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# Journal

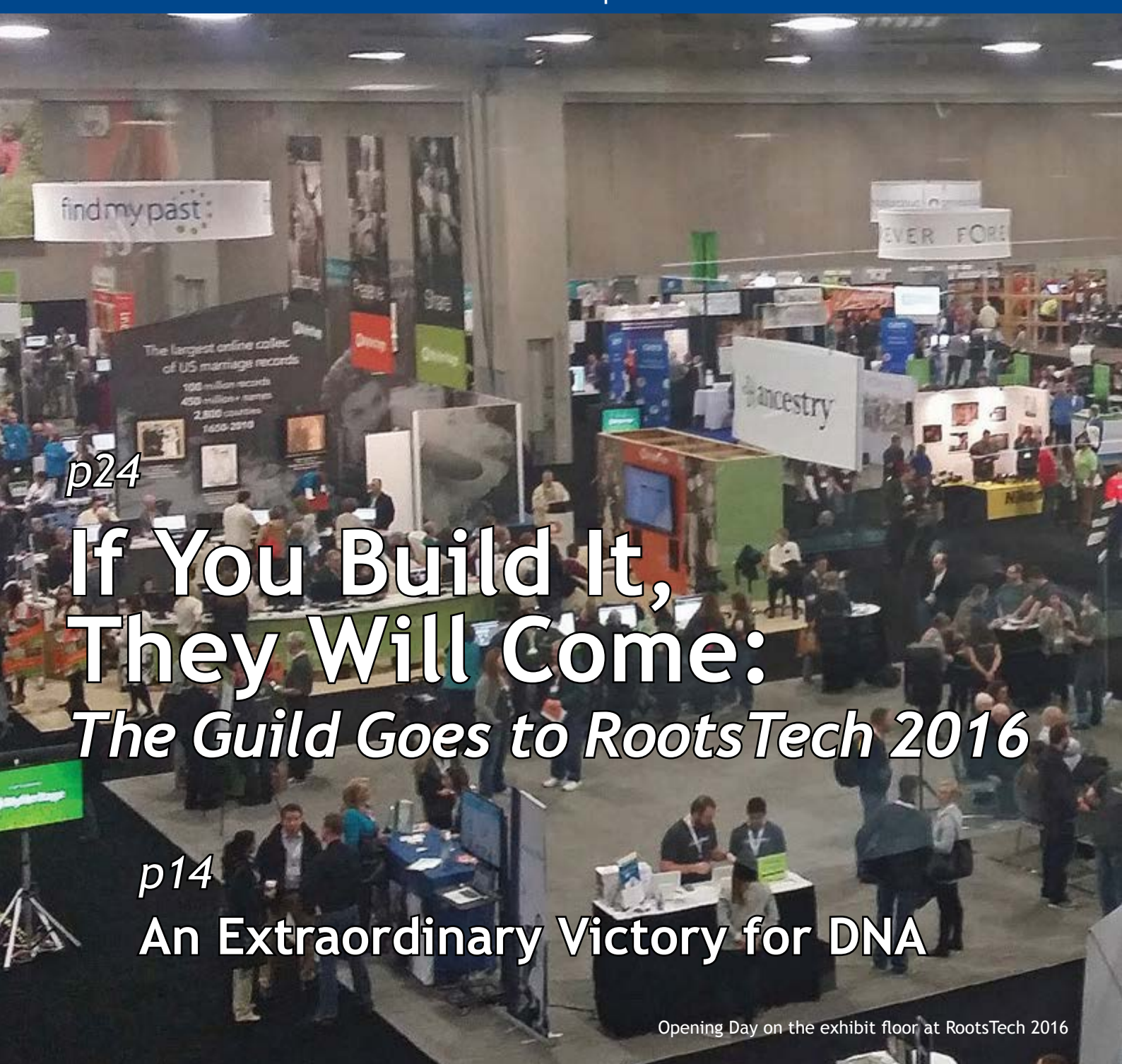
## of One-Name Studies

The quarterly  
publication of the

**Guild of  
One-Name  
Studies**

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

Volume 12 Issue 6 • April-June 2016



p24

## If You Build It, They Will Come: *The Guild Goes to RootsTech 2016*

p14

## An Extraordinary Victory for DNA

Opening Day on the exhibit floor at RootsTech 2016

All the latest Guild news and updates

# Guild

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The Guild is served by about 100  
volunteers each of whom gives of their  
valuable time. For a current list of  
postholders, see: <http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/post-holders/> and  
<http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/regional-representatives/>.

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## Guild information

### Our Mission

*The Guild will strengthen its position  
as the centre of excellence for surname  
studies by educating the worldwide  
genealogical community in one-name  
studies and empowering members to  
share their knowledge and expertise.*

### Regional Representatives

The Guild has Regional Reps in many  
areas around the world. If you are  
interested in becoming one, please  
contact Regional Rep Coordinator  
Gerald Cooke: [rep-coordinator@one-name.org](mailto:rep-coordinator@one-name.org).

### WebForum

The Guild's WebForum is open to any  
member logged into our website. Simply  
click on the word "Forums" in the menu  
bar at the top of the home page.

### Mailing List

This online mailing list is open to any  
member with an email account. To  
join the list, complete the brief form  
at: <http://one-name.org/rootsweb-mailing-list/>. To send a message to  
the mailing list send it **in plain text**  
to [goons@rootsweb.com](mailto:goons@rootsweb.com).



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# CONTENTS

## MAIN ARTICLES

- 9 Early Causes of Death in New Hampshire USA by Peter Fifield Wells
- 10 Preliminary Finding on the Origins and Distribution of the Name Vize by Sue Vize
- 14 An Extraordinary Victory for DNA by Israel Pickholtz
- 16 An Early Emigrant to America by Bob Hilbourne
- 19 Finding Female Forebears: How a One-Name Society Helped Me Find Matilda by Audrey Potter
- 21 Internet Resources: Family Tree Maker and Genealogy Software Alternatives by Rennison Vayro

## GUILD REPORTS - NEWS - EVENTS

- 23 *Special Program Announcement: 1 June Seminar on DNA, with Debbie Kennett and Israel Pickholtz*
- 24 If You Build It, They Will Come: The Guild Goes to RootsTech 2016 by Tessa Keough
- 28 The 20<sup>th</sup> Century is Now History Seminar Report by John L Smith
- 30 *Special 'Writing Your Family History' E-Course Offer for Guild Members*
- 31 Forthcoming Seminars

## REGULARS

- 4 From the Committee by Julie Goucher
- 5 Marriage Challenge Update: Sussex on FamilySearch by Peter Copsey MCG
- 6 DNA for Your ONS: Maximizing Success for Your DNA Project by Susan C Meates MCG

### NOTICE: Annual Report to Members

Eagle-eyed members will note that there is no Annual Report enclosed with the *Journal* for this edition. The committee has decided that to save printing and mailing costs we will place the Report on our website. You can find it here: <http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/annual-report-to-charity-commission/>.

If you would like a hard copy of the report and cannot download and/or print your own, you are welcome to contact Julie Goucher ([secretary@one-name.org](mailto:secretary@one-name.org)) and request one to be mailed to you.

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 Committee...

by Julie Goucher, Guild Secretary

Hello to everyone from all of us on the Committee.

This last Committee year has been a busy one, but that is not isolated: every year on Committee is busy. There will always be those constant matters discussed each year as part of Guild operating business in addition to the other things that occur, need discussion, or Committee consideration. What is consistent though, is the wish to succeed and make the Guild the best it can be for all members, wherever they are, wherever their research takes them, and regardless if a surname is registered or if you are a new member or not.



A year or so ago a former colleague bought me a mug with the "Keep Calm and..." (In my case it said "Drink Tea!") As our Chairman often says, have fun and enjoy your membership, so this image is a rather shameless plug to say join us in volunteering and support the Guild.

We currently have around 120 members actively involved in running our organisation.

Every one of us is a volunteer, whether we give 30 minutes of our time a month or 100 hours a month! Every offer of assistance counts and helps us to keep the Guild functioning as an organisation. At the time of writing we have around about 2,800 members. Imagine what we could do if every one of us gave an hour to the Guild! To see a list of the postholder vacancies, go to <http://one-name.org/forums/sits-vac/>. If you decide you can help, please drop Volunteer Coordinator Peter Hagger an email at [volunteers@one-name.org](mailto:volunteers@one-name.org). If you don't want to take a postholder position but would like to assist in some other way, please contact Peter.

Following on from RootsTech in the United States where Guild member Israel Pickhotz had a booth, he and Debbie Kennett are having an evening DNA event. This is a joint event with the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain (JGSGb). Details can be found on page 23 of this *Journal* and the booking form can be accessed via [www.tinyurl.com/GuildDNA](http://www.tinyurl.com/GuildDNA).

Plans are already underway for Conference 2017, which will take place in Southampton; and by the time you read this we will be a short time away from Conference 2016, followed by "Who Do You Think You Are? Live" at the NEC. The Guild, as always, has a stand at WDYTIA; for those who supported us or visited us last year we are in the same place, but with a new set of numbers, 97-99. There is still some scope to volunteer for the stand, or feel free to stop by and meet some fellow members. Last year was very successful. My personal view is that we are a forward-thinking organisation and we love



Julie Goucher

nothing more than sharing our interest, curiosity, fascination with surnames.

More recently, we have had our first seminar of 2016. I didn't get to it, sadly, but the recordings are available on the website <http://one-name.org/seminar-events/>. On the right hand side are the links to the various seminars we have had over the years. Click the seminar that

interests you and you will see the program with the links to the recordings and accompanying notes. We owe Bob Cumberbatch a huge thanks for such a task and to our web team for helping it to happen! The next seminar is "Website Creation" in July, and then a DNA seminar in August. The Seminar Subcommittee does a brilliant job of organising seminars for not just members, but for anyone interested in attending.

For those of you who are attending Conference, we look forward to meeting you. We are still taking bookings, so if you are tempted to join us, go on! We were all new to conferences once, including me. This will only be my second in 13 years!

As I close, remember: we are all about "*members helping members.*" ■

### Commemorating the First World War

2014-2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, which is being commemorated around the world. The war claimed the lives of over ten million soldiers and countless civilians. Through our studies, almost all of us will have a connection with the war.

The Guild is a member of the Imperial War Museum (IWM) First World War Centenary Partnership. As members of the Centenary Partnership we are part of the IWM's global programme of cultural events and digital platforms to help people discover more about life in the First World War.

We have set up a website to allow members to tell the stories of those affected, at <http://ww1.one-name.org/>.

Do you have a story worth sharing? It doesn't have to be about a serviceman or a medal winner. It could equally be about families affected by the loss of loved ones, how people left behind coped or worked in factories or ploughed fields, and so on.

It's easy to add a story. Just log in with your Guild login number and password and click on "How To Add/Edit A Story" for instructions. Got more than one? Not a problem!



# Marriage Challenge Update: Sussex on FamilySearch

by Peter Copsey MCG  
(Marriage Challenge Coordinator, Member 1522)

It has been brought to my notice that FamilySearch has recently added lots of images of Sussex parish registers to their site. They are not so easy to find, but here is the way:

On the entry page <https://familysearch.org/>, sign in with your username and password. Click on Search and on the next page click on Catalog. Search by Place, and type into the box the town you wish to research.

Taking Lewes as an example, type in "England, Sussex, Lewes" and "Search." A list of search results appears, and amongst them is the line "England, Sussex, Lewes – Church Records (50)." Bring up the list of 50 (click on the little arrow) and the list includes "Parish records of All Saint's Church, Lewes, 1561-1881." (St Anne's and St John's are also there.)

Click on the words and a listing of the library holdings appears. There are two items, and the second includes Marriages 1813-1880. Now click on the little camera icon under Format. A page of pixelated images appears. Now double-click on various images to find the register you wish to search.

A word of warning: the pixelated images sometimes do not bear much relationship to the properly focussed image. In particular, the marriage entries in a standard register are very misleading. The start of All Saints' marriages is page 191. There is a Guild-registered name on the first page – how many more are there?

I have done a rough check of all parishes in Sussex, and about half of them have digitised marriages registers on FamilySearch. Usually the images extend as far as 1880 or 1881. I was hoping that these images could be useful in a Marriage Challenge, but I have done some further checks and have found that most of the marriages have been indexed by FamilySearch. Members should be able to find their own marriages first from the index and then, using the process above, to locate the image. The index entries have no link, at present, to the images.

A Challenge for a district in Sussex would be sensible for a period such as 1881-1920, mainly beyond the period of the images and indexing. For this, the Challenger would need to visit one or other of the two county record offices in Sussex (see box "Could you be a Challenger?" at right).

The Marriage Challenges beginning in the coming months are listed below. All members are encouraged to send their requests to the Challengers by email. Send the listing extracted from the GRO Marriage index (FreeBMD will give 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.

The key in the last column is:

- A Requests must be sent using the standard "requests.xls" spreadsheet on the MC web-page (exceptions – those without computer or without MS Excel);
- B Requests using the standard Excel template much preferred, but willing to accept other formats;
- C Requests sent in any form accepted. ■

## Could you be a Challenger?

The Guild is always looking for Marriage Challengers. If you live fairly close to a county record office and can afford to spend some time there to help other Guild members with their one-name studies by finding marriage entries, then becoming a Challenger could be an option.

Even if Ancestry, Findmypast, or FamilySearch have done some indexing, there is likely to be some parts of the county or some period where a Challenge would still be practicable. You could do a Challenge with a friend or fellow Guild member; a sense of camaraderie is easily achieved.

I will give advice on what is needed and on any aspect of a Challenge that is concerning you. Most Challengers find the Challenge a rewarding and interesting experience. Why not send me an email to [marriage-challenge@one-name.org](mailto:marriage-challenge@one-name.org) if you think you can contribute.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND PERIOD	REQUEST DEADLINE	CHALLENGER	CHALLENGER'S EMAIL	KEY (SEE ABOVE)
Sheppey 1837-1939	30 April	Nick Miskin	<a href="mailto:miskin@one-name.org">miskin@one-name.org</a>	B



## *DNA for your ONS:*

# Maximizing Success for Your DNA Project

by Susan C Meates MCG (DNA Advisor, Member 3710)

**T**he key to a successful DNA project is recruiting participants. This is an ongoing process, and can at times be the most difficult aspect. The following approaches and tasks will maximize your success with your DNA project.

### **Utilize the theme of discovery in all your recruiting materials.**

Participating is an opportunity for the man and those in his tree to make discoveries about their family tree, their surname, and their distant origin.

### **Keep your message simple.**

As you learn more about DNA testing for genealogy, it is tempting to explain more detailed information to potential participants. Over time, your presentation can become a scientific tutorial.

