated beginning over five centuries, dramatic change was in the making. A handful of emigrants in the late 1600s to mid 1700s were already giving rise to a North American representation far larger today than that found in the British Isles. Of particular note, my own ancestor Francis Estlack was a Quaker minister who settled in New Jersey in about 1680, still the most prevalent location in the world for the Eastlack surname. Also, Captain Isaac Eslick appeared in Rhode Island by 1700 whose line started the previously unseen variant name Esleek. An Eslick family settled as well in North Carolina in the mid-1700s. Whether from this family or later migrations, the North American Eslick surname would come to dominate the worldwide picture of Eastlake surnames by the 20<sup>th</sup> century with almost 800 occurrences in the 1930 US Federal Census.

Dramatic change was also to take place within the British Isles, most notably with the Cornwall family groups and the 'Great Migration' that accompanied the collapse of the Cornish mining industry in the second half of the 1800s.<sup>37</sup> The massive upheaval of families in southwest England led to new families, sometimes part of whole Cornish communities, in North America, Australia and New Zealand. Although primarily 'hard rock' miners, many also found their way to the coal fields of Northern England and Eastlake births are still prevalent in the northern counties.

While the high-level picture of the surname is now taking shape, much research remains to come to a deep understanding of the global picture. I have to wonder as well at what the next chapter might bring. Being an American Eastlack now raising my English children less than an hour from Bratton Clovelly, perhaps someday a section may be warranted on the 'Re-patriation of the Emigrants'.

This is an abridged version of Kim's essay, for which she was awarded a Distinction. The full unabridged 7-page version, including additional tables, figures, and detailed source citations is available at [http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1\\_article1.html](http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1_article1.html).





# No Longer Overwhelmed by a Frequent Name

Whitehouse Study Thrives 10 years On

by **Keith Percy (Member 1032)**

**T**en years ago, I stopped responding to new enquirers and my one-name study continued to serve existing correspondents for only another three months. Of course, the study had to be removed from the Guild Register and the article “Overwhelming Whitehouses force my sad decision to de-register” was published in the Journal for January-March 2002 at pages 10 & 11. It told how during the year 2000 the number of enquiries rose to 70, as a result of my website, about five times the previous level and were running at about the same level in the first nine months of 2001. This article is about the revival of the “Whitehouse Family History Centre” and offers some ideas for others who have registered a frequent surname.

## Everything Had to Go Digital

The root of the problem was that all my records were on paper and at that time there were no online indexes such as now available from “Ancestry” and “Findmypast”. Consequently, it took me a very long time to search a new enquiry in my paper collection. This was extensive and included slips of over 3,000 census households from 1841 to 1871, as well as 7,000 marriage entries copied from the GRO indexes. The records had to be put on computer and loaded to my website. I thought of the transformation as a traditional corner shop switching to self-service.

Most Guild members study rare names, work out relationships, construct trees and fit people to them. I worked the other way around, by registering enquirers as “correspondents”, improving their trees and linking them to others. I had accumulated files on 414 correspondents, contained in three and a half drawers of a filing cabinet and two giant detergent boxes. To continue with this would soon exhaust available space. So, the trees also had to be digitised. The card index to the trees, which filled seven shoe boxes, was another candidate.

It seemed a huge task - and it was, especially because my census records were far from complete. However, I set to and in 2006 re-opened for one month, admitting 28 new correspondents. That was a year of huge progress, at the end of which I had all Whitehouse households in the 1841-71 censuses, among many other records, on “MS Excel” spreadsheets. Finally, in February 2007, I re-opened fully and re-registered the name with the Guild.

## Managing my Big One-Name Study

By that time, I had evolved a settled way of working, which I still use today. A key decision was not to try to put the miniature family group sheets, on cards in the seven shoe boxes, onto computer. I had realised that for most of the time I was dealing with enquiries by using an index of those who had married a Whitehouse. I had transcribed all 8,800

Whitehouse marriages in the GRO (England & Wales) indexes from July 1837 to 1911, thus covering the years for which there is no cross-reference to the spouse. The reference numbers of my correspondents were added to that index and also to my census and probate indexes. To deal with marriages before civil registration or abroad, I continued to use my card index, gradually establishing spreadsheets as correspondents’ files were digitised.

Another very important decision was to throw out any files in which the correspondent had no firm marriage or census entry before 1882. I hasten to say that this was not done in a high-handed way, as whenever possible I remedied the deficiency and/or contacted the person to establish whether he had made further progress backwards.

By the end of 2006, I had digitised the files of 60 correspondents. Many contained little more than letters and e-mails. I needed a quick way of drawing trees. That led to two more vital decisions. No. 3 was to limit the trees by not including any generation beginning after 1901. Fourthly, I did not take the tree down female lines in the direction ancient to modern. In other words, if Mary Whitehouse married Joe Bloggs, I would not include their children except to say “issue”. I allowed myself the flexibility of making exceptions from time to time, especially if the issue included a forename which ran through many generations, as that helped to confirm that the relationships were correct.

## Drawing Trees in Microsoft “Excel”

The quickest way to draw trees, I reckoned, was in “Excel”. Using a spreadsheet for this purpose must seem crazy to those who have never tried it. My method uses a tall tree format and a portrait mode. The oldest generation of ancestor goes in the extreme left-hand column and the tree moves through successive columns to the youngest generation. By judicious use of the hyphen and drawing lines, plus good mouse control, I created customised trees with all manner of “doglegs” not easily done in family tree programs. Three other factors were at play here.

The first factor was the “universality” of MS “Excel”. It did away with the need for the reader to have a family tree program. The few people who did not have access to MS “Excel” could download the free reader from the Microsoft website or, better, install a substitute program such as “Open Office”, also free.