Keeping it simple is the most effective recruiting approach. Most people are interested in how they benefit, and only a small group care about the scientific details.

### **Utilize the free DNA project website at Family Tree DNA.**

The free DNA project website from Family Tree DNA provides exposure and marketing for your DNA project.

For those that come to the DNA Advisor to get a DNA project, one of the tasks I do is set up your DNA project website at Family Tree DNA with proven marketing material, and select standard options.

### **Review/update your DNA project website annually.**

When the calendar year changes, it is a great reminder to refresh or update your DNA project website. During the prior year you most likely had some activity, and perhaps some interesting discoveries. Adding this information to your website will provide the most current information to your visitors. Plus, if they are on the fence and have visited before, seeing something new or learning about a success or discovery might motivate them to participate or contact you.

To update your DNA project website, log into your GAP. In the Menu bar select Project Administration, then Public Website.

### **Review/update your DNA project profile annually.**

When you search your registered surname at Family Tree DNA, you arrive at the search results page. There are three sections to this page:

- Persons tested with the surname
- Y-DNA surname projects for the surname

- Other projects that include the surname, such as geographic projects

In the middle section, Y-DNA surname projects for the surname, there should be only one project listed – yours. If other surname projects have added your surname(s) to their project, contact the DNA Advisor who will investigate the situation and determine what actions to take.

There is supposed to be only one Y-DNA surname project for a surname. Sometimes there are others, and it is an accident. In other cases, a surname variant may have evolved from two different roots, and it is in two projects; this is acceptable.

Click on your DNA project on the search results page, and you arrive at your DNA project profile. Then you can review this item to determine if it needs to be updated.

To update your DNA project profile, log into your GAP, in the Menu bar select Project Administration, then Project Profile.

### **Check the surnames listed in your DNA project.**

The surnames included in your DNA project appear on both the DNA project profile and the DNA project website.

When the DNA Advisor sets up your DNA project, all the surnames that are registered with the Guild are included.

Perhaps you have changed your registered surnames, or you want to add some surnames to your DNA project to investigate whether they are variants. You can have surnames in your DNA project beyond your one-name study surnames, to investigate surname evolution and whether they are variants. You don't need to do a one-name study on these surnames, simply collect direct male line information from the participants.

It is important that all your registered surnames are listed in the DNA project, and that those surnames are ones that exist today. Do not include surnames that existed in the past, and do not survive today.

When people find the Family Tree DNA website, they search their surname. Make sure they can find your DNA project by listing all your registered surnames, and all other surnames that are potential variants that interest you.

To update your surnames, log into your GAP, in the Menu bar select Project Administration, then Project Profile. The surnames must be separated by commas.



## List your DNA project website in the Guild online Register, so the project gets visibility.

List either your DNA project profile or the home page of your DNA project website in the Guild online Register.

Copy the link to either of these from your browser's address bar.

Add your DNA project to the Guild online Register using this link:

<http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/user-maintenance/multiplewebsitefrontpage.cgi>.

After you click on the above link, you will then paste in the web address that you copied earlier into the box where it says "Submit DNA site."

## Create or update your Guild profile.

A Guild profile is basically a free webpage to promote your one-name study and DNA project. It is easy to create and maintain. You can add sections over time, or set up all the sections at once.

If you have a Guild profile, it would be beneficial to review and update it annually. Each year you probably know more about the surnames you are studying, and have had some discoveries with your DNA project.

Having a Guild profile will tell visitors about your one-name study and DNA project, and may encourage visitors to contact you.

Try to make your Guild profile interesting and warm and friendly, to encourage persons to contact you.

For information about setting up a Guild profile, visit the Guild Members Room.

Recently, a one-name study updated their Guild profile, and this was the only change to any of their Internet properties in that month. For some reason, five DNA participants inquired shortly after the update. Though there is no proof the two events are related, it is peculiar that the only change that month was to the Guild profile.

## Link your DNA project profile and DNA project website to your Guild profile and vice versa. If you have a one-name study website, link this to the others and vice versa.

This step is important to maximize your online exposure.

## Are there people in the Family Tree DNA database who are not in your DNA project?

There can often be people in the Family Tree DNA database that are not in your DNA project yet. They could have tested before you set up your DNA project, and you didn't get to step seven in your Getting Started email, or you started your DNA project by yourself and didn't know of this step.

Or, people could have tested since you had a project, such as buying a test kit at a conference, and didn't know about your project.

Some of these participants could be female, though they

are valuable to your project to help recruit a male from their tree or they can be a source of donations.

Here are the directions to get others with your DNA project surnames to join your DNA project.

First, find out if there are persons who have already tested with your surname(s) in the Family Tree DNA database, and not in your project. Go to the link below, search each of your DNA project surnames in the box on the right, one at a time, and record the surname and count for those surnames that show persons tested. If none are found, skip the remainder of this step.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/surname-search-results.aspx?>

Then count up those with each surname in your DNA project, on the Member Information report. For each surname found in the main database, subtract those in your project to get the resulting number who are in the database but not in your DNA project.

Modify the draft invitation email below to fit your situation, and send it to the DNA Advisor at [DNA@one-name.org](mailto:DNA@one-name.org) with a count of each surname in the database that is not in your project.

Your "invitation to join" email will be sent to the appropriate person at Family Tree, who will send it to those in the database who are not in your project. You will get a copy when it is sent. It usually takes a week.

It is recommended that you repeat this step at least annually. This invitation service is a benefit for Guild members provided by Family Tree DNA.

*Hi*

*My name is xxxxxx and I am writing to invite you to join the xxxxxx DNA Project.*

*Joining the project will not cost you anything, nor involve you in anything further, though I can probably provide you with information regarding your family tree. I have been researching the history of the xxxxxx surname and its variants since xxxx. Through my research I have been able to build up several different family trees, some going back as far as xxxx. If you can share some details of your family tree with me, then it is likely that I will be able to fit you on to one of the trees I have, which I will be happy to share with you, again at no cost to you.*

*To join, go to your Personal Page. Then, click "Projects" in the menu, then "Join a Project," and follow the directions. Enter "xxxxxx" in the search box that will come up on your screen.*

*If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. I do hope that you will choose to join!*

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

## The Guild logo for your DNA project web site.

If the DNA Advisor set up your DNA project, then the DNA project website automatically conforms to the requirements for the Guild logo, and the logo was turned on at Family Tree DNA. If you do a project search with one of your surnames, on the search results page you should see the word Guild next to your DNA project listing.

If you set up your own project or joined the Guild with a DNA project, you can qualify for the Guild logo.

A logo review is done to ensure that your DNA project meets the requirements. It is recommended that you check and address the following items before contacting the DNA Advisor about getting the Guild logo. These are the primary qualifications to display the Guild logo against a DNA project at Family Tree DNA.

- All your registered surnames are in the DNA project
- Any additional surnames listed in the DNA project are there as possible variants or to explore surname evolution
- Both the DNA profile and the DNA project website mention the Guild and the one-name study. Below is some sample text, or you can develop your own. Note that the sample text links to the Guild profile, which is called the one-name study website in the description. This approach is taken since most people find it much easier to create a Guild profile than to create a one-name study website, so therefore the Guild profile is their website.

*The surnames in this DNA project are researched as part of the XXXX one-name study. You can learn more about this significant research, and the associated family trees, by visiting the one-name study website, or contacting the Group Administrator.*

[http://one-name.org/name\\_profile/XXXX/](http://one-name.org/name_profile/XXXX/)

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

- Ensure that the DNA profile and DNA project website link to your Guild profile, and vice versa
- Your DNA project must be global in nature, and this must be expressed in the description. In other words, any DNA projects confined to a specific location, such as the USA, will **not** qualify for the logo.
- Your DNA results should be in genetic groups representing a genealogical time frame. This means that grouping by haplogroup is not sufficient.
- Your DNA project profile should not be one long run-on paragraph. You can fix this by inserting basic html. Insert <br> for a line break, and <br><br> to get a blank line between paragraphs.

## Develop a standard email/letter

If you came to the DNA Advisor to get your DNA project, you received a sample recruiting letter and email. You can improve these items by customizing them for your situation.

If you started your DNA project, it would be beneficial to develop a standard recruiting email and letter. This enables you to keep a consistent simple message in your recruiting activities.

## Raise donations to provide paid test kits.

It is easier to recruit participants if you can provide paid test kits. Often several members of a family tree will be willing to donate to cover the cost of a test kit for their family tree.

If you have several members of a family tree contributing towards a paid test kit, you can collect the funds, and order the kit from the Guild, or you can have a donation made to your DNA project general fund, though you wouldn't get the savings of purchasing the test kit from the Guild.

## Your participants can purchase test kits from the Guild for significant savings.

The Guild has implemented the facility where your participants can now purchase test kits from the Guild. Previously, only Guild members could purchase test kits. For complete information, visit this page at the Guild website: <http://one-name.org/dna-kits-available-from-the-guild/> or contact the DNA Kit Coordinator, Teresa Pask, at [dna-kit-order@one-name.org](mailto:dna-kit-order@one-name.org).

## Want to Get Started?

When you are ready to add DNA to your one-name study, the DNA Advisor is here to help, including setting up your project with proven marketing material. Simply write: [DNA@one-name.org](mailto:DNA@one-name.org). You will receive a completely setup project, that you can modify, along with an easy-to-follow 20-step Getting Started email and a sample recruiting email and letter. ■

## Have You Tried the Guild's Marriage Locator?

Do you know about the Guild's "Marriage Locator" website? The site uses the marriage index created by the General Register Office for England and Wales to narrow down where a particular couple were married – not just which registration district, but often which church!

Once you know the Anglican Church in which a marriage took place, and the church marriage register has been deposited (as most have been) in the local county record office, then you can go to that record office and look at the marriage register. Or you may be able to find the entry on a genealogical website such as FamilySearch, Ancestry, FindMyPast or an Online Parish Clerk.

The Marriage Locator is a free service for the public by the Guild at: <http://marriage-locator.co.uk/>. Tell your friends!

One final comment: the site takes its data from the Guild's marriage index. The more marriages in the index, the better the prediction. Have you shared your data?





# Early Causes of Death in New Hampshire USA

by Peter Fifield Wells (Member 2599)

For several years I have been a volunteer at the New Hampshire State Archives assisting researchers in finding vital records. Since the state allowed the LDS to film all their records, now on line, there is little need for my service. Therefore I have been able to go through all of the early death records looking for female Fifields who might otherwise have become lost due to the incomplete earlier records. Every so often a cause of death would catch my eye. Additional comments of mine are in parentheses.

A couple of housewives in the late 1800s died from "decay" and "weakness." "Rum and tobacco" caused the death of the occasional male, and in 1895 one died from "exhaustion from the use of opium." In 1923 the contributing cause for Mr Leonard was "probably over indulgence in moonshine beverages." The death record for Mr Richardson merely said he fell dead at the Freewill Baptist Church. (It must have been quite a service.) Leading to all kinds of speculation, in 1859 Truman Lewis was "found dead in bed at Ezra Foster's with his clothes on."

In the line of apparent occupational deaths, Mr Wykonski, iceman, in August 1915 died from accidental drowning (that ice melts very quickly on a hot summer day). Mr Walker, meat dealer, in 1925 died as a result of being kicked by a horse (which must have been expressing its opinion of his trade). Mr Shea, a water works department meter reader, in 1910 died from accidental drowning. Mr Lewis, a farmer, in 1918 was "killed in action by machine gun-fire." (That farming equipment will turn on you if not treated right.)

The death of Mr MacNevin in 1934 caused a bit of dispute. The diagnosis was pneumonia, but Dr Connor refused to sign the certificate because he had been discharged, and a Christian Scientist practitioner was called.

Several premature or stillborn births gave interesting causes or contributing causes. One in 1913 was due to "fright of mother." In 1907, the contributing cause was a "newly painted house," duration of cause two weeks. In 1934, the cause was "overwork," contributing cause a "tiresome auto ride." (Apparently a precocious and impatient youngster trying to make itself heard from the womb with the age-old question "Are we there yet?") In 1928, the contributing cause was "overworked mother, 12<sup>th</sup> pregnancy." In 1930, baby

175

Name	John Leo
Place of Birth	Rochester
No.	140 So. Main St.
Ward	2
Village	
How long a resident	6. MOR.
Previous residence	Somersworth
If death occurred at an institution give name of same	
How long an inmate	
Where from	
Date of Death	Year 1913 Month 1 Day 31
Age	Years 49 Months 13 Days 13
Place of Birth	
Date of Birth	Year 1863 Month 1 Day 16
Sex	M. Color W. Married Single Widowed or Divorced
Occupation	Laborer
Cause of Death	Acute Gastritis & Ptomaine Poisoning several hrs. He bought the ingredients to make 'home-brew' to his house & put them together on afternoon of Jan. 28/32. He kept drinking this stuff all day the 29 <sup>th</sup> and all day the 30 <sup>th</sup> & ate a very heavy supper of frankforts and baked beans on 30 <sup>th</sup> .
Birthplace of Father	Italy
Birthplace of Mother	Italy
Occupation of Father	Italy

(Record continued over.)

John Leo died after drinking too much "home brew... and a very heavy supper of frankforts [sic] and baked beans..."

Lane, mother's surname Lane, no father, had the contributing cause "idiocy in mother," duration "life."

There were a couple of interesting and contrasting causes with accompanying durations. Marie St Cyr, age 87 in 1904, died of "old age," duration "1 month." (Amazing how quickly that old age catches up on you.) The contributing cause for Alvina Poney in 1930 was "acute dilation of right ventricle due to fright," duration "16 years." (Can you imagine spending 16 years being scared to death?)

In 1920, Mary Moriarty died in Boston, Massachusetts, with the cause of death being "further investigation by Med. Examiner." (This demonstrates the advisability of continuing to see regular doctors before trying an autopsy.) One day, two researchers at the archives were chuckling over a cause given as "the sands of time ran out."

In 1910, Mr. Niles died from "obstructed bowels and acute indigestion," contributing cause "ice water drinking and eating green apples," duration two days. In 1913, Mrs Philbrick died of "apoplexy and paralysis," contributing cause "not insane." (It takes a crazy person to put up with those New Hampshire winters.) In 1906, Mr Murphy's cause was "probably cardiac paralysis," contributing cause "bathing in river." In 1900, Mrs Richardson died of a pulmonary problem, duration immediate, contributing cause "inhalation impure air," duration six months. In 1906, Mr MacCarthy died from "accidental crushing of neck by railroad accident," contributing cause "sleeping on track."