The second factor was that Whitehouse is a frequent name in the West Midlands, enjoyed largely by nailers, coal miners, iron workers, engineers etc. The vast majority were not well-off people who left wills. This meant that most genealogies

	William WHITEHOUSE c. 10 Mar 1799 DY St Thos			
Edward WHITEHOUSE b. d.	d. presumed young [1]			
m. 17 May 1792	Mary WHITEHOUSE [2] DY St Thos c. 12 May 1793			
Mary HOCK b. d.	CV St Thos			
KEY	Corneus WHITEHOUSE edge 100 Vanner, later Whitehouse, inventor of continuously welded tube. Tube Maker, later Engineer (4)	Corneus WHITEHOUSE c. 26 May 1822 WY St BK 1 04 Dec 1825 ae 3	John Edward Adcock WHITEHOUSE (Gun Maker) b. 1. 1q 1855 Melton Mowbray RD c. 28 May 1855 Melton Mowbray St Mary d. 07 Apr 1926	Henry James WHITEHOUSE (Cannith & Tobacconist) b. 1875-76 Oakham RUT (1 2q 1876 Oakham RD)
Evelyn ae aged b. born c. baptised ca census d. died	b. 22 Jul 1795 OY [4] c. 04 Oct 1795 DY St Thos	Edward Searl WHITEHOUSE (Gun Maker) c. 10 Dec 1826 WY St BK d. m. 12 Apr 1854 Melton Mowbray St Mary Susannah FICK c. 30 Oct 1816 Great Dalby LE1	Mary Rosa ROBB b. 1851-52 GCT d. 01 Dec 1918 ae 54 Oakham RUT	Albert WHITEHOUSE (Draper) b. 1877-78 Oakham RUT (1 1q 1876 Oakham RD)
h1, h2, h3 husband's 1st, 2nd, 3rd marriage i. buried m. married p. registered q. partner of r. quarter of year RD Registration District s. twin underlining denotes name by which usually known wt. wt's wife 1st, 2nd marriage	d. 1. 3q 1863 ae 83 WY RD m. 11 Jun 1821 h1 WY St Matthew [5] Mary PETERS b. 1795-97 1 17 Dec 1822 ae 25 WY St BK oooooooooooooooooooo m. 30 Jan 1825 h2 w2 B St Mtn [6] Lucy ASTON (nee BRICHTON) [7] c. 01 May 1803 WY St BK 1 22 Jul 1828 ae 25	Elizabeth Power WHITEHOUSE c. 14 Oct 1832 WY St BK 1 27 Apr 1835 WY St BK	Mary Floss ROBB b. 1851-52 GCT d. 01 Dec 1918 ae 54 Oakham RUT	Florence Jessie WHITEHOUSE b. 1878-79 Oakham RUT (1 1q 1876 Oakham RD)
INDEXES	WY St BK	Elizabeth Power WHITEHOUSE c. 14 Oct 1832 WY St BK 1 27 Apr 1835 WY St BK	Corneus James WHITEHOUSE b. 1. 1q 1857 Melton Mowbray RD c. 09 Mar 1857 Melton Mowbray St Mary d. 1. 4q 1857 Melton Mowbray St Mary	Miriam Christine WHITEHOUSE b. about Dec 1860 Oakham RUT (1 1q 1881 Oakham RD)
AS Aston	oooooooooooooooooooo		Susan Emma WHITEHOUSE b. 1. 4q 1839 Melton Mowbray RD c. 18 Aug 1859 Melton Mowbray St Mary RUP before 1881 cs [14]	Douglas Edward WHITEHOUSE d. 1. 1q 1885 Oakham RD
B Birmingham	m. 02 Jan 1831 h3			
DY Dudley	WY St BK [8]			
GLS Gloucestershire	Charlotte POWER b. 1803-05 B			
HAM Hampshire	d. 1. 4q 1872 ae 72 WY RD			
LE Leicestershire				

### Partial Tree in Excel

petered out in the mid- to late 1700s. With the above-mentioned cut-off at 1901 for the modern end, trees could usually be accommodated within a 5- or 6- column format in a comfortable font to read.

The tall tree layout enabled a great deal of information to be included in a relatively small space, which is critically important when the surname is frequent. To distinguish one Whitehouse from another, day, month and year dates are helpful, as are also places of events and occupations. With the heavy West Midlands bias in the surname distribution, I developed a two-letter town code for that region, which I use alongside postcodes for other towns and the Chapman county code. Keys to these and other symbols fit neatly into unused space below the oldest ancestor, in the extreme left-column, without looking too obtrusive. Footnotes to the tree also go here.

The third issue related to archiving. The whole point of digitising the files was to preserve them, since many had non-public information derived from handed-down stories, data from family bibles or just painstaking research. The concise tall trees in "Excel" occupy far fewer pages than conventional drop-down charts produced by family tree programs. This makes it practical to store them as paper printouts on archive-quality paper, as well as digitally. "Excel" might not survive, but paper will be around for a long time and has the advantage that it can be scanned to whatever digital format is current. Of course, at the moment it is simple to create a portable display format (pdf) file from "Excel", but even pdf might have a limited life. I store my paper versions as stapled A4 pages in heavy gauge polypropylene pockets ("Ryman" premium grade) in ring binders. They are much more expensive than the normal thin pockets, but have a lovely feel, which enhances the pleasure of completing a tree and inserting it.

### Collecting Records - How Worthwhile?

When the surname is frequent, it becomes impossible to collect all references to it. Even core genealogical datasets need to be limited. I started with the GRO (England & Wales) births, deaths and marriages from July 1837 to 1911, copying

the 38,981 Whitehouse entries from the paper indexes at the Family Records Centre and its predecessors, but it is not a task that I would undertake today, even using online data such as from "FreeBMD". Rather, I would confine it to marriages. That would be a launch pad for a marriage mining exercise to obtain the full details from church registers, which, in my opinion, is the most important record for a big one-name study, but more of that below. The 8,800 marriages are referenced with the correspondents' numbers, taken initially from the card index and enhanced as digitisation has proceeded. 7,920 (90 per cent) have an identified spouse, useful in eliminating possibilities as well as finding them, and, of course, they have all been sent to the Guild Marriage Index.

Guild members have to face the fact that record collecting is increasingly being done for us by online data providers and far faster than we can achieve. What we can provide is greater accuracy and the correction of mis-transcriptions. I feel a glow of satisfaction at my hard work on collecting all Whitehouse households in the 1841-71 censuses, which involve 34,977 people, when I see such bizarre renderings of the name as Atutchcus, White Mouse, White Snape, McWhitehouse, Vohitehons, Silutense, Ukikhouse and Shitcharce! More importantly, the spreadsheet layout has enabled me to look at households that are geographically close and make deductions from that. However, in retrospect, this was not a good use of time. For the 1881 census, I have collected only those entries that feature in my trees, referenced with the correspondent's number. This "referencing file", as I call it, has been built up slowly alongside digitisation of trees, numbering 4,036 people, of whom 3,123 are Whitehouses, which represents 40 percent of the expected total of 7,772 Whitehouses and deviant versions thereof. This method is strongly recommended.