By 1941 the state decided it was a good idea to obtain the signature of the person reporting the time and details of the death. Therefore, the death of Mr Kelly on 25 February had as the entry for "informant's own signature" the words "self before death," filled in at the hospital where he died.

In 1932 during prohibition the cause of death for John Leo, age 49, read "acute gastritis and ptomaine poisoning," duration several hours. The contributing cause was "He bought the ingredients to make 'home-brew' to his house and put them together on afternoon of January 28/32. He kept drinking this stuff all day the 29<sup>th</sup> and all day the 30<sup>th</sup> and ate a very heavy supper of frankforts and baked beans on 30<sup>th</sup>."

Last, but not least, the cause of death for Nancy Merrow on 17 February 1858, reported by D T Parker, MD, was very simply "God killed her." ■



# Preliminary Finding on the Origins and Distribution of the Name Vize

by Sue Vize (Member 5972)

**H**aving spent several months collecting information for England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Channel Isles, Isle of Man, Australia, and New Zealand, and collecting some 8,000 records, the task of a one-name study for even a relatively uncommon surname seems ever more daunting. For this reason, this paper focuses on key clusters that have emerged from family reconstructions.

The reconstruction of these groups has developed my theory about the origin of the surname Vize/Vise/Vyse (hereafter Vize will be used for ease, actual surnames appear in capital letters), its spread across the world, and growth as a surname group. Family legend and available records will be considered in each case.

This study focuses on the surname Vize. Proposed variants include VIZE, VISE, VYSE and VYZE, all of which have current population groups and pass on the name/spelling. Spelling variations in older records include VICE, VIES and VYES, though there is little evidence of these in modern usage and most records found indicate these are likely to be deviants. Some surname specialists have proposed FICE, VICE and VYCE as variants, but further analysis is required before considering these variants and it is outside the scope of this article (though some records with these spellings are included when there are known connections to other Vizes). Devize or Devise is also considered in some cases. Poor transcriptions, accents, and bad or unfamiliar hand-writing have contributed greatly to the proliferation of other deviants, which include a strange collection from VICHA and VOSSE, to NYSE and PRYSE (37 discovered so far).

The various surname dictionaries on English names are inconclusive on the meaning and origin of the Vize surname. Reaney and Wilson conclude it is Old French and likely to be of Norman origin. They claim it means “dweller by the boundary.” They place Vize in Wiltshire, Cornwall, and Sussex through the occurrence of early records in these areas, but favour Wiltshire as the place of origin. Most surname dictionaries agree on Wiltshire as a point of origin. Guppy describes Vyse as a Hertfordshire name. Lower concluded there may be multiple origins, including Devizes in Wiltshire.

There is evidence of similar names, which may be related, in France, Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany. Historical data sets for baptisms show many possibly related surnames, particularly in Western European countries, but also in some Eastern European countries. If Vize has a French origin, there may be some connection with similar names in some of these countries. As I do not have the experience required to analyse these, further discussions will focus on the British Isles and populations established from migrations from the British Isles.

## The Earliest Vize Records

Richard of Devizes (fl 1189-1192) appears to pre-date what is considered the use of Vize as a surname. It is believed that in this case, it denotes simply that Richard was born or entered a monastery in Devizes. Little is known about Richard’s life and origins as he is known only from his writings, which cover the period from King Richard I “the Lionheart” between 1189 until after his death in 1199.

The first recorded usage of the surname Vize dates to the year 1296. The Canterbury Cathedral Dean and Chapter Archives holds quitclaims dated 1296 and 1298 that record a John le VYSE as a witness to two land leases in Southchurch, Essex.

The next record is from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century in London. The murder of John atte VYSE, a London saddler, is recorded in the year 1326. Arising from a quarrel between the goldsmiths and saddlers, when John was walking along High Street of Chepe in the evening, three goldsmiths accosted him.

The next recorded using of the name was Robert atte VISE, who is noted in the Sussex Subsidy Roll of 1327. Robert was a landholder in the Parish of Shoreham, Rape of Bramber in West Sussex. One of 44 men assessed in Shoreham, his holdings were valued at a modest one shilling. He was also a property owner in the Parish of Kingston, also in the Rape of Bramber, where he was assessed for 1s 2d. Robert does not appear in the 1332 Sussex Subsidy Roll.

A list of place names from Devon dating to 1330 mentions a John de la VISE. The place names associated with this John are Viza in Ashwater and Vyse Wood in Morthoe.

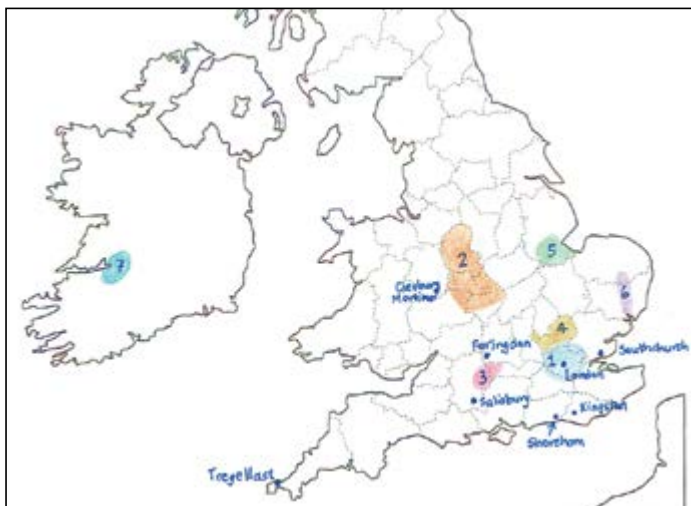
In 1334, Richard atte VISE was awarded the custody of the park of Clebury during the minority of its heir Edmund de Mortuo Mari. The location of Clebury is not mentioned, possibly now Cleobury Mortimer in Shropshire identified by William Camden as “a village called Clebury [where] Hugh Mortimer built a castle which King Henrie the Second forthwith so rased (because it was a nourisher of sedition) that scarce there remaine any tokens thereof at this day.”

John de VYSE was given charge of the sub-deanery of Salisbury in 1347/8 by the Abbot of Middleton and Canon of Exeter. John is designated as bachelor of arts and bachelor of canon law, so had probably attended Oxford (founded at the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century) or Cambridge (founded between 1209 and 1225). He was later nominated for a canonry and prebend of Exeter, which was granted in 1349. This John is also listed in the *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae*.

In 1354 a Serlo VYSE was claimant to a property in Tregellast, Parish of St Keverne, Cornwall. Serlo later acknowledged that he had gifted both the manor and tenements to Richard de Coryton.

A final early record from the late 14<sup>th</sup> century (undated) is an inquisition sworn by a group of men including John VYSE in Faringdon, Oxfordshire. This village lies close to the boundary of both Wiltshire and Berkshire and is very close to Lambourn (which will feature later).

In sum there are eight identified Vizes living around the period 1296-1400 in England – John in Essex, Robert in Sussex, John in Devonshire, another John in London, Serlo in Cornwall, John in Oxfordshire, Richard in Shropshire, and John who was assigned clerical duties in Salisbury and Exeter but whose family origins are not known. A number appear to be men of property, since they are involved in witnessing documents, one a clergyman and the fourth a tradesman. We do not know if they are connected in any way. These are shown on the map below:



Map of England showing the location of the earliest records for the name Vize and seven geographic clusters that emerge from the analysis.

Further evidence from the 15<sup>th</sup> century identifies individuals in Kent and Wiltshire. The advent of parish registers provides a substantial increase in records over the 16<sup>th</sup> century, though surviving records from the 1500s are sparse. The earliest recorded entry is Thomas VISE baptised in Dunstable, Bedfordshire in 1559. The 1560s and 1570s each have around 10 surviving records distributed in Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Staffordshire, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire (noting that parish registers for this period are incomplete and other locations are possible).

## Distribution and Migration

The distribution across all listings in the FamilySearch collection *England and Wales Christenings, 1538-1975* with 1,694 listings (of which about 30 percent appear to be duplicates) shows strong clustering around Staffordshire/Warwickshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, and Lincolnshire. The distribution also shows the development of clusters using the different spellings. Greater London is a further cluster, but this is probably due at least in part to migration into the city.

The largest group combines Staffordshire and Warwickshire, and the records belonging to Worcestershire could also be

placed in this group. Together these account for 593 records, or about one-third of the listings. A large number of records in this cluster are from Standon (or Stawne), the seat of the VYSE family of Stawne.

The second-largest group, when further disaggregated shows a large part of the cluster with possible connections to the area around the Wiltshire-Berkshire border. For this reason Aldbourne (Wiltshire), Lambourn, East Garston, and other nearby villages (Berkshire) are considered a cluster. If this was considered part of a Wiltshire/Berkshire hub, the combined number of listings is 167. Lambourn has the largest collection of listings within this hub. This hub lends weight to the Wiltshire theory of origin.

The Hertfordshire cluster, which covers all spelling groups, became the largest cluster by the 1700s, with a total of 215 listings.

The Norfolk cluster shows some movement into neighbouring Suffolk, so Norfolk/Suffolk can be considered a fourth hub with a combined 136 listings. Dickleburgh and Tivertshall are the main villages in this cluster.

The final cluster, in Lincolnshire, has 92 listings, mainly centred on the villages of Spalding and Holbeach. Family reconstruction undertaken shows that nearly all of these records are from a single family.

The occurrence of listings in 32 counties, most of which are very small, most probably indicates the migration of single families. The spread reaches from Cornwall in the south-west (five listings) to Northumberland in the north east (eight listings). There are no listings for Wales.

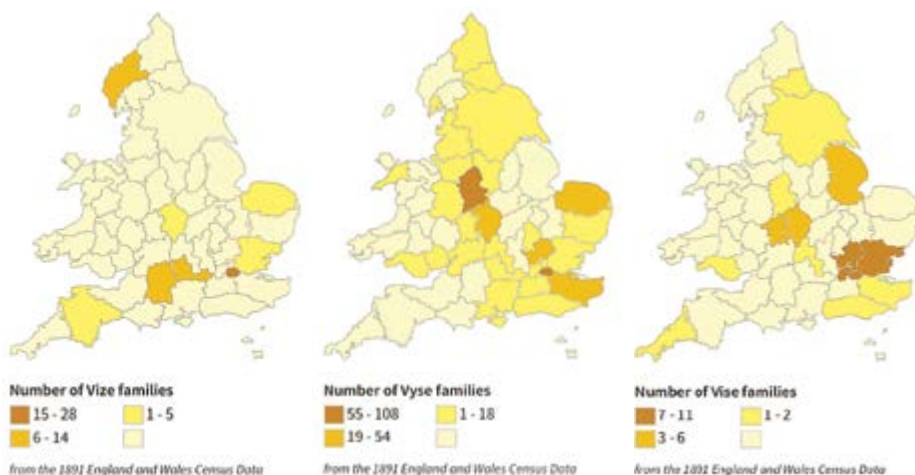
The Vizes in Ireland were also well established by 1800. It is not possible to map the baptismal frequencies due to the paucity of records in Ireland during this period. From the limited records available, the majority of Vizes lived in the Limerick and Tipperary area.

Comparing this to the medieval records, which show a presence in Cornwall/Devon, Wiltshire, Sussex, Shropshire, Oxfordshire and London, the distribution shows significant differences. There were only seven baptisms listed for Cornwall and Devon, and there were no listings for Sussex. The Wiltshire/Berkshire cluster may show a link to the early records.

The 1891 England census is considered to be one of the most complete snapshots of population and is often used for analysis of surname distribution. VIZE, VYSE and VISE all occur at relatively low frequencies with a total of 680 occurrences (which is subject to further adjustment for corrections which may be significant as so far nine corrections have been found for VIZE). London is common for all three as a high density location and the pattern varies for the variants in other areas: VIZE is prevalent in Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Cumberland; VYSE in Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, and Norfolk; whilst VISE is dominant in Lincolnshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire, though at such a low frequency many are almost certainly single families (see maps on next page).

The 1891 distribution shows the key clusters identified from the early christening records and London remained core areas in 1891. Staffordshire/Warwickshire remains the largest cluster.





Frequency of persons with Vize, Vyse and Vise surname in the 1891 England census.

Cumberland has emerged as a cluster. Some Vizes have moved into Wales and there is a low density in Sussex, two places not featured in the baptismal listings. The clusters from the period 1560 to about 1800 have changed in a few ways. The Wiltshire/Berkshire cluster including the key villages of Lambourn and Aldbourne remains, but these villages no longer feature. Within the Staffordshire/Warwickshire cluster, the Vize population in Standon has declined and Birmingham, Newcastle, and Stoke feature most strongly.

The 1891 census records for Ireland were destroyed, so using the first available census of 1901, the Irish distribution indicates a complete move away from the Limerick/Tipperary area. From a total of 43 people, 17 were living in Antrim, nine in Dublin, six in Wexford, and small numbers in Armagh, Carlow, and Westmeath.

In 1891, there was also a significant Vize population in Australia, the United States, and Canada, as well as smaller populations in South Africa and New Zealand, probably mostly of English and Irish origins. The earliest census substitute available across Australia is the 1903 electoral roll, which lists 17 registered voters distributed evenly between Victoria and Queensland. As the 1890 US census is incomplete, the 1900 census is the closest substitute. This records 619 individuals, with the highest frequencies in New York (52), Alabama (62) and Kentucky (64). The Canada 1911 census records 95 Vizes, almost all in Ontario.

Moving forward in time again, to contemporary records, as with any family a few flourishing lines have led to a modern distribution of the name that covers England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA, and South Africa as well as several western European countries, including Germany, France, Netherlands, and Belgian (public profiler 2014 distribution). As discussed earlier these could possibly be related since the origin of Vize may be French. India appears as a new area, which again could be related to migration or a separate development, though it is outside the scope of this paper to cover this.

Combining this with a global picture, VIZE is a small group (less than 100 in 1998) in England, but it flourished in Australia, Ireland, and the USA. VISE has reduced to a very small group in England and Australia, though it is by far the largest in the USA. VYSE dominates in England but until recently had remained relatively small in migrant groups, though the Australian records indicate a clear increase over the 1900s. VYZE was a

variant that was inconsistent over time, vanishing for periods but now has a very tiny group established and continuing in England (most other occurrences seem to be deviants).

## Family Reconstruction in Key Clusters

Seven clusters have emerged in the British Isles: London, Staffordshire/Warwickshire, Wiltshire/Berkshire, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk/Suffolk and Ireland. Each of these clusters is examined in more detail below. The paper focuses on the Staffordshire, Wiltshire and Ireland clusters, as these show strongest potential as English places of origin.

### 1. The Staffordshire/Warwickshire Cluster and Vyse of Stawne

The Staffordshire/Warwickshire cluster can be used to track changes over time. The baptismal record set shows the earliest record in Standon in 1595, but several localities in the 1600s: Caverswall (1634), Gnosall (1639), Adbaston (1642), Kingsley (1671), Trentham (1676), Dilhorne (1683). Stoke upon Trent and Newcastle under Lyme, which feature prominently in census records in the 1800s, have their first entries in 1709 and 1704 respectively. Plotting the entries on a map shows the clustering to be fairly tight in the 1600s, with sub-clusters forming around Studley and Stoke/Newcastle in the early 1700s. Birmingham and other more urban settings appear from the later records and, like London, would be expected to have been centres for migrants who could have come from not only Staffordshire, but across England, Ireland, and even foreign places.

Richard atte VISE from Clebury is a possible early ancestor of this group. From the density and size of the cluster it appears that Staffordshire is a long-standing hub for Vizes, with extraneous persons coming into the cluster from the late 1700s.

VYSE of Stawne (or Standon) is the only Vize line with a documented pedigree. The earliest person on the pedigree is John VISE. Working back eight generations from the earliest records of named descendants in the 1560s, John would have probably lived before 1400. The *Visitations of Staffordshire*, first recorded the pedigree to the informant Humphrey VYSE in 1664, nine generations removed from John VISE.

William VISE of Standon (Humphrey's grandfather) is the earliest person on the pedigree whose children were recorded after the start of church baptismal registers. The use of the VYSE spelling became settled by about 1700 (though there are still variations).

The family was a landowning family but rose to some prominence through General Richard VYSE (1746-1825) who married the heiress Anne HOWARD. This line took the surname HOWARD VYSE by royal signed manual in 1812. The family has been prominent in the armed forces. The family took the HOWARD seat in Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire as well as estates in Northamptonshire.

VYSE is now the largest spelling group (more than double the others combined) with several geographical clusters including Staffordshire/Warwickshire and Norfolk. It seems to be growing in England, but records from the 1950s onwards also show an increase in Australia, which was dominated by VIZE groups before this.

Given the geographical distribution it is possible that this is one large family group including VYSE of Stawne. Given the proximity to Staffordshire, this cluster may be connected to Richard atte VISE of Clebury, Shropshire (1334). The VYSEs come from various backgrounds such as humble potters and labourers to the landed gentry. Industries such as the potteries of Stoke may have drawn people from other areas, even overseas. Further analysis and reconstruction is required to provide a more concrete theory regarding this.

## 2. The Wiltshire/Berkshire Cluster

The Wiltshire/Berkshire cluster shows a different pattern, starting clustered around Lambourn, Berkshire, with the Aldbourne, Wiltshire cluster dominating by the 1700s and both gradually declining in the 1800s. This is a very tightly clustered group geographically showing limited movement until the late 1700s, and considering that the records date from the 1500-1700s is a potential place of origin.

Lambourn is close to the Wiltshire border making it plausible that there may be a connection with medieval references to Vizes of Wiltshire, however it borders the Marlborough District to the east of Devizes on which the Wiltshire theory is built. It is close to Faringdon, Oxfordshire, location of one of an early Vize record from around 1400, so it seems likely that there had been Vizes in the Lambourn area over a long period.

The records show an offshoot to Whitchurch, Oxfordshire, which later relocated to Reading in Berkshire and is the largest grouping since the 1800s. The remainder of the population may have moved eastwards, including to London, as well as possibly migrating to the colonies. There is at least one line from this group that has been traced to the United States.

## 3. The Ireland Cluster and Vize of Limerick

The family story reported by Elliott O'DONNELL, grandson of Sarah VIZE of Limerick, writer, ghost hunter and family history buff, is that Joseph VIZE of Devon and his wife Petronella nee PITTON settled in Ireland in the early 1600s. Research on these families in Devon has not turned up any leads, however medieval records indicate some evidence from this area through Serlo VYSE, claimant to a property in Tregellast, Parish of St Keverne, Cornwall, and there is a small presence of records from Cornwall and Devon throughout the baptismal and census records.

Joseph and Petronella have a large descendant group, which appears to be the majority of the VIZE population of Ireland. All the VIZE group (32 of the total 43 records) can be traced to the Limerick/Tipperary VIZE family.

The family owned property in Limerick, Cork and Tipperary, where they were concentrated through the 1600 and 1700s. In the 1800s they started to spread further afield including Dublin, Wexford, and Wicklow. Some descendants have been traced to the USA, Australia, and South Africa (though this group appears to have returned to Ireland). Another branch has become established in Scotland, mainly around Glasgow. Characteristic of this group is the use of the names John and Joseph in nearly every generation until the 1800s.

## Origin of the Name Vize

It seems almost certain that Vize is a name with strong British roots, but also very likely with multiple origins. The English roots appear to have homes in Wiltshire/Berkshire, Cornwall/

Devon and Staffordshire/Warwickshire. Whether these clusters have connections is not clear. Later hubs such as Limerick, Norfolk/Suffolk and London may be off-shoots from one of these groups. The clustering therefore suggests elements that have remained relatively stable though with some eastward drift, establishment of sub-clusters from the original surname group, and new clusters from potentially unrelated sources.

Mapping the record sets and clusters over time shows possible connections between the early settlement patterns (1300s) and the snapshots that could be reviewed for using parish registers (1500-1800), census (1890s) and recent electoral rolls and phone books (1900s). This poses three types of clusters: stable with drift, new clusters or sub-clusters, and extinct clusters.

Populations around London, Cleobury Mortimer/Standon, and Cornwall/Devon appear in all the time periods for which records have been found. These populations therefore seem to be relatively stable, though the boundaries of where Vizes live have drifted somewhat over time. The Wiltshire/Berkshire cluster may be of this type, but if so, has drifted further and no longer remains in the mooted place of origin at Devizes.

New sub clusters have formed in Norfolk/Suffolk, Limerick, Hertfordshire and Surrey. Some of these are likely to be migrations from other clusters but it is possible some are of foreign origin.

Other areas where Vizes appear in early records have no records of continuous presence of Vize populations and may be "extinct" clusters. This could include Sussex and Kent. The families have possibly moved away or the lines died out.

Other origins appear to be continental. The Lincolnshire VISE family legend is that they were from the Netherlands. Lincolnshire's history of Dutch settlement would support this, as many Dutch settled around the marsh areas including Spalding and Holbeach, though Joby notes that these were in fact mostly Walloons, Belgians and French Huguenots. There are examples from census and electoral rolls confirming that some Vizes were born in foreign parts (not part of the British empire) such as Salah and Arthur Vize from Prussia living in London in 1851 England, and Otto and Jevdokya Vize living in Melbourne in the 1950s (origin unknown).

Though the majority of surname dictionaries are in consensus about the links to Wiltshire, some researchers have identified other potential origins for Vize. Sylvia Fitts Getchell proposes Vize as a variant of Fitz, meaning "son of," or as a name with multiple origins, which might include English and non-English points of origin.

The data covered in this study points to a multiple origin theory as most likely but with ancient roots in England. The geographical evidence identifies more than one likely place of 12<sup>th</sup> century settlement, so it is not clear whether there were several places of origin from the earliest times. ■

*This article is abridged from an essay written as part of the Pharos Teaching & Tutoring Advanced ONS Course. The original unabridged article – including all illustrations and footnotes – can be found on the Guild website at [http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-6\\_Vize.pdf](http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-6_Vize.pdf).*



# An Extraordinary Victory for DNA

by Israel Pickholtz (Member 6934)

My flagship research is the single-surname Pikholz Project, the study of a Jewish family from the three provinces of east Galicia, which is Ukraine today but Austria before the First World War.

In 2012, I began doing genetic research and as I write this, over 70 Pikholz descendants have tested for me. We have done most of our testing with FamilyTree DNA and our analysis with FTDNA and GEDmatch.

In the 1800s, the Pikholz families lived in two east Galician towns, the larger group of families from Skalat (4926N, 2559E), between the provincial capital Tarnopol and what was then the border with Russia. My own family lived in Skalat. We know of five Pikholz men from Skalat who were born in the period 1780-1805, and four of the five have living descendants.

At the start of our DNA project, we had 15 other Pikholz families of four or more generations whose heads had been born about 1810-1870; 13 of those have living descendants. One of the goals of both the DNA project and the traditional research is to attach those 15 “younger” families to the five older men.

In November 2014, I happened across an Ancestry.com online tree featuring Sarah Pikholz, her husband, Eisig Baar, and 12 children. The tree had them in Czechoslovakia with non-Galician given names such as Gustav, Victor, Rudolph, Emil, and Berti; but I quickly found the first three births in Jagielnica in east Galicia.

The first child was born in 1865, so I figured that Sarah was born in the early 1840s. I had no candidate for this “new” woman. Every other Sarah that I had in that period either died in childhood or married someone not named Eisig Baar.

Milton, the great-grandson of Sarah, who had posted the tree at Ancestry, hadn't a clue about Sarah's parents or siblings.

Indeed, east Galicia and Jagielnica meant nothing to him. None of the records I was able to find were helpful except some Holocaust-era police records which cited the Jewish names of the children.

My attention was drawn to the son Gustav, whose Jewish name was Gabriel, a rare name in the Pikholz database. Rare but not unique. Breine Pikholz, the wife of Avraham Aron Riss, named the first of her seven children Gabriel Wolf (Wilhelm) in 1860. Breine's father was Gabriel, so he must have died young, as eastern European Jews do not name after the living. Breine's mother – based on a late birth record of two of Breine's children, filed after Breine's death – was Ryfka Pikholz. Both Breine and Sarah named their first daughters Rivka, with the secular name Regina.

There are other matching names among the children of the two women, but Moses, Juda, Josef, and Rosa are too common for us to infer that the women are closely related (see figure 1 below).

Because of the names of Gabriel and the eldest daughter Rivka, it appeared to me that Breine and Sarah were sisters. I turned to DNA for help; perhaps the descendants of Breine and Sarah – putative third cousins – could appear to be closely related. Milton was willing to do an autosomal test, what FTDNA calls “Family Finder.” Between Milton and me,

we are in contact with five of Milton's second cousins – two from Gustav and three from Josef – but they have been unwilling to test.

On Breine's side, Wilhelm's granddaughter tested, as did two grandchildren of Isidor, first cousins to one another. Here too there is a Josef, with three grandchildren who have been unwilling to test. And Breine's youngest, Rosche, has a grandson from her elder daughter. But Rosche also has a living daughter, Lillian, who lives in Chicago. I have tried unsuccessfully to contact her over the years.

Breine's three great-grandchildren matched one another exactly as expected. But Milton's results were a surprise. His very first match was with my father's brother, followed by my second cousin, Lee, Breine's great-granddaughter from Wilhelm and my father's first cousin, Herb. Milton's matches with his putative third cousins from Isidor are more distant. The closer is 22<sup>nd</sup> on his match list and a suggested second-fourth cousin. The other is a distant “suggested fourth-remote cousin.”

Figure 2 (on the next page) shows chromosome browsers for Milton and the three Riss cousins from the vantage point of each, using a threshold of three centiMorgans. The three Riss cousins match each other as expected, but Milton (the first diagram and the orange segments in the other three) has very little in the way of matching segments with the three Riss cousins.

This was not good enough for me to accept that Breine and Sarah are sisters, though it certainly does not indicate that they are not. Third cousins can be tricky like that...

But since I already had their Family Finder results, I compared each of the four to the other Pikholz families from Skalat, where over 50 descendants had tested for the project. All four clearly matched

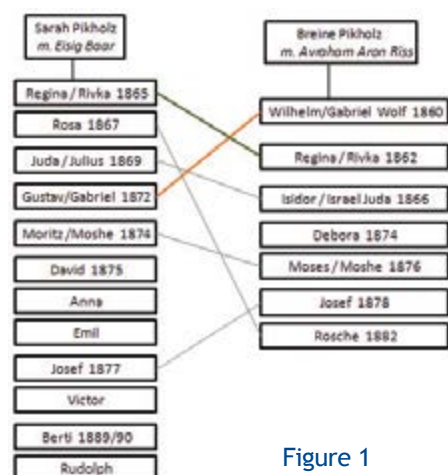


Figure 1



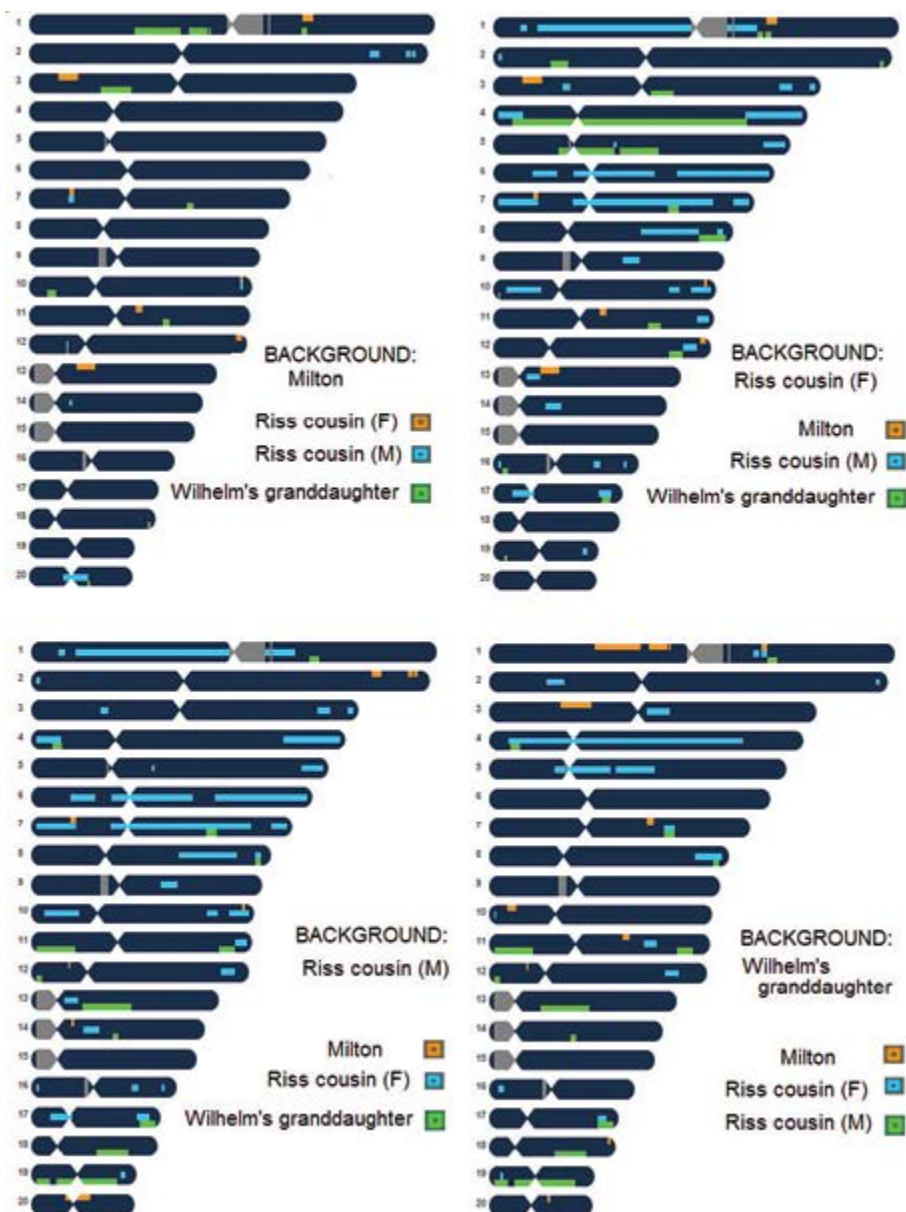


Figure 2

one particular Pikholz branch much more than any of the others. This is the branch which begins with (Isak) Josef (b. ~1784) and Rojse. (Note that both Sarah and Breine named children Josef and Rosa.)