Thirty years ago I made a key decision, never regretted. It was to extract details from Whitehouse wills and administrations in which the grant was before 9th January 1858, when the Principal Probate Registry began. My index of 492 grants and the people mentioned in them, which is complete from 1731 to 1858 in all registries of interest for the Whitehouse name, seems unlikely to be obtainable commercially within my lifetime. It remains my second most important record and is referenced to correspondents' numbers.

Another worthwhile record for a frequent name is the Principal Probate Registry indexes for 1858 onwards, because, amazingly, there is still no index that is reliable and highly accessible. There is a partial index available on a computer at the PPR, but accompanied by a warning notice about reliability. Personally, I have found it awkward to use and the terminal is often occupied. While extracting the entries and building up a spreadsheet is laborious, it is useful having the results on one's own computer in a spreadsheet format and, again, I reference it to the correspondents. I have got as far forward as 1950, which covers 2,039 Whitehouse grants.

### To What Extent are Parish Registers Worth Extracting ?

The more frequent the surname, the more important it becomes to use every scrap of available information. With baptisms, the father's occupation and address are very necessary and for marriages in the old style registers, before civil registration began, witnesses are crucial. Thus, I have started compiling spreadsheets for parishes where the name

is most common and in time this will probably become my third most important record. At the same time, in a separate “referencing file”, I am collecting the pre-July 1837 marriages from the digitised trees, here recording only the parties, date and place, but adding the correspondents’ numbers. With a mere 541 entries, this has been easily manageable. For US marriages, I adopt the same system, but cover all years to 1911 in this format. For Australian and New Zealand marriages, where the numbers are much smaller, I have full indexes, again referenced.

Marriages, census and probate (more accurately, grants of representation, the proper generic term to include administrations) are as far as I would recommend going in core records. Baptisms from 1813 to about 1845 in the areas of densest surname distribution are well worth considering. Many may react with horror to the limited nature of these suggestions, but it is very important with a frequent name to focus on the realistically achievable.

### Marriage Mining

I referred above to my most important record, the details of marriages in the civil registration period. By “details” I mean all the essential information in a marriage certificate or church register. Parish registers are fast becoming available online, but establishing a spreadsheet of details has been critical for my Whitehouse research, because it can be sorted by the name of the father. I have acquired the full details of 6,692 of the 8,800 Whitehouse marriages in the July 1837 to 1911 period, which is 76 percent. (These statistics count the 59 known Whitehouse-Whitehouse marriages twice). I am particularly delighted to have included all Anglican marriages in Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire, except for 10 marriages at Darlaston All Saints (registers destroyed in WW2) and 1 at Amblecote Holy Trinity (register at church; access reportedly problematic). While most of this work has been through my own efforts, I cannot give enough thanks to the Guild Marriage Challengers.

## SILVERTHORN(E) FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Report of the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Gathering at Raglan, Gwent, on Saturday, 2nd July, 2011.

The Silverthorn(e) Family Association has 58 members, most of whom live in the south of England or south Wales, with a few from other parts of the UK. We also have members in Europe, New Zealand and the United States where Monty Reed, who lives in California, carried out most of the original research into the Silverthorne name.

The name was first recorded in 1450 in the Wiltshire village of Steeple Ashton and it is in this beautiful village that we usually hold our annual meeting. This year, however, we held the Gathering in Raglan, so that more of our Welsh members would be able to come. Thirty-three members and seven guests attended the meeting which was held in a function room of the Raglan Parc Golf Club. Following the AGM and a buffet lunch provided by the golf club, we had an interesting talk on Raglan Castle by a local resident, Anna Tribe. Mrs. Tribe told us about the often eccentric owners and residents of the castle over the centuries, principally the Beaufort family, whose main residence is now at Badminton in Gloucestershire. Her family had been estate managers

### Fast Forward

150 new correspondents have been added to the 414 of ten years ago and, after 35 deletions as not complying with my basic requirements, the total has reached 529. 352 of them (67 percent) are linked together, i.e. (usually) they are cousins or cousins-in-law. 52 trees, belonging to 61 correspondents, remain to be digitised, which should be achievable by the end of 2013.

The bundles in the two detergent boxes have gone and the remaining paper files fit comfortably within a single drawer. By-passing referencing of the 1891 and 1901 censuses as not realistically achievable, I have extracted 40 percent of Whitehouses in the 1911 census onto a spreadsheet and want to complete this project. I place a lot of value on the 1911 census, because the number of years of the marriage is given, which enables me to confirm its correctness, when I work forwards on the collateral lines of a pedigree. Here, and also with the ongoing transcription of the 1880 US census, I have been fortunate to be helped by three of my correspondents. Non-core records include apprentices, fire policy, GWR shareholders, lunatic asylums, patents, and the Sedgley Manor Rolls. All told, the databases on my website contain 109,604 lines of typing and all are freely available to download.

Perhaps it is the wealth of material on my website, perhaps genealogies in “Genes Reunited” and similar, but the flood of enquiries of ten years ago has slowed to a trickle, with which I can deal fairly comfortably.

There is much more that I would like to put on computer, but priority has to be given to revising the trees in my collection and preparing everything for archiving. ■

for the Beauforts. One Silverthorne couple had also been employed by the same powerful family as a housekeeper and coachman in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The committee of the Association has been without a Treasurer or Recorder for the last two years, the former post being filled temporarily by Elizabeth Silverthorne who has now kindly agreed to become Recorder and to take over the extensive archive which has accumulated over the years. We also appointed a new Vice-chairman and Treasurer at the meeting in July so the committee is back to strength. We hope soon to have our own website and would welcome any Silverthorne related enquiries.

### Committee members:

Chairman:	Richard Moore
Vice-chairman:	Lloyd Silverthorne
Secretary:	Jane Hughes
Treasurer:	Christine Silverthorne
Recorder:	Elizabeth Silverthorne
Newsletter Editor:	Ruth Henderson

Enquiries to: [janehughes2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janehughes2003@yahoo.co.uk) or 01189464899 ■



# The Basstoe One-Name Study

by **Sheila Wood (Member 4640)**

**L**ike many others before me, I was drawn to the idea of attempting a one-name study as a spin-off from my family history researches, which I began in earnest some fifteen years ago. From childhood I had always been aware of the Basstoe surname, because it had been given to one of my maternal great-aunts as a second name (using the spelling Bastoe). Then, it was no more than a curiosity for me: only when I came to explore the family history in depth did I begin to understand the whys and wherefores of it.

This is an unusual surname - and although I am always mindful of the aims of a one-name study, which is to collect all examples of that surname, wherever they can be found, my detailed study is at this stage still limited to just one family tree, comprising all the direct descendants of Samuel Basstoe who was born c1790.

This article will describe the tools and materials I have used. I have included a brief outline of the beginnings of the nineteenth century Basstoe family, but my main concern lies with the spelling of the BASSTOE name and which variants should be considered.

## Tools

I have made extensive use of all the UK Census material that is now so easily available, in order to build up a picture of eight generations of the Basstoos and their families. This I have supplemented and expanded by accessing the London parish registers for documentation of births, marriages and deaths. In earlier years I would spend hours searching for this information on microfilm at the London Metropolitan Archive. Now that so much of this material is accessible on Ancestry.co.uk, I have not only been able to fill in several frustrating gaps, but also conduct my searches in a more systematic way. I also make sure that I save electronic images of the original data on my computer. But I would add that Free BMD is still a very good place to start looking for people, before validating this information from the GRO indexes.

I haven't come across a mention of the *Brother's Keeper: genealogy program for Windows* <http://www.bkwin.org/> in this journal, perhaps because it is American in origin, but this is the database that I originally chose to store my family history data on, and I remain very satisfied with it. It began as shareware, and the cost of acquiring a registered copy of the program was very reasonable. The program has been expanded, is regularly updated, and mostly it does what I want it to do!

I am also fortunate to have a husband whose province is computer technology (more specifically the forensic recovery of data). Without his advice and help I would not be where I am today; but I feel quite confident in designing my own Excel worksheets to store bulk data that would not fit in with the tasks that *Brother's Keeper* is designed to do.

## What's in a Name? How exactly do you define or limit your searches?

**Spelling:** There is very little spelling variation in this family tree. The standard spelling used within the family is BASSTOE, and the occasional variant BASTOE.

Using the Ancestry.com website I have diligently explored North American, Australian and other sources which comprise that enormous (and ever expanding) database. Using the BASSTOE name as spelt by my English ancestors drew a blank - no results at all. If you consult Reaney and Wilson's *Dictionary of English Surnames*, you won't find Basstoe there either, and none of the other listed names which begin BASS... could be considered as possible variants. I have tried substituting the letter V for B in my searches (as in Vastoe and Vasto) also without success.

Using **location** as the next defining factor, I made the decision quite early on that Basstoe was not to be confused with Bairstow, Barstow, Baistow and Bastow. These names seem to originate in the West Riding of Yorkshire; Bastow also crops up in Devon quite frequently too. 'My' English Basstoos, again with very few exceptions, have stayed remarkably faithful to London's East End. Now that we have the possibility of using DNA studies to prove or disprove connections between different branches of a family, it could be interesting to see whether there is any connection between London Basstoos and Yorkshire/Devonshire Bastows. Unfortunately I have no suitable Basstoe or Bastow persons upon whom I could call for help. A small digression: a very few proven family members have occasionally been listed (mostly in census enumerations) as Bastow, probably because that surname is far more common. Blatant mis-transcriptions include Bastoc, Basstor and Bastol, where it can easily be seen that the final 'e' has been poorly formed, leading to a false optical character recognition (OCR).

Until I can find out more about Samuel Basstoe's origins, the possibility cannot be excluded that either he or his parents were immigrants. I have always thought that the name Basstoe *could* possibly be of Spanish or Italian origin - perhaps with the spelling as Basto, which leads to the next question: where did the name Basstoe originate? I have consulted the various lists of European surnames available on Wikipedia, and nowhere did I come across Basstoe or Bastoe. In a list of Portuguese surnames I found Basso, Basto and Bastos, and in a list of Italian surnames I found Bassi and Basso (meaning of short stature) and this was the closest I could get.

When searching North American databases, I wondered whether the American preference for eliminating double letters in spelling would affect Basstoe, and indeed a search



for BASTOE produced 38 instances of that name. In the 1930 US Census I discovered one family living in Massachusetts headed by John Silvia Bastoe, who arrived in the US from Portugal (Azores Islands) in the early 1890s. But I had to discard quite a few of those named Bastoe, because when I read the original documents they turned out to be Bartoe. BARSTOE yielded a further 18 entries, but on a close inspection some of those were really Borstad. Then I also came across a small group of immigrant families with the name BASSOE, and they were all of Norwegian origin. But I suspect that this name may in fact just be the enumerator's best attempt at something unfamiliar. So, before making a decision about which variants of a name to include, one has to take into account the difficulties of variations in pronunciation, of spelling and of transcription, all tending to add confusion to the situation. As an aside, I found nothing in the US censuses which could link up the American families with my English database. I would certainly appreciate any input from other members on the subject of which variants to include. As matters stand, this is going to be one the smallest one-name studies ever!

### Origins of The Basstoe Family in London's East End

William Warden married Ann Elizabeth Basstoe in 1842 at Christchurch, Spitalfields, in London's East End. (I trace my descent on the maternal side through the Warden family). It was not uncommon in the second half of the nineteenth century for families to perpetuate the memory of the maternal side of a family by using the mother's maiden name as a second name for a child. The name Basstoe seems to have had a particular fascination for the Warden family, over and beyond this purely practical explanation for the usage. One possible explanation could be that Ann Elizabeth Basstoe possessed a strong personality: she was someone to be remembered down the generations! Over the next three generations of Wardens, Basstoe appears eight times, either as a first or second given name.