Using both documents and DNA analysis, I had already determined that Isak Josef and Rojse had at least four children — Moshe Hersch, Selig, Berl, and my great-great-grandmother. Clearly Ryfka, the mother of Sarah and Breine, also belonged on that list, a daughter of Isak Josef and Rojse. But my great-great-grandmother was Rivka Feige and Isak Josef and Rojse certainly didn't have two daughters named Rivka/Ryfka.

The obvious theory was that after Ryfka's husband Gabriel died young — how young we don't know but Breine named her first son for him in 1860 — Ryfka, who was a young widow with two small children, was married off to an indeterminate

cousin, Isak Fischel Pikholz, with whom she had four children. That is how their social safety net worked. A young widow or widower with young children was married off to a family member — the dead wife's sister or a niece or cousin or in-law. We don't have precise ages for the four children of Rivka Feige and Isak Fischel, but the wife of the eldest was born about 1847, which would fit the scenario.

I am not concerned that the one is Ryfka and the other Rivka Feige. We know the name Ryfka from a birth

record from 1888 when Breine is already dead and Ryfka herself had been dead for many years. So the name provided by her grandchildren or son-in-law may well have been incomplete.

By this time, in early summer 2015, Lillian had agreed to meet me during my upcoming trip to the US. Lillian is one generation older than Breine's other living descendants (or Sarah's), so her Family Finder would be twice as good.

"Family Finder" is Family Tree DNA's autosomal test which looks at the DNA which we get from our ancestors throughout the generations, on both sides of our families. As a result we have only half the amount of our mothers' DNA than our mothers themselves have. So if your interest is on your mother's side, your mother — if available — will give you twice as much of her DNA than you have yourself. That applies just as well to anyone in your mother's generation vs anyone in your generation.

But it was more than that. Last year, I asked my third cousin Joe in Denver to do a Family Finder for the project and also a Mitochondrial DNA (MtDNA) test. That would show his maternal line going back to Rivka Feige. Only Joe, his brother and his sister's two children could do that test as there are no other all-female lines. He said "What do you want to prove?" and I said "I don't know but maybe I'll need it some day."

If Ryfka and Rivka Feige are the same woman, Joe and Lillian would have identical MtDNA. If they do, it would not be proof, but it would be supporting evidence. If they do not, Ryfka and Rivka Feige cannot be the same woman and I go back to the drawing board. (See Figure 3 below.)

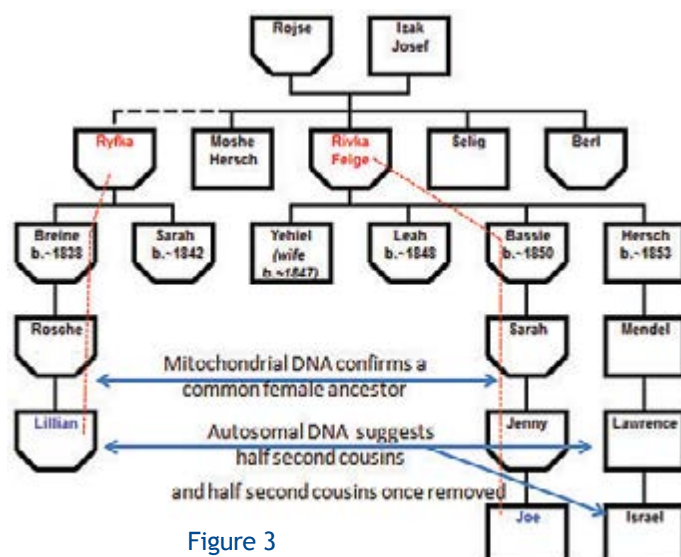


Figure 3

Lillian's Family Finder results came back in early October. Her first three matches are her known close cousins. Fourth is my father's cousin Herb, perhaps Lillian's half-second cousin. Her sixth match is Milton — a good sign. Ninth is my father's sister. Five more of my personal family are suggested second-third cousins and nine are suggested second-fourth cousins. This looked very good indeed. But if the MtDNA doesn't match, we have nothing.

A few weeks later, Lillian's MtDNA results came in and she is a perfect match to Joe. That is not a unique match, to be sure — there are over 90 other people with the same perfect match who would be connected further back in time. But together with the Family Finder results, it is enough for me to declare Ryfka and

*I think a DNA finding that conclusive, at that distance in an endogamous family, is extraordinary.*

— Blaine Bettinger

Rivka Feige to be the same woman and to merge the families.

There is another lesson from this particular inquiry. Milton's matches with the three cousins of his own generation — his third cousins — are not on their own convincing. But when I compare all four to the other Pikholtz descendants, the pattern becomes quite clear, even obvious. When looking at third (and fourth) cousins, we must keep in mind that they may match other people better than they match each other and in ways that can clarify their relationships with each other. Of course, if some of Milton's

cousins would test, we might find that they match the Riss group much better than does Milton.

DNA is supposed to be good, but not usually that good.

*Cousin Lillian Green, age 90, died in Chicago six months after submitting her DNA tests. ■*

**[EDITOR'S NOTE:** Israel Pickholtz will be joining Debbie Kennett for a discussion on how DNA testing and analysis can help your research on Wednesday, 1 June, in London. The presentation is sponsored by the Guild and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain. Further details can be found on page 23, or at <http://tinyurl.com/GuildDNA>.]



## An Early Emigrant to America

by Bob Hilbourne (Member 829)

I was particularly interested to read the article by Ian Pidgeon in Volume 12 Issue 1 of the *Journal of One-Name Studies*, as I also have a Quaker branch in my one-name study. I can confirm that the Quakers kept copious records of the events that occurred in the lives of their members, which is very useful for genealogists.

My Hilborne one-name family originated in the village of Kingsdon in south-east Somerset at the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. When parish records started in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century there were Hilbornes living in the vicinity of Kingsdon and nearby Sherborne in Dorset. The family members continued to be born and live in agricultural Somerset and Dorset for about the next 200 years. It was not until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century when the industrial revolution resulted in considerable unemployment among the agricultural workers in Somerset and Dorset, that some of them started to move out of the two counties to the industrial cities and towns. The only exception to this pattern was a Thomas Hilborne who emigrated to America in 1670. He was a Quaker.

### Thomas Hilborne

Thomas was the son of Robert Hilborne, who married Mary Hayes in North Petherton near Bridgwater, Somerset in 1647. They had a daughter, Elizabeth, born in 1648; a son, Hayes, born in 1649; and Thomas, who was born in 1655 and was baptised in St Mary's Church.

The marriage of Robert was the first record of the Hilborne name in North Petherton, so Robert must have migrated to North Petherton from another part of Somerset or Dorset.

There are three known Robert Hilborne births in the first part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. One was born in Martock in 1611, married there in 1633, had six children, and died there in 1655. Another was born in Kingsdon in 1632, and would have only been 15 in 1647 when the father of Thomas married. The final one was born in Owermoigne, near Weymouth, in 1615, and would have been 32 in 1647. There are no other records of this Robert anywhere else in Somerset or Dorset.



George Fox

It is probable that this Robert, who was a descendent of John Hilborne born in Sherborne in 1545, was the father of Thomas, but there is no way of confirming the connection. However, being from a labouring branch of the family is consistent with his move to North Petherton.

North Petherton was a large sparsely-populated parish. The village was surrounded by a number of hamlets. It is on a slightly higher level than the Somerset Levels to which it is adjacent. It had good farming soil, which gave it agricultural prosperity; but in addition it had a slate mine, a sand pit, a gravel pit, and a clay pit which supplied the brickyard. The extensive apple orchards gave a good supply of cider. It was just the sort of place to which a labourer, looking for work, would migrate. Being on the road between Bridgwater and Taunton, it had a good outlet for their agricultural and other products. There were two large churches in North Petherton, and by 1656 there were also two Quaker meeting houses.

## Quakers

Robert Hilborne and his family became early members of the Society of Friends, the Quakers. The Quaker movement was founded by George Fox in the 1650s. He rejected any need for an organised church; he believed that he and his followers had received an “inner light” from God which directed what they should do. Since they rejected the authority of the church, they refused to pay the compulsory church tithe or attend church. When they were taken before the courts, they rejected the authority of the magistrates to tell them what they could or could not do.

The Quakers were constantly in trouble; George Fox was imprisoned at least six times between 1649 and 1662. Robert and his family were no exceptions. In 1659 Robert Hilborne was sent to prison for refusing to pay his church tithe. In May 1670, Hayes Hilborne and seven other Quakers were on their way to their Quaker meeting when they were stopped by the bailiff and constable who demanded an on-the-spot fine from them for not attending church. They refused, were arrested, and put in prison. Robert Hilborne was again sent to prison in 1670 for non-payment of church tithes. In the same year, on 25 March, 14-year-old Thomas was in Bristol where he signed an indenture for four years as a servant to a Christopher Holder, a Quaker missionary who had recently returned from America. Together they sailed from Bristol in May 1670 to Providence, Rhode Island, so that Thomas could escape persecution.

## New England

The next known event in the life of Thomas was in 1677, when he visited Boston, Massachusetts where he attended a Quaker meeting. He was arrested with 14 others and sentenced by the magistrate to be whipped. This is not what I expected, having been taught at school that the Pilgrim fathers sailed to New England in 1620 in the *Mayflower* to escape religious persecution and to establish a land of religious freedom.

The *Mayflower* story starts in the latter part of the 16<sup>th</sup> century when a number of Church of England clergy and laymen felt that church and state should be separate. They were prosecuted for their beliefs. A group of separatists from Lincolnshire fled to Holland to escape the prosecution and established “separatist” churches in Amsterdam and Leiden. In 1618 there was a change of power in Holland and the separatists were no longer welcome. The members of the Amsterdam church returned to England where they established clandestine Baptist churches, but 200 members of the Leiden church decided that they would rather go, instead, to America. They petitioned the King for a charter to set up a colony in New England, and this was surprisingly granted. They next approached the merchant venturers in the City of London for the money to finance their journey. Eventually, in 1620, the *Mayflower* set out from Southampton for New England with 108 people aboard, calling first at Plymouth. Of the 108 people on board, only 35 were members of the Leiden church; the rest were nominated by the merchant venturers to protect their financial interests. After a nine-week journey, they arrived at Cape Cod and established Plymouth Bay Colony. Within a year, half the original settlers had died; but further settlers had arrived, including more of the members of the Leiden church.

However, this was only the beginning of the New England story. There was also a movement within the Church of



William Penn at age 22

England that wished to purify its form of worship, to change its organisation and the way members should behave – the so called Puritans. In 1630, to get them out of the country, the King gave permission for 20,000 Puritans to settle in Massachusetts Bay Colony. By 1640 more than 20,000 Puritans had taken over Massachusetts Bay Colony, into which the Plymouth Bay Colony had been absorbed.

The Puritan beliefs were the exact opposite of those of the Pilgrim separatists. The Puritans believed that the church and the state should be one and that Massachusetts should be run by the Presbyterian Church which they had established. In Massachusetts, only members of the church could hold government office, only members of the church could vote in the elections, and anybody who disagreed with their ideas was driven out of the colony. As a result, the Governor of Massachusetts, who had to be elected, was chosen by the Puritan church members only.

Many of the original separatists of the Plymouth Colony were driven out of Massachusetts and went south to Providence, in Rhode Island Colony, where they helped to form the first Baptist Church. When Quakers arrived in Massachusetts, their disregard for the authority of the church aroused the anger of the Puritan leaders, who arrested them and beat them to encourage them to leave. Christopher Holden, to whom Thomas was indentured, had been arrested earlier in Boston and, when he had refused to sign a document renouncing his Quaker beliefs, he had his ear cut off and was sent to Rhode Island Colony. Eventually, in 1660, four Quakers, including a woman, were hanged because they would not leave Massachusetts.

## William Penn

William Penn was a prominent Quaker living in England. When he heard that the Quakers in New England were being persecuted by the Puritans he decided to do something about it.

Penn was born in 1644 in London, the son of Admiral Sir William Penn and Margaret Jasper, the daughter of a rich merchant from Rotterdam. After the death of Oliver Cromwell, Admiral Penn was sent on a secret mission to bring back the exiled Prince Charles. For his role in restoring the monarchy, Admiral Penn was knighted and gained a powerful position as Commissioner of the Navy. As a young man, William Penn came under the influence of a Quaker missionary and became a Quaker minister. He was soon imprisoned but was released after the intervention of his father. When he would not renounce his Quaker beliefs, his father ordered him out of his house and disowned him.

When Admiral Penn was dying, William visited him. By then Admiral Penn had gained respect for William’s integrity and his willingness to suffer for his beliefs. He restored William’s inheritance and also wrote to the Duke of York asking him to protect William from persecution.

When Admiral Penn died, William became a very rich man.





The Hilborn farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

In 1677 William and some other Quakers purchased west New Jersey as a centre of religious freedom. In 1682 they also purchased east New Jersey. This solved the problem of Quaker prosecution in America, but the prosecution was intensifying in England. William Penn, who had the ear of the King, suggested to him that the solution was a mass migration of Quakers to America. Surprisingly the King granted William 45,000 square miles of land to the west of New Jersey, which William called Sylvania; but the King changed the name to Pennsylvania. Part of the settlement that the King made with William was that the loan of £16,000, that Admiral Penn had made to the King many years before, was cancelled.