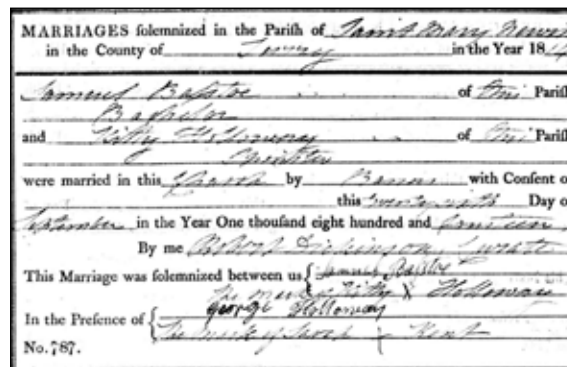
Here they all are:-

1. George Basstoe Warden (1846-1852) to William Warden & Ann Elizabeth
2. Basstoe Warden (1851-1898) William Warden & Ann Elizabeth
3. Charles Basstoe Warden (1882-1922) to William Smith Warden & Hannah
4. James Basstoe Mellett (1879-1881) to Thomas Mellett & Sarah (née Warden)
5. Mary Basstoe Warden (1877-1966) to James Henry Warden & Elizabeth
6. George Basstoe Warden (1883-1887) to Robert Warden & Caroline
7. Basstoe George Warden (1888-1894) to Robert Warden & Caroline
8. Basstoe George Lewis Warden (1912-1982) to Robert Edward Warden & Isabella

To return to the family of Ann Elizabeth Basstoe: Ann was born about 1821 in Limehouse (1871 Census). I have been unable to find a record of her birth or baptism, but perhaps this is not surprising, since registration was not obligatory then. Her parents were Samuel Basstoe and Kitty Holloway.

Samuel and Kitty were married on September 26 1814 in the church of St Mary Newington, Surrey. From this an estimate of Samuel's birthdate can be made - if he married at age

21, then 1793 is a reasonable estimate for his date of birth. I have been unable to establish when Samuel died, but Kitty re-married in 1835 (to George Smith, a cork cutter) and so at best his death can be placed sometime between the birth of his last child in 1824 and Kitty's re-marriage in 1835.



Marriage of Samuel Basstoe and Kitty Holloway

There has always been an element of mystery, if you like, about Samuel Basstoe. His daughter's marriage lines give his occupation as "mariner" but this is not so simple a definition as it appears at first sight. "Mariner" hides a lot of possibilities - Did he join the Royal Navy? My researches in the Public Record Office at Kew, London, so far indicate not. Did Samuel work locally on the River Thames, or was he a merchant seaman travelling to distant and exotic lands? If a master mariner, did he have his own boat? The family legend that I grew up with was that "a sea-captain married a Spanish lady". Certainly almost all of that second generation of Warden/Basstoes (whom I knew as my great-aunts, great uncles and grandmother) were very short of stature, with brown eyes and dark hair.

### Statistics

So far I have discovered 75 people born with the name Basstoe; 70 of those births were registered between 1837 and 2005, the remaining five are pre-1837.

Other statistics: registered marriages: 29; registered deaths: 37; Basstoes living now - 22; the entire database has 457 descendants including spouses.

### About Myself:

I am a retired music teacher and flautist. My interests are wide-ranging, but on the genealogy front, besides this one-name study and my own family history interests, I also work in a voluntary capacity for the East Sussex Record Office. I have keyed in to the computer all manner of ancient card-catalogues and databases, which are now accessible on the internet. My current ESRO project is the transcription of a previous archivist's pencilled notes on the Hammerden Manor Court Rolls. At a weekly session the current senior archivist and I work through these notes, with the original lying in front of us, and expand them. The beauty of this six-hundred year old document and its fascinating contents never fail to excite me - and in a year or two (this is a very long document!) it will be there on the internet for all to see. ■

This is an abridged version of Sheila's article. The full unabridged version is available at [http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1\\_article3.html](http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol11-1_article3.html)





# Volunteers Please!

## The Guild of One-Name Studies ALWAYS Needs Volunteers!

by **Anne Shankland (Vice Chairman, Member 1554)**

**T**he services that the Guild provides for its members depend on having enough people prepared to give up their time and use their skills for the benefit of the Guild membership. If you feel that you can contribute in any way to the running of YOUR Guild, then the Committee would love to hear from you. Don't be shy - you will be welcomed with open arms!

There are several ways in which you can contribute. You can become a member of the Guild Committee, which has the main job of steering the Guild and directing its work, or you can join one of the two subcommittees which deal with the business of marketing the Guild (MarkSub) and organising the Guild seminars throughout the year (SemSub). There are also various defined "jobs" within the Guild, some of which are held by Committee members and some not; and of course there are the Regional Representatives, who take on the primary role of member-Guild communication in their specific areas.



If you think you might be interested in doing one or more of the many jobs open to Guild volunteers, take a look at the Job Descriptions available on the website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/JDs.html>. You are of course also welcome to contact the people currently doing the kind of job that interests you!

### Committee Membership

The Committee members are elected by vote of the membership, unless fewer than 15 nominations are received in which case all nominated members are automatically elected. Just like other Guild jobs, there is a Job Description for a Committee member (see [http://www.one-name.org/JDs/JD\\_CommitteeMember.pdf](http://www.one-name.org/JDs/JD_CommitteeMember.pdf)).

The Committee does much of its business through email, but it also has five all-day meetings in London during the year, in February, May, July, September and November. There is also a short meeting of the new Committee following the AGM during the Conference weekend, to sort out who is going to take on which job. You can see the records of Committee meetings over the last few years, in the members' area of the website; see <http://www.one-name.org/members/minutes.html>.

The Guild's Constitution (<http://www.one-name.org/Constitution.pdf>) lays down the rules and procedures for Committee membership and for Committee elections. An election must be held if more than 15 nominations are received. The last time an election was held was in 2007, when there were 18 nominations; since then there have been fewer than 15

nominations each year, and so all the nominees were deemed elected unopposed. Although a Committee election involves both expense and effort, we are hoping that in 2012 there will be enough nominations for another election, to give the membership an opportunity to choose its Committee and also to get some "new blood" into the mix. But for that we need more than 15 people to be nominated!

Nominations may be made either using the form enclosed with this Journal (which is also available on the website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/NominationForm.pdf>), or by email. The procedure for email nomination, including sample emails, is given on the website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/NominationByEmail.pdf>. Nominations must be received by the Guild Secretary no later than Wednesday 8th February 2012. If you would like to be nominated, but can't find anyone to propose or to second you, contact the Chairman and she will organise the necessary paperwork.



It is recognised that the meetings in London may be a deterrent to those prospective Committee members who do not live within convenient reach of London - and especially those across the world. Although there's not really any substitute for face-to-face meetings, we don't want to restrict Committee membership on the basis of geography, and so we accept representations to the meetings expressed beforehand by email, letter, telephone, or any other way. We are planning to experiment with "e-meetings" to allow all Committee members to take part.

If you would like to stand for membership of the Committee, we would very much like to hear from you! In the case of an election being necessary, we would also like to see a brief "election statement" from you, giving the reasons why you think you should be elected. This should be less than 200 words - if it's more then only the first 200 will be used. If an election is called, then your 200-word statement will be circulated together with the ballot papers.

### Postholders

Unlike Committee members, postholders do not have to be elected by the membership but are appointed (in most cases) by the Committee. Some of the posts have to be held by a Committee member: the obvious ones are the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary, but also the Treasurer and Registrar. For some of the other posts, too, such as the Editor or Webmaster, it is often most convenient although not essential for the postholder to be a Committee member.

Some postholders are appointed not by the Committee but by another postholder, who could be regarded as a team leader in charge of a team. The obvious example is of course that Regional Representatives are appointed by the RR Coordinator, but this also applies to jobs such as Archivist or E-librarian, which are allocated by the Librarian, or to the various jobs associated with the Website, which are allocated by the Webmaster.

Job Descriptions of the various posts are given on the web page at <http://www.one-name.org/members/JDs.html>, and these show not only what the post involves but also what is required of the postholder. If you are interested in a particular post, then do fill in the enclosed Postholder form or alternatively contact a Committee member. If you are new to the post, it would be most helpful to the Committee if you also gave some indication of how you feel you would be suitable for the post.

### Subcommittees

The membership and chairmanship of the two subcommittees, Marksub and Semsu, are also determined by the Committee. Like the Committee, periodic meetings are held, but in the case of Marksub at least, most of the subcommittee communication is done by email. Again, records of the meetings held by both subcommittees are available for members to read on the website; see <http://www.one-name.org/members/marksub.html> and <http://www.one-name.org/members/sensub.html>.



### Conflicts of Interests

It is clearly important that all Guild postholders, Committee members, subcommittee members, Regional Representatives, etc., are seen to be free of any conflicts of interest in fulfilling their roles. For this purpose the Guild maintains a Register of Interests for all postholders, to guard against any potential conflicts of interest or the appearance of any such conflicts of interest. (This is a comparatively new requirement, introduced in response to a suggestion from a Guild member.) The Register of Interests is available on the website at <http://www.one-name.org/members/RegisterOfInterests.html>.

To guide potential postholders and others, a conflict of interest may arise in the following cases:

- where using your position or status within the Guild gives you access to any information beyond that in the public domain which might then be used for personal status or financial benefit or for the benefit of another organisation. Examples include writing papers or articles, giving presentations, public speaking, third party research etc.
- where your influence or knowledge of the Guild's policies, practices or procedures has benefit to you personally, or to another organisation in which you have a role. Examples would be holding office within another organisation such as SoG or a local FHS, which may give rise to a conflict of interest when voting on resolutions.

Accordingly, prospective postholders or committee members must make an entry in the Register of Interests, even if (as in most cases) the entry is just to say "No interests to declare".

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# Master Craftsman of the Guild (MCG) Awards 2012

by [Anne Shankland \(Vice Chairman, Member 1554\)](#)

Nominations are invited for further "Master Craftsman of the Guild" awards, to be announced and presented at the Guild AGM next April. The title of Master Craftsman of the Guild was designed "*to recognise those Guild members considered especially worthy of honour, either because of their level of expertise in genealogy and one-name studies, or for their contribution to the running of the Guild - or both.*"

We currently have fifteen Master Craftsmen, whom you will find listed, with their citations, at <http://www.one-name.org/members/MCGs.html>. Under the terms of the scheme, up to five further MCGs can be awarded this year.

Guild members are invited to nominate any member of the Guild for an MCG award, including a short description of why they believe the candidate deserves this honour. This citation

should summarise the contribution the individual has made to the promotion and understanding of undertaking a One-Name Study; alternatively it should identify the contribution the individual has made in supporting the Guild's activities. Fuller details of the MCG ("Fellowship") scheme are available at <http://www.one-name.org/members/fellowship.html>.



Nominations should be sent to Jan Cooper, Guild Secretary, Greenways, 8 New Road, Womersley, Guildford, Surrey, GU5 0SE, or emailed to [secretary@one-name.org](mailto:secretary@one-name.org) before the closing date of 20th January 2012. This is to leave sufficient time for the nominations to be considered by a judging panel representing the existing MCGs, before the new MCGs are announced at the April AGM.

# New Publications Award - The Guild Award of Excellence

by **Alan Wellbelove (Member 4884)**

This year, in place of the competitions we have run for the last few years, the Guild is initiating an annual Guild Award of Excellence scheme. The purpose is to recognise and celebrate the achievements of Guild members in publishing accounts of their studies.

This new Guild Award of Excellence is intended to complement the Master Craftsman award, in acknowledging members' contributions to ONS publication. As with the Master Craftsman programme, the awards will be announced at the Guild's AGM in April.

Publications in most media will be eligible. This will include books, articles, newsletters, periodicals, in either printed form or as electronic (for instance PDF) documents. It will also include websites and blogs, although owing to the ease and frequency with which these media can be updated, these will need to be re-evaluated periodically, for instance every three years or so.

The scheme, although similar to the competitions held previously, is different in as much as there are no first places - all entries considered to meet the required standard will be recognised. Like the Master Craftsman scheme, recipients of the award will be selected by a panel made up of existing award holders. However, unlike that scheme there will be no limit on the number of awards made.

For this first year, it has also been agreed that the new Guild Award of Excellence should be awarded retrospectively to the previous winners of Guild Publications competitions of 2009, 2010, and 2011. These previous winners will be approached to act as judges going forward as well if they wish.

I have been asked to chair the judging panel for the Guild Awards of Excellence to be made in April 2012. Submissions for the inaugural awards will need to be sent to me by the end of January 2012 for consideration. As usual, the awards will be announced / presented at the Guild Conference.