### Thomas Hilborne – Again

Sometime after his experience in Boston, Thomas Hilborne moved to Shrewsbury in west New Jersey, which was the first area of religious freedom that William Penn had established. In 1688 Thomas, who was 33, married Elizabeth Hooton, who was 15, in Shrewsbury. Elizabeth was the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Hooton.

Samuel had been imprisoned with George Fox in Leicester in 1662 and his mother, another Elizabeth Hooton, had been the first woman to adopt the Quaker beliefs and the first female Quaker minister. In her latter capacity she went to Boston where she was arrested and whipped, just like Thomas; but in addition, she was taken far out into the woods and left to die of starvation; fortunately she was able to make her way to Rhode Island and survived.

In 1692 Thomas Hilborne was appointed guardian for Samuel Hooton when he could no longer manage his own affairs. Thus the poor indentured servant had married into the upper echelons of the American Quaker circles. Between 1689 and 1701 Thomas and Elizabeth had six children and had acquired a farm of more than 120 acres. In 1702 they and their children moved to Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, another centre of religious freedom that William Penn had established; here they had a further six children. By the time Thomas died in 1723, aged 68, he owned a farm of 980 acres. Amongst the many Quaker records is a painting of his farmstead in Bucks County by the Quaker folk artist Edward Hicks. His wife Elizabeth died in 1732.

There are currently four times as many Hilbornes living in the USA and Canada as there are living in the UK. Nearly

all of these are descendants of Thomas. It was not until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century before the next male Hilborne emigrated to the USA. As Robin Hilborn, a Canadian descendent of Thomas understated: *“Thomas rose from an indentured servant in 1670 to owner of almost 1000 acres in 1702. I think it is fair to say that he had done better by moving to America than by staying with his family in Somerset.”*

This is true in terms of religious belief as well as material things. Back in Somerset, Robert Hilborne started to pay his church tithes to keep himself out of prison. He was condemned for this action by the Quaker hierarchy and excluded from the Quaker movement. Hayes, the brother of Thomas, married Joane Wookie in North Petherton in 1674. Their two children – Joane born in 1675, and Hayes born in 1678 – were baptised in the local parish church. So in the end, Thomas Hilborne was the only member of the family who was able to truly practise his religious beliefs. Hayes junior had two daughters, so there are no Hilborne descendants of Robert Hilborne living in the UK.

### Conclusion

To fully understand the events in the life of Thomas Hilborne, it is necessary to have a closer look at the social history of the period. Only then is it possible to understand why Thomas emigrated while the many hundreds of other Hilbornes remained within the boundaries of Somerset and Dorset, and to make sense of what subsequently happened to Thomas.

The Robert Hilborne family was different from the other Hilbornes. At the time, the rest of the Hilbornes were baptised, married and buried in their local parish churches. In Kingsdon, the Hilbornes supplied the church wardens for the parish church for many generations. The Kingsdon church, with its many Hilborne graves, is the place that most American Hilbornes visit when they are in the UK.

It is unfortunate that it has not been possible to link Thomas Hilborne directly back to the prosperous farmer Hilbornes of Kingsdon. However, perhaps this is what should have been expected. The Kingsdon Hilbornes were part of the “establishment.” In 1708, George Hilborne was the largest farmer in Kingsdon and was granted a coat of arms. Instead, it was in the more mobile “ag.lab” side of the family in which the non-conformist Quaker branch occurred. ■

## Seminars Rewound

Thanks to our webteam, our new website is rapidly becoming a lot more sophisticated. Some pages now look different according to whether you are logged in or not. The seminars page is a case in point. If you are logged in when you click on the Seminars/Events page, you will see a list of past events down the right hand side of the page, as in the picture above.

Now comes the really good bit: if you click on any of those events, you will have easy access to the video recordings made at each of those seminars. Marvellous. Well done, team!

If you have a problem logging in, please note that we have improved our help page for this topic. Go to <http://one-name.org/change-or-reset-your-password/>.



# Finding Female Forebears:

## *How a One-Name Society Helped Me Find Matilda*

by Audrey Potter

*Hello, fellow members of the Guild. Once again I am happy to introduce an article written by Audrey Potter, a fellow member of the Stonehewer to Stanier Society. It aims to give you one genealogist's experiences of "Finding Female Forebears" through the resources of a one-name society.*

*Whilst we hope that you will both enjoy it and find it useful, we also hope that it will inspire those GOONS members who are thinking of expanding their one-name study into one having its own one-name society and hence, members who can link together and find out more through their fellow one-name society members, so as to widen their research results for the benefit of all.*

*Good hunting! Michael Stonehewer MCG (Member 3407)*

My maternal great grandparents, Henry and Matilda Nunweek, with their son Richard arrived at Lyttelton on 24 October 1856 as steerage passengers on the *Joseph Fletcher*. While Henry had been fairly well recorded, especially since 1856 and was relatively easy to research, Matilda was a very different matter!



Henry Nunweek

First, she was female! I knew from family sources that while Henry was a Yorkshireman, Matilda was born in Leek, Staffordshire, and her maiden name was Stonehewer, but that was about all. I thought she had at least one sibling, for the families had kept in touch over several generations and I had myself stayed with Lilian Hill, a descendant in Leek, way back in 1958. But although she mentioned the Stonehewer name, even spelling it out, at that time I wasn't very interested in family

history so didn't take much notice. Three decades later, how I was to regret that!

Family lore always needs to be taken with several grains of salt, but there is usually some small truth included. According to my mother, there was a belief that Matilda's father had owned a silk mill, and embroidery silks had been sent out for my grandmother, Elizabeth Rebecca, and her elder sister, Harriet, to use.

"Newbies" to family history research are often given good advice: start from yourself and work backwards; check all references; ask relatives, especially older ones, what they can tell you; think laterally; surnames (and forenames) can have various spellings; if you can't find what you are looking for try another adjoining area's records or a different type of record.

All of these were to play a part in my search for Matilda.

That search began before computers and all the possibilities opened up by the Internet were available, and lasted on and off for over 20 years.

All the older family members were dead by the time I started my research, and most of my generation either had the same stories or hadn't heard the ones I had, so that help was out. The passenger list for the *Joseph Fletcher* stated only "H Nunwick, wife and child," so no help there. There was no marriage certificate in New Zealand, no birth certificate for Richard, either, so I turned to that most unreliable of records – her death certificate. A visit to the Canterbury Public Library to search the death indexes on microfiche revealed that Matilda had died in February 1891, so I sent off for a copy of the entry. It stated that her parents were Thomas Stonehewer and Hannah, maiden name unknown; she was born in Staffordshire, was aged 62; married in Cheshire, aged 23, to Henry Nunweek; had three sons, two daughters. I noted that the informant was not Henry, but the second son, Thomas.

The next step seemed to be to search through the IGI microfiche at the local LDS Family History Centre. I found a Matilda Stonehewer, christened in Leek, Staffordshire on 10 October 1828 but, while her mother's name was Hannah, her father's was *William*! Was great-uncle Tom wrong? I searched in vain for another Matilda but they were few, and none were baptised in Leek. I was inclined to think this was my Matilda, in part because William and Hannah had amongst their other children a daughter named Rebecca. Was this girl Grandma's aunt? Certainly both Rebecca and Harriet were names significantly missing in the Nunweek line, so were Matilda's daughters named after her family? A very weak supposition to base research on, indeed, but certain names are abundant in some families, passing through several generations, and I had nothing more concrete to follow up. If only I knew Hannah's maiden surname!

Before the days of home computers and the Internet, research was both harder and more time consuming, so I put Matilda in the "too hard" basket for several years until my second cousin, David Nunweek, called to see me with the research he had done over a number of years. To my great joy, David had sent for a certified copy of the marriage certificate with full details. Henry's occupation was given as platelayer; his father's name, Thomas; father's occupation, quarryman. Matilda's father was William, his occupation dyer. Great uncle Tom *had* got it wrong.

I still needed to find Hannah's maiden name and then some record linking Matilda to her as her daughter, to be sure I wasn't wasting my time following someone else's family tree. Over the intervening years, home computers had become common and some useful records were being put online.



I had previously had success with an entry in the Genealogical Research Directory for another female line, so I decided to try another entry in 2007, this time for Stonehewer, as I intended to visit relatives in various areas in the UK before travelling to the village in Germany from which my paternal 2x great-grandparents had emigrated to Australia.

Again I had success! I was contacted by Michael Stonehewer, chairman of the Stonehewer to Stanier Society, enclosing a copy of the society's newsletter and suggesting that the society might be able to help. I replied, saying that I was interested in learning more about the society and, that as I was planning to visit the UK that summer, perhaps we could meet while I was there. Unfortunately the dates for my trip coincided with the time that Michael was himself away, but he arranged for me to meet Chris Lanfear, the society's archivist, instead. Chris and I met at Weston-Super-Mare where I spent a great afternoon talking genealogy to another enthusiast. Chris proved to be pleasant and very helpful, and on viewing the little information that I had with me, told me that there was a member descended from William Stonehewer of Leek, b. 1784, who might be able to help me, but due to privacy considerations, his contact details could only be passed on to members of the society. I paid up on the spot, with Chris promising to send the details to my home address.



Matilda Stonehewer

Chris's letter reached me soon after I arrived home and I lost no time in emailing Rob Stonehewer in Canada, explaining how I came to be contacting him and outlining my research to that point. Rob replied very quickly, stating that although he did not know the names "Matilda" or "Nunweek," he couldn't rule out the possibility of a connection, and he generously provided his own line of descent from William Stonehewer of Leek, b. 1784 and his wife, Hannah Edge. For each generation, he included the names of their siblings and their years of birth where he knew them. William himself had a sister, Harriot, while the name was sprinkled amongst the later generations with various spellings – and there was Rebecca alongside the other names I had found on the IGI. Now at last I had a possible maiden surname for Matilda's mother! It just remained to link Matilda with Hannah Edge in some record.

I turned to the census records for 1841 and 1851, which had become available online; no good looking any later, as Matilda married Henry in 1852 and four years later was in New Zealand. At first my search results were fruitless: no matches! She must be there somewhere, surely? Then a friend's daughter offered to help with, initially, the same result until, thinking laterally, she decided to search for "Edge," and there they were! The 1851 census return for Mill Street, Leek, Staffordshire showed:

STONYER, William, Head Married 67 b1784 Gardner b Leek Staffs

STONYER, Hannah Wife Married 58 b1793 b Leek Staffs

EDGE, Elizabeth Mother-in-law Widow 87 b1764 b Leek Staffs

STANYER, Metilda Daughter Unmarried 22 b1829 Silk peicer b Leek Staffs

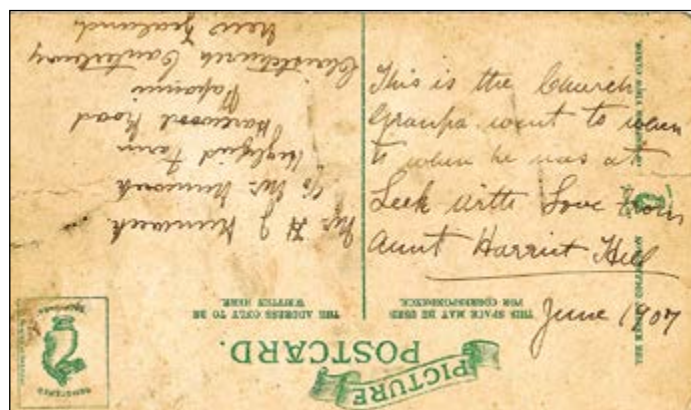
STANYER, Harriet Daughter Unmarried 14 b 1837 Silk Skeiner b Leek Staffs

In the 1841 census, again living in Mill Street, the name was spelled "Stonier" and the family consisted of William, aged 57; Hannah, aged 49; Ann aged 17; Matilda, aged 13; and Harriett, aged 5. What I failed to notice, at my first reading was two lines below: Elizabeth Edge, aged 77.

At last I had my link to Matilda's English family with the vital clue of her mother's maiden name coming through my joining the Stonehewer to Stanier Society. It was a very good move for me and I would whole-heartedly recommend it to anyone researching the names Stonehewer, Stonyer, Stonier, Stanier or Stanyer (and there are links to Stanway). Matilda spelt her surname "Stoneyer" when she signed the marriage register, but this is the only occasion when I have come across this spelling. Perhaps spelling was not her strong point!

I had one more tantalising question about Matilda's family to answer; who was "Aunt Harriet Hill"?

Was she, as I suspected, Matilda's younger sister, Harriet? Whoever she was, in 1907 she sent a picture postcard titled "The Parish Church, Leek" to Matilda's eldest grandson Henry – my mother's cousin – writing on the back, "This is the church Granpa went to when he was here." She signed it "with love from Aunt Harriet Hill." Matilda's husband, Henry, had made a return trip to England in 1902 and I assume this is what she referred to. All Henry's aunts were born and living in Christchurch, so I guessed she must be a great-aunt; but when the postcard was passed on to me by Henry's daughter-in-law I had no knowledge of Harriet's existence.



Postcard of the parish church at Leek, with Harriet's message to young Henry on the back.



If I was right, Harriet would be the link between Lilian Hill's family and the Stonehewers. I was unsure of Lilian's age, but thought she was about my mother's age, so would have been born a year or so either side of 1900. She also had an older brother, Joe, and a younger sister, Winifred; and although I didn't know her parents' names, I did know that Lilian and her aunt lived in her parents' home and I still had the address.

Back to FindMyPast website and the 1901 census! I entered Lilian's name first and up came two possibilities, both with Lilian as a second name, but after a pause for thought I decided that as there were only two possibilities, it would be no great disaster if I chose the wrong one and selected Mary Lilian. There they were living at 35 Grosvenor Street, Leek; Robert and Elizabeth Hill with son Joseph and daughter Mary Lilian, but no sign of Winifred, so I turned to the 1911 census. This time Winifred was there, seven years younger than Lilian. Living with them was Annie Jane Coup, 47, dressmaker, born in Preston, Lancashire and described as a boarder! This was Lilian's Aunt Annie. It was an uncanny experience to search a record made more than 20 years before I was born and to find on it someone that I had met. She was in her 90s then and died a few years later. I looked again at Elizabeth's birthplace. Yes, it was also Preston, and Annie was probably an unmarried sister who came to help when Winifred was born.

Now I needed to find a Robert Hill, who would have been 48 in 1911 when he was described as a manager; so it was back to the 1891 census. There he was, living at 176 Mill Street, Leek, aged 28, described as a silk warehouseman. His parents were

Joseph Hill, born 1837, also a silk warehouseman, and his wife, Harriet Hill, born 1837 in Leek. At least there was a good chance of finding a marriage record, so I began with the Staffordshire records, but as Harriet wasn't on my direct line I didn't do very regular research, but only when I had a little spare time.

So the matter rested until I was preparing this article and I mentioned in an email to Rob Stonehewer about the postcard and my belief that Aunt Harriet Hill was Matilda's younger sister, Harriet Stonehewer, who would prove to be the link between the Stonehewer and the Hill families once I managed to track down the marriage record. A reply came the next day with an attachment. Rob was on holiday in the UK with a friend from Leek who had found a record that he thought would help me. I hit "open" and there was an image of the marriage entry on 7 February 1859 of Joseph Hill, 22, dyer, and Harriet Stonehewer, 22. Joseph's father was Robert Hill, also a dyer, and Harriet's father was William Stonehewer, a gardener, the occupation shown in the 1851 census return. Like Matilda and Henry, Harriet and Joseph had married in the parochial chapel in Macclesfield in the adjoining county, Cheshire.

Once again, the Stonehewer to Stanier Society had come to my rescue! I have found belonging to it so useful that I have agreed to be the South Island contact person for any enquiries, while the North Island contact person is David Newbold.

As for that story about Matilda's family owning a silk mill, I think that the nearest thing to it was that Harriet's husband's father was a silk warehouseman who is later described as a manager. ■



## Internet Resources:

# Family Tree Maker and Genealogy Software Alternatives

by Rennison Vayro (Member 4374)

Just as you have settled into a routine and have become fully familiar with the latest version of your genealogical software, along comes a statement from a leading provider of data on the Internet that could radically change your ideas about storing the information on your family ancestry research.

Such was the announcement by Ancestry.com in early December that they intended to discontinue their Family Tree Maker (FTM) desktop application. At that point they suggested that they would no longer sell this software after December 2015, and this may have caused widespread panic for its users.

All features of the program will continue to work, but after January 2017, *"those features that require connectivity to Ancestry, such as Tree-Sync, uploading and downloading trees and media, and Web Search, may no longer be supported."* Members who follow Ancestry Insider can find the original information on <http://tinyurl.com/jqfue3q> and also gain a great deal of assurance from Tamara Jones at <http://goo.gl/9vwjpZ>.

Without being too cynical, many of Ancestry.com/co.uk's subscribers have uploaded their family trees to the main website, and unless withdrawn or deleted by the subscribers, it will still be available for commercial use by the website provider. The reason behind the announcement was not explained, but some consider FTM as only basic-level entry for researchers, with less potential than other software. Thankfully, Ancestry.com have now reconsidered their initial decision, and issued a second statement in February that I will deal with later.

FTM happens to be the software that I prefer and have been using since 2005, updating as each version appeared. I realise this proposed change will not happen immediately, and the software can still be loaded as long as you have a CD read-writer installed on your PC (many new PCs and laptops do not now have these), but initially it appeared that Ancestry would not be creating updates! It was the automatic access to data on Ancestry that was to be withdrawn, so those members who take out subscriptions would no longer be able to view data that Ancestry have on individuals, review this, and transfer matches automatically to an FTM database.

Personally, I don't think there is any reason to panic, because the software will still work, and all new fresh details collected during research can be added manually. FTM also allows users to create a gedcom format file that the majority of other software programmes will accept, allowing data to be transferred at some point in the future (but with a risk that some features may not transfer in the process).

So whilst deciding that I might have to transfer all my FTM research to a different piece of software, I came across two articles covering some of the background information.

<http://goo.gl/pJdH7G> provides a link to GenealogyTools.com where Keith Riggle has a series of 15 articles in the "Replacing Family Tree Maker Series." His initial response was posted on 17 December, giving basic information for researchers hoping to transfer their data from FTM to other software.

<http://goo.gl/E2qZfb> An item posted 10 December on Dick Eastman's "Online Genealogical Newsletter" is also well worth reading. There are illustrations showing how the Family Tree Maker network appears, and suggestions for alternative software, with comments from several users. In this link Dick Eastman had posted a list of FREE genealogical software and several of these programs are worth considering. None are "limited trial offers," and upgrading to the full program is not essential.

I realise many members will have already invested in commercial software databases for storing their family "ancestry tree," but new members may appreciate FREE trial versions of commercial software to experiment with before purchase. Some of the choices are as follows:

Legacy Family Tree Standard Edition (Windows) has many features not found in other free genealogy software. See <http://goo.gl/i2XLye> for downloading the software, which is a favourite of amateurs and professionals alike. Legacy are even anticipating a gap in the market and giving advice to FTM users as part of their service. Eastman suggests that: "Legacy Family Tree is one of the more popular genealogy programs available for the Windows operating system. Its popularity is caused by three major factors: it is powerful, easy to use, and it contains most of the features that serious genealogists demand. However, it also works well for genealogy newcomers."

RootsMagic Family Tree Essentials: (Windows) another firm favourite, may be downloaded free from <http://goo.gl/zdkvwy> This contains most of the core features from the full software version. According to Eastman, "RootsMagic Essentials can handle an unlimited number of facts, notes, sources, as well as multimedia items to each person and family. The users can add photographs, sound bites, and video clips to bring their family history to life."

Personal Ancestral File is available at <http://goo.gl/L3w342> Again a very popular program but unfortunately no longer has updates or support available. Personal Ancestral File doesn't have all the features of the more modern programs, like handling graphics or multi-media scrapbooks. However many experienced members may still be using the program as a tried and tested method of storing their data.

In my search for alternatives I also found Ancestral Quest Basics at <http://www.ancquest.com/> and Family Tree Builder by MyHeritage at <https://goo.gl/uOKII9> which apparently supports 18 languages, features "smart matching" (a fun way to discover

new relatives), and provides excellent support for photos, including face recognition technology.

I have been reliably informed that Macintosh users can use all of the above programs if using Parallels, Fusion, or Virtual-Box, but they have available a free "native" Mac program, Personal Ancestry Writer II at <http://goo.gl/VTsyzN>, which is very popular and performs the basics. An interesting site, <http://goo.gl/DNBeyz>, compares 10 pieces of software for PCs and Macintosh computers with icons that lead to information for users and prices for Legacy, Family Historian, Roots Magic, Ancestral Quest, Heredis, Family Tree Heritage, Brother's Keeper, Genbox, WinFamily, and what I find interesting, the disputed Family Tree Maker.

Not to neglect Linux users, there is a free version of GRAMPS (Genealogical Research and Analysis Management Programming System) and the user group blog at <http://www.gramps-project.org> has access to downloadable software and full support. GRAMPS is available free of charge without restriction, though donations are greatly accepted, but not compulsory. Although primarily designed for Linux, Geneo Tree software can be found at <http://www.geneotree.com> and Genealogy J at <http://genj.sourceforge.net> but both have Windows and Mac versions.

Members are advised to visit the Internet for a wider range of information where they can find comprehensive descriptions on <http://goo.gl/wZACA>, <http://goo.gl/esKJDi>, and <http://goo.gl/PUd4IK>, with URL links throughout.

I hope that this information may be useful to experienced professionals and newcomers alike, as long as it is accepted that I make no actual recommendations for change nor for any particular software programme; and my feature is not meant to be a fully inclusive or exclusive list of what is presently available for recording your research.

However – and more importantly – a second announcement by Ancestry.com in early February shows that they have been listening to their public and have had a change of heart. They suggest they are "actively exploring ways to support FTM users" and announced the following options:

Software MacKiev: This company is acquiring the FTM software versions for Mac and Windows, and is developing software updates and new versions of Family Tree Maker that will allow continued access to Ancestry hints, searches, and of course "to save your tree on Ancestry." (See <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2016/03/02/family-tree-maker-is-updated-and-ready-to-ship/> for the latest developments.)

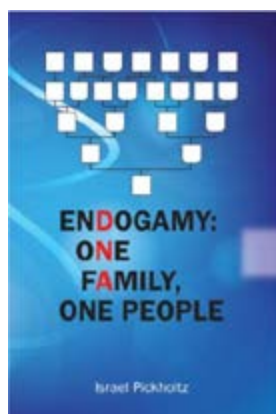
RootsMagic: Ancestry have made an agreement with RootsMagic to connect Ancestry with the RootsMagic software by the end of 2016 and with this new relationship, RootsMagic will have access to Ancestry hints, searches, and the ability to save your tree on Ancestry.

In this second announcement, Ancestry said "We have heard your concerns and are working to provide the solutions you requested. These new agreements will make it possible to preserve your work on Ancestry and Family Tree Maker and we will continue to support you as you discover your family history. We ask for your patience as we work diligently through all the details to make these solutions available."

Power to the People! And watch this space! ■

## **Guild of One-Name Studies & Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain**

**Proudly present renowned DNA Speakers & Genealogy bloggers  
Israel Pickholtz and Debbie Kennett**



Hear Pittsburgh born, Jerusalem resident Israel Pickholtz speak at the only UK appearance about the family history discoveries he has made using DNA testing and analysis and how it has helped him connect branches of his family based all-round the world.



Learn how DNA testing & analysis can help your research



Debbie is an Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Genetics, Evolution and Environment at University College London. She is a member of ISOGG and the co-founder of the ISOGG Wiki.

She is the administrator of the Cruwys/Cruse/Cruise DNA Project, the Devon DNA Project and the mtDNA Haplogroup U4 Project. She has written two books for the History Press: *DNA and Social Networking* (2011) and *The Surnames Handbook* (2012). Her popular blog *Cruwys News* was originally set up to publish findings from her one-name study but is now focused on keeping up with all

the latest developments from the world of genetic genealogy.

**Tickets are available to purchase online from URL:** <http://tinyurl.com/GuildDNA>

**Cost:** £10 (£7.50 for Guild of One-Name Studies & JGSGB Members)

**Venue:** The Delancey Theatre, ORT House London NW1 7NE - 5 minutes from Camden Town Tube Station On Wednesday 1 June 2016 at 7pm

There will be information about the Guild and the JGSGB Bookstall will also be available



The Guild of One-Name Studies & JGSGB are both Registered UK charities





# If You Build It, They Will Come: The Guild Goes to RootsTech 2016

by Tessa Keough  
(National Representative for USA, Member 5089)

**T**he Guild continues to make history! Although the Guild is a well-regarded exhibitor at events in the UK, until recently the Guild has not had an active presence at events in the USA. Why?

- Our 300 Guild USA members are spread out over 39 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. There are far distances between any regional pockets of membership. Although five states account for 100 of our members, four of those are our largest states (in terms of physical size and population), with members located in several of the major cities and suburbs.
- While the Guild USA regions have six enthusiastic and hardworking regional representatives, until quite recently we have not had the budget or resources (in terms of volunteers and product) to successfully attend a regional or national event. Previous regional representatives provided their input as to the difficulties of attending and working a big event as a small exhibitor (thanks to Gary Barton, Linda Hauley, and Robert Young). Their insight helped us plan for RootsTech, keeping those difficulties in mind.

Due to our success with “The Guild Comes to Boston” seminar in September 2015 and the happy coincidence that six Guild members were speakers or presenters, we decided that the time had come to take on a national/international event in the USA. The Guild joined over 350 exhibitors at the Salt Lake Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah (home to the Family History Library) for the four-day extravaganza known as RootsTech.

## A Little Background

If you are not familiar with RootsTech (now in its sixth year), FamilySearch hosts what has become the largest genealogy and family history gathering in the world. Over 26,000 attendees gathered over four days to attend over 200 educational sessions (one-hour presentations and computer labs – 20 sessions to choose from each hour), three opening sessions with six keynote speakers, an “Innovator Showdown,” an expo hall with 365 booth spaces for technology and family history-related exhibitors and sponsors, and a demo theatre (located in the expo hall) with a three-day schedule of 20-minute short sessions from a select group of exhibitors. Thankfully, there was also a cyber café and dining room (with six vendors) located in the exhibit hall – so all of the attendees could eat, drink, relax, meet up with other attendees, and regroup



A bird's-eye view of the expo hall on opening day.

between sessions. And when the convention center closed for the evening, after-hours events took center stage and attendees met for dinner, conversation, and networking. Throughout the event, the RootsTech media ambassadors blogged, tweeted, and interviewed speakers and exhibitors to share their activities with those in attendance (whether in person or virtually through streamed sessions, video interviews, and periscopes).

To pull off an event like RootsTech takes a great deal of planning, and one Guild member (who is also an employee of FamilySearch) told me that a dedicated group of FamilySearch employees' focus is RootsTech full-time each year! Requests for proposals go out a year in advance and speakers are selected in August. Exhibitor applications are available in June and exhibitors are selected and notified on a continuing basis throughout the year. Since Guild members Michael Cassara, Myko Clelland, Julie Goucher, Drew Smith, and I were selected as speakers/presenters (on a variety of topics), we considered a booth at RootsTech an opportunity to fulfill one aspect of our Guild mission – to inform and educate the genealogy public about surname research and one-name studies. We also thought it would be a great opportunity to encourage a meet-up among members who might be attending and who could be encouraged to work our booth.

Since this was something none of us in the USA had done before – and because the USA did not have any equipment, inventory, or USA-focused written materials – we took on a massive amount of work in a relatively short time. It was perhaps a good thing I was unaware of all the aspects in putting together a booth because I didn't know we were doing the improbable.

## Making the Idea a Reality

In November, Julie and I met in a Google hangout with Jenna Mills (a genealogist and social marketing professional) to learn

some of the basics about exhibiting at a national conference in the USA and to get some of my beginner questions answered. Jenna encouraged us to keep it simple, make decisions as early as possible, pay special attention to contract and payment deadlines, have something interactive that would quickly draw attendees' attention, provide takeaways, and most importantly, give thought to the message we wanted to share with visitors to our booth. Quite a tall order, but Julie and I took Jenna's comments to heart and got started with ideas for the Guild booth. During RootsTech, Jenna Mills posted a video review of various booths at the expo hall and the Guild got a great review! But I'm getting ahead of myself.

For my part, it was incredibly helpful to be able to talk with Guild members who had been through this process before (although understandably on different continents and with different events). That is where the Marketing Action Team (MAT) came in handy. I was able to ask questions of Julie who worked on "Who Do You Think You Are? Live" in the UK, and Karen Rogers and Michele Patient who worked on conferences in Australia and New Zealand. Paul Howes not only offered his support to help with the decision-making process, but also took on the task of cajoling Guild members to volunteer to work our booth.

I learned the ins and outs of contracts for an exhibit booth as well as contracts for additional services (and in the USA you pay for electricity, carpeting, Internet, and even trash removal and vacuuming). I learned how to lay out a grid for booth space, where to place electrical drops, and what type of electrical connections we required (thanks to my father and sister — my engineers who reviewed the electrical requirements). Then I focused on a budget for the event and made several purchases on behalf of the Guild.