Alan Wellbelove (Member 4884)  
[wellbelove@one-name.org](mailto:wellbelove@one-name.org)

16 Sheldon Close, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9QR

More information is available on the website <http://www.one-name.org/members/excellence.html>



## Mentors Wanted

Can you help?

Would you act as a mentor to a newbie?  
Remember you were a newbie once !!!

Would you help a member move their study forward?

Do you have specific expertise - software, family history topics, or a particular geographic location?

If you have already offered your services as a Mentor, get in touch to confirm your willingness to continue.

## The Mentor Scheme needs you!

Steve Williams, Guild Mentor Coordinator  
[mentors@one-name.org](mailto:mentors@one-name.org)

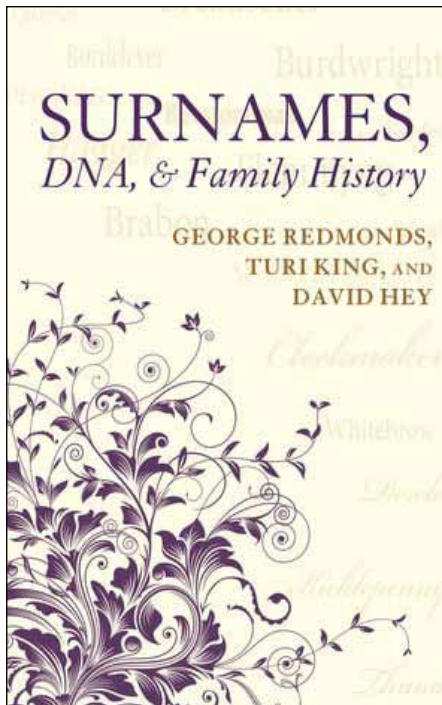
# Reviews Reviews Reviews

New genealogy books and CDs

## Surnames, DNA and Family History

By George Redmonds, Turi King and David Hey

Oxford University Press, 2011, 242pp



It is now over ten years since the first Y-chromosome DNA tests became available on a commercial basis. DNA testing is now well established as an important tool for the surname researcher. Although a number of books about DNA testing have been written by family historians, *Surnames, DNA and Family History* is the first book to look at the subject from the academic viewpoint. It has, therefore, attracted considerable interest and has already been the subject of a lively debate on the Guild Forum.

The book aims to “assess the evidence for the origins and spread of surnames in a far more rigorous way and to argue the need for an approach that combines linguistics with genealogy, local history and genetics”. The first six chapters, comprising almost three quarters of the book, are devoted to discussions on various aspects of surname research. There is an excellent chapter on bynames - second names in earlier centuries that never became hereditary - and the challenge of establishing whether or not a name found in early records is hereditary. Surname mapping is now a key tool for investigating the origins and

spread of surnames. The authors make extensive use of Steve Archer's *British Nineteenth Century Surname Atlas CD*, and particularly in their chapter on the expansion and decline of surnames. They note “the striking fact is that most British surnames are not prolific”, and “very many surnames, even some that are common, are still found mostly in one area”.

The final three chapters, presumably largely written by Turi King, focus on DNA, and provide a useful summary of the findings from the academic studies of the last decade, many of which have been carried out at the University of Leicester where King works in the Department of Genetics alongside Professor Mark Jobling. The closing chapter looks at the wider picture and discusses the offerings of the commercial testing companies and the contributions made by family historians, citing the DNA findings of the Herrick Family Association in America and the work of Guild member Susan Meates on the surnames Meates, Mates and Myatt.

It is, however, somewhat disappointing that little attempt has been made to integrate the findings from DNA studies into the first six chapters of the book. The text is instead peppered with comments that DNA evidence might eventually throw light on particular surnames, yet Redmonds and Hey are seemingly unaware of the many DNA studies that are under way. For example, they devote two lengthy paragraphs to the presumed single origin of the high-frequency surname Metcalfe but make no mention of the Metcalfe Society and their large DNA project at Family Tree DNA, which has already found six distinct genetic clusters.

John Plant was one of the first few Guild members to start a DNA project. He has done extensive research in medieval records and has published two papers on the Plant surname in the peer-reviewed journal *Nomina*, yet his research receives

only an oblique reference in the chapter on bynames. Chris Pomery's books on DNA testing and his two papers on the Pomery surname in the *Journal of Genetic Genealogy* do not even get a mention. The only DNA research which Redmonds and Hey comment on is the very early research by Bryan Sykes. They uncritically accept his finding of a single origin for the Dyson surname, yet only low-resolution tests were used, the sample size was very small and the research was never published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

It is perhaps difficult for academics to comment on the findings of individual DNA studies, especially when there are no common standards, the projects vary so much in quality, and very few projects have published their results. Surname historians will always be concerned with the bigger picture and cannot be expected to research individual surnames in great detail. Both sides can however learn a lot from each other. The challenge for Guild members is to find a way to make the academics aware of our work so that we can find a common ground.

Nevertheless, the book is well worth reading, and it provides an excellent overview of the state-of-the-art methodology of surname research. It will be of great interest to all Guild members, regardless of whether or not they are interested in pursuing a DNA project. ■

Debbie Kennett

### Notes

1. The Forum thread on “Surname Dictionaries, Surnames, DNA & Family History, and more thorough one-name studies” can be read in the GOONS-L Archives at <http://tinyurl.com/RedmondsKingHey>.



2. The papers published by Chris Pomery in JOGG and John Plant in *Nomina* can be accessed in the Guild Wiki at: <http://tinyurl.com/PomeryPlant>.



# Railway Records Seminar

Steam Museum, Kemble Drive, Swindon  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

by **Richard Scantlebury (Member 3209)**

As I have a small number of Scantleburys who were employees of the GWR (God's Wonderful Railway) so it was appropriate to attend the seminar at the former Swindon works, now known as the Steam Museum, the birthplace for Kings, Castles, Halls and Manors classic steam engines built for the GWR. Inside Brunel's engine house the first presentation "Mayhem on the Midland" was given by Chris and Judy Rouse of the Wyvern Midland Railway Index, an index of some 38,000 names of individuals, compiled from Directors minutes, newspapers, staff records and other sources, who either were employees, passengers or others who had dealings with the company. Whilst not the largest railway company the lines of the Midland Railway radiated from its Derby Headquarters north, east, south, and west serving most parts of the British Isles. To give us an insight of these indexes and records Chris and Judy took us through three events arising from these indexes and records.



Chris and Judy Rouse

The first of these was the case of Lady Zetland and her maid, a Mrs Emily Eleanor Jeffs both of whom were travelling on a Midland Railway Train in their own coach which was strapped on a flatbed wagon which caught fire. Their journey from Yorkshire to London was in December 1844 and at night. As the situation developed both the ladies were unable to communicate with anyone else and Mrs Jeffs fell from the wagon. This tale of woe was gleaned from the Directors minutes of the Midland together with further research with newspapers.

The second tale of woe was the story of Ralph Thompson a cab inspector who committed suicide by cutting his throat after suffering from flu. Last was the murder of Emma Hollis, the wife of Henry Herbert Hollis, by William Thomas, a clerk in the employ of the Midland Railway; William only had one arm and one leg.

The second session was by Martin Sanders, an archivist at the Modern Record Centre at Warwick University, which addresses the study of social, economic and political history mainly from the middle of the 19th century onwards - in short a history of British industrial relations. It seems that not all working people were union members the percentage being in single figures. Union records can be a little patchy, entries can be limited to names and date of joining, records of benefits being paid out can produce good genealogical information of next of kin.



Martin Sanders

The author of "Railway Ancestors" David Hawkings started the afternoon off by an admission that his research and the writing of his book was the result of a misinterpretation of a census occupation that "st porter" was not a porter at Temple Meads Railway station but a street porter in Bedminster! However he did surprise me on two counts the first being that there were 991 Railway Companies reducing as result of take overs and mergers to the big four in 1922, the second surprise was on one of his slides an employee personal record of the Cornwall Railway of one W Scantlebury an inspector!

<i>Cornwall Railway</i>				
<i>List of Staff employed in the Traffic Department at the undermentioned Stations</i>				
<i>Name</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Date of entering service</i>	<i>Salary or Wages</i>	
<i>Plymouth</i>				
<i>Scantlebury W</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>May 62</i>	<i>1 15</i>	
<i>Scoble H</i>	<i>Pass Guard</i>	<i>Oct 59</i>	<i>1 8</i>	
<i>Hickway W</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>April 60</i>	<i>1 8</i>	
<i>Kelly A</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Jan 61</i>	<i>1 8</i>	

The last session was George Yalden of the Railway Ancestors Family History Society (RAFHS), over the years the RAFHS has produced indexes of Rail People from a wide spectrum of sources including Railway staff magazines.

Thanks to Gordon, Rod, the committee, and of the speakers for organising a seminar that proved to be both informative, and enjoyable. Most of these presentations and more notes are available on the Guild Website under *Members Room > Information > Seminars & Conferences* <http://www.one-name.org/members/seminars.html>. ■

# Forthcoming Seminars

19<sup>th</sup> May 2012

## Ironbridge Gorge Industrial Revolution Seminar

Where better to study the effects of the Industrial Revolution on our family history. How it affected the movement of population and the spread of surnames around the country during the period. We shall be presenting talks by leading experts in the field, with of course, some local specialist subject matter.

Venue: Coalbrookdale and Ironbridge Community Centre, 2, Wellington Rd, Coalbrookdale, Telford, Shropshire TF8 7DX

18<sup>th</sup> August 2012

## Epsom Hands-On Computer Seminar

Once again we return to this popular subject and excellent venue with particular emphasis on sessions that will provide hands-on experience of the key tools that support our One-Name Studies. There will be much to interest members with a wide range of skill levels and most sessions will be repeated to allow all a chance to attend their choice.

Venue: Rosebery School, White Horse Drive, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7NQ

17<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## Maritime Records Seminar

What better place than Greenwich for a maritime seminar. We are aiming this seminar at the subject of where to find details of mariners, both R.N. and M.N., whom you may have in your study. Being in the London area, we should be able to obtain the services of top specialists in the field.

Venue: National Maritime Museum, Park Row, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF

## Army Records Seminar

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Victoria Hall, 121 Ash Hill Road, Ash, Surrey, GU12 5DN



Where better for a seminar on Army Records than at the home of the British Army, Aldershot? Not quite Aldershot, but at Ash Victoria Hall, some 3 miles to the east. Ash is home to the Army Medical Services Museum at Keogh Barracks. We shall be assembling a group of experts and trust you will join us.

### Programme

- 09:30 - 10:00 Arrival: Registration and Coffee
- 10:00 - 10:15 Welcome by seminar organiser
- 10:15 - 11:15 Iain Swinnerton - Introduction to the British Army, history, organisation, ranks and traditions
- 11:15 - 11:30 Comfort Break
- 11:30 - 12:30 Simon Fowler - British Army Sources for One-Name Studies
- 12:30 - 13:45 Buffet Lunch - Opportunity to talk and see displays
- 13:45 - 14:45 Roy Hemington - The Commonwealth War Graves Commission - Film, followed by talk on the CWGC archive
- 14:45 - 15:00 Comfort Break
- 15:00 - 16:00 Peter Bailey - Records of the Armies in British India
- 16:00 - 16:15 Comfort Break
- 16:15 - 16:30 Question and Answer Session
- 16:30 - 16:45 Wrap up and Close of Seminar

Applications to attend are welcome from Guild members, family historians, genealogists and members of the general public having an interest in army records related to family history.

The cost of the seminar will be £15 per person including refreshments. To make the day more interactive everyone is invited to bring along details of their studies for display and sharing. We shall have pin boards available and the Seminar Coordinator will liaise with you beforehand.

Disabled delegates. We would like to ensure that any disabled delegate can participate fully in this event. If you need any special requirements please telephone: Guild Help Desk on 0800 011 2182.



For more background information and booking online see on the Guild Website under *Event Calendar* <http://www.one-name.org/events.html>.

Postal booking forms may also be obtained from the Guild web-site or by phoning the Guild Help desk Tel: 0800 011 2182. ■

# Pictures from Railway Records Seminar at Swindon



Vol 11 Issue 1 January–March 2012

Main inset: Lively discussions between attendees.

Top left: Chris and Judy Rouse - "Mayhem on the Midland"

Middle left: Martin Sanders together with Peter Rugman, discussing Peter's grandfather James Rugman.

Bottom left to right: David Hawkins - "Record of Railway Ancestors", George Yalden - "General Research into Railway Records", Caerphilly Castle steam engine.

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