Thankfully, the two most recent Guild budgets have included line items for marketing and seminars for North America which we were able to make use of starting in late 2015. Previously we were operating (for the most part) on the basis of Internet, email, and telephone conversations with members. We were able to use our budget to do a couple of things — make arrangements for USA members to receive a copy of the *Seven Pillars* book and a Guild "ask me about my one-name study" button, purchase exhibit booth items and takeaways, and arrange for printed materials to use at RootsTech and future events.

## It All Comes Together

So what did we get and how did we use it? The Guild USA is now the proud owner of two 20-inch monitors, HDMI connectors, surge protectors, extension cords, tablecloths, banners/runners, display stands, books about surname research and DNA studies, Surname Atlas CDs, and the all-important nametag ribbons that Americans like to add to their lanyards (it serves as great free advertising for the Guild!). If you have ever attended a USA-based event you know that we like our takeaways — in the form of ribbons, buttons, badges, and the like. We have also added the recently produced Guild scrolling presentation, several Guild USA slide presentations, and the Guild USB drives to our inventory.



The Guild gets in on the "infamous ribbons craze" that American conference attendees so enjoy.

Our banners were simple and clear — our logo and website — and Production Manager Peter Walker produced the vector graphic for us. We prepared a surname interest card, surname research worksheet, brochure, business card, and made use of the member benefit PDF and various flyers and PDFs that we used at our Boston seminar. Everything was packed up and mailed to Salt Lake City for arrival in time for RootsTech. One late-breaking situation that was disappointing for all of us was that Julie took ill a day before she was to travel to the USA. As a result, neither she nor her husband (Guild member Stuart Goucher) were able to attend RootsTech. Julie was scheduled to present and we all missed learning about Tracing our European Ancestors. Hopefully Julie and Stuart will be able to attend, present, and work the Guild booth at RootsTech 2017.

## At RootsTech

### Tuesday, 2 February

Guild members heeded our call to meet up and/or volunteer to work our booth and came from distances near and far. On Tuesday, seven of us met for dinner. Most of us were meeting in person for the first time — Darris Williams from Utah, Yolanda Lifter, Drew Smith and Paul Howes all from Florida (Paul by way of the UK), Michael Cassara from New York, me from Washington, and Israel Pickholtz from Israel. It was a great opportunity to chat about our booth at RootsTech, finalize our schedules, and learn what sessions our members were presenting and/or attending. Although Yolanda (as the USA Southeast regional rep) and I (as the USA West regional rep and USA National rep) have spoken via telephone, hung out via Google, and exchanged emails — it was a treat to finally meet and discuss our plans not only for RootsTech, but also for future local and regional events.

### Wednesday, 3 February

On Wednesday, Paul Howes and I picked up the Guild packages from UPS and began a four-hour project setting up the Guild booth. It was quite the education to watch the expo hall take shape. What started out as a concrete and glass shell at 8 am blossomed into an engaging labyrinth of large and small vendor and society booths, technology centers, some amazing anchor booths, an innovator alley, dining facilities, an information booth, a demo theater, and more electronics and gadgets on display and available to use than I have seen in one place, all by 8 pm.



When we arrived at our booth (and we were among the early arrivals) the contractor had already made our electrical connection, laid our carpeting, and dropped off our skirted tables, folding chairs, trash can, and small sign. We opened the Guild packages and put together our monitors, set up our laptops, and checked the various connections. We hung our banners and set out our books, written materials, and takeaways. We delivered our expo hall prize (a year's membership in the Guild, a copy of *Seven Pillars* and a Guild USB drive) and then put away all the packing materials. We made a quick escape for tea and coffee, as the expo hall was not heated (and freezing cold as the garage-style doors remained open for large deliveries throughout the day). Paul mentioned that he often worked Guild events, but this was his first time working set-up — it was a new experience for both of us! While it took more time than either of us thought it would, everything came together beautifully and we knew that the Guild booth would be ready for business when the expo hall opened on Thursday.

In a change from previous years, RootsTech began on Wednesday with two RootsTech afternoon sessions (20 classes to choose from) and the Innovator Summit. The Summit is for developers, entrepreneurs, and anyone interested in new applications and programs. It is an opportunity to meet and explore business and technology trends in the family history industry. This is an interesting and often overlooked component (talking about the business side) of our hobby/passion/profession. The sessions were fascinating and gave the dreamers, the thinkers, the makers, the doers, and the users a chance to get together. It made me aware of the tremendous costs and lead time required for many of the changes/improvements we see from both the large and small companies in this field.

The Summit's highlight was the announcement of the finalists for the Innovator Showdown – these finalists were “in the running” for \$100,000 in cash and prizes to be awarded on Friday. If you watch the television show “Shark Tank,” the Innovator Showdown is the family history version. To learn more about all the semi-finalists and their submissions, visit <https://www.rootstech.org/showdown?lang=eng>.

TapGenes, out of Chicago, took first place with an application that focuses on including family medical history in a family tree. On its website (<http://www.tapgenes.com/>), TapGenes describes itself as a program that “helps you crowdsource your family's health information, helping you understand the thread that ties your family's health together.”

Perhaps some of our Guild members have an idea, program, or application that would make a great submission for the 2017 Innovators Showdown – why not get started now and surprise us!

#### Thursday, 4 February

Thursday opened at 8 am with introductions by Steve Rockwood, the managing director of FamilySearch. The keynote speakers were Paula Williams Madison (author of *Finding Samuel Lowe: China, Jamaica, Harlem*) and Bruce Feiler (author of several books, magazine articles, the host of a PBS series, and a frequent contributor to several news shows).

At 10 am the day began in earnest, as attendees could choose from over 80 courses during four class sessions, the expo hall, the demo theatre with 20 short sessions throughout the day (this schedule would be repeated with different selections each of the three full days of the conference), sponsored luncheons from MyHeritage and FamilySearch with guest speakers, and an end-of-the-day social event.

#### Friday, 5 February

Friday opened at 8 am with keynote speakers Josh and Naomi Davis (a couple who produce a lifestyle blog about their family) and David Isay (founder of StoryCorps and winner of the 2015 TED Prize). If you are unfamiliar with StoryCorps, it is an organization that provides an opportunity for anyone to record and preserve life stories. Approximately 50,000 interviews have been archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. These interviews are often shared on NPR's

“Morning Edition” radio show. Learn more about this terrific resource, listen to some of the interviews, or download tips and suggestions for conducting your own interviews by visiting StoryCorps' website, <https://storycorps.org>. At 10 am, the second full day began and included the Innovator Showdown, four class sessions, the expo hall, the demo theater, sponsored luncheons from FindmyPast and Forever with guest speakers, and an end-of-the-day social event.

#### Saturday, 6 February

Saturday opened at 8 am with keynote speakers Mike Leavitt (founder of Leavitt Partners and a former three-term governor of Utah) and Doris Kearns Goodwin (a presidential historian and award-winning author). Her highly acclaimed books include *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* and *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*. It was especially interesting to listen to Ms Goodwin in light of our ongoing presidential nomination/election cycle. At 10 am, the third full day began with four class sessions, the expo hall, the demo theater, sponsored luncheons from Ancestry and FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies), and a closing event.



#### The Guild and Guild Members at RootsTech

The Guild booth was open for business from 10 am to close each of the three full days of RootsTech. We had a steady stream of interested visitors each day. Paul served as our booth anchor and worked with the several volunteers that helped out during the course of each day. Luckily, our volunteers not only worked their allotted time but often stayed on or came back later in the day or on an additional day to provide a break and help out during busy times. Both Paul and Darris proved quite adept at showing off Stephen Archer's Surname Atlas software to great advantage, and several of the booth visitors were able to see their surname displayed in the UK map of the 1881 census. It is a great visual, and 70 of our visitors filled out surname interest cards to receive a copy of the data/map results via email.

In addition to UK surnames, we had several visitors interested in French, German, Irish, and Italian surnames. Our volunteers were able to field questions and make suggestions for further research. It really helped that our volunteers were able to speak to their own one-name studies (a special thanks to Michael Cassara who was able to address Italian surnames). Although we did not intend to solicit memberships at RootsTech, several of our volunteers were so eloquent and enthusiastic about their own one-name studies and the benefits of Guild membership that we took subscription information from 16 interested visitors.

We received a boost from some of our Guild members who gave us a shout-out during their presentations – Drew Smith during his computer labs on “Using Evernote as Your Primary Tool for Capturing Notes and Ideas” and his session on “Organizing Your Genealogy Research Process;” Myko Clelland, who presented on “My Ancestors Are from Britain - What Do I Do Next?;” Michael Cassara, who presented on “Cemetery Crowdsourcing;” and me, during my computer labs for “Fun with Excel – Manipulate Your Genealogy Data.” We all made a point to include examples of our one-name studies in our labs or presentations and to mention the Guild booth to our session attendees. Both Michael's and Myko's presentations were live-





streamed and recorded, and all of us provided syllabi that are online at the RootsTech website (<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>). You can also watch the keynote addresses as well as several of the individual sessions at the website.

We also had several Guild members who were either media ambassadors, worked a booth for another organization, or simply attended and chatted up the Guild when they had the opportunity. Thanks (in no particular order) to Dick Eastman, Darris Williams, Israel Pickholz, Yolanda Campbell Lifter, Carvel Whiting, Mark Whiting, Russ Worthington, Terri O'Connell, Nathan Machula, David Lambert, and Graham Walter. Finally, Paul Howes represented the Guild during our demo theater session and spoke to surname research, one-name studies, and the Guild (using a slide presentation put together by Julie Goucher). Since our booth was located quite close to the demo theater, we saw an influx of visitors after Paul's presentation.

Although it was always an early morning, it wasn't all work on behalf of the Guild. We were able to fit in a few of the sponsored luncheons, visit with other exhibitors, presenters, and attendees, and enjoy the evening social events. Some of our Guild volunteers even got research time in at the Family History Library, and chatted up one-name studies at dinners and after-dinner parties.

At the magical hour of 5 pm on Saturday – and with the help of Michael, Paul, and Darris – we dismantled and packed up the Guild booth and had it on its way to UPS within 30 minutes. That was quite a team effort, and thankfully we finished before they turned out the lights at the expo hall at 5:30 pm! I had a small reprieve and made it back home before the packages arrived. The Guild inventory and equipment now resides in Seattle – a bit lighter, as we gave out much of our literature, and produced “starter kits” for the USA regional representatives.

RootsTech 2016 is now a memory, but we look forward to welcoming our newest members, following up with the individuals who turned in surname interest cards, focusing on maintaining enthusiasm and providing value to our current members, and growing awareness of the Guild and all we have to offer by attending and distributing materials at Southern California Genealogy Society's Jamboree in Burbank, California in June and hosting our second Guild USA seminar in the autumn.

### Final Thoughts on RootsTech

We succeeded at RootsTech for two reasons: we spent the time and money to have a booth that engaged and informed attendees, and we had enthusiastic and knowledgeable Guild volunteers who shared their love of surname research and one-name studies with everyone who visited our booth. We were able to catch their attention with our scrolling presentation, which made its debut at RootsTech. Many of our UK members will get to see it at “Who Do You Think You Are? Live” in April.

Thanks go to the following individuals because we could not have done it without them:

- Marie Byatt, for the scrolling presentation idea and Julie Goucher who spent the time and effort to take the individual slides and turn them into a great presentation – showcasing several one-name studies as well reasons to join the Guild.



Some of the printed materials used at RootsTech and now divided up as “starter kits” for the USA regional representatives.

- Members of the Marketing Action Team (MAT) who worked through design and content ideas so we would have useful and visually appealing Guild written materials.
- Committee members and postholders (especially Tracy Care, Julie Goucher, Paul Howes, and Peter Walker) who gave their time (sometimes on a rush basis) to make decisions, expedite reimbursements, provide vector graphics, answer questions, and review contract requirements for our exhibit.
- Jenna Mills and Jennifer Alford – non-Guild members who gave their time, advice, and encouragement. (Both had exhibited previously and were able to help this beginner navigate the world of family history exhibits.)
- All the Guild members mentioned in this article who gave their time and provided energy and enthusiasm at our booth or who chatted up the Guild on their own with many of the attendees.

### Looking to the Future

If you were not one of the over 26,000 attendees (from every state in the United States and over 35 countries), you missed an interesting and almost overwhelming event! If it sounds like fun (and it is), you should set aside 8-11 February on your 2017 calendar. That is when the seventh annual RootsTech conference will take place. Perhaps you can represent the Guild as an exhibit booth volunteer, a presenter, a media ambassador, or you might submit a product or service to the Innovator Summit.

And if any of our Guild members would like to help with SCGS Jamboree in June or our second Guild seminar in the autumn, if you would like to attend and/or distribute Guild materials at a local or regional event, if you have a creative bent and would like to work on design ideas to help us build up our literature choices, if you plan to attend FGS or NGS in 2016 and/or FGS, NGS and/or RootsTech in 2017 and want to help out with a Guild presence, please contact me or any of the USA regional representatives.

The Guild is a fascinating specialty study that many genealogists and family historians – once they are made aware of it – would enjoy. Let's make an effort to grow awareness of surname research, one-name studies, and the Guild. Together we can spread the word and have fun doing it. ■



# The 20<sup>th</sup> Century is Now History Seminar Report

Colonel Dane Memorial Hall, Alwalton  
Saturday, 13 February 2016

by John L Smith (Member 6937)

I am a new member of the Guild, and this was my first seminar, at the lovely village of Alwalton, near Peterborough in Cambridgeshire. It is situated just off the A1(M) near the East of England Showground.



Conference  
Organiser  
Rod Clayburn

The focal point of the village is the 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman church of St. Andrew, together with other notable buildings, such as the Georgian Alwalton Hall, Manor Farm, the Old Rectory, and numerous old cottages – some of which are thatched. The village is the birthplace of F H Royce, co-founder of Rolls Royce, and F A Perkins, famous for his diesel engines. This was the second visit of the Guild.

The seminar looked at the records available from the 20<sup>th</sup> century that may be used in a one-name study: 20<sup>th</sup> century archives – their potential and their problems; school records and electoral rolls; and adoption and divorce were delivered by a range of specialist speakers. More than 80 members and non-members attended.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Archives: Their Potential and Problems *by Nigel Lutt, freelance archivist and researcher*

This was an interesting – jovial at times – talk themed on “Life is short, keep the record.” Nigel identified the potential losses of data with 20<sup>th</sup> century records, together with other problems that can be met. Nigel was an archivist with Bedfordshire, spanning a time from when the typewriter was used, through mainframes, to the use of the personal computers.



Nigel Lutt

Using the examples of Peak Frean and Luton Borough police, we were shown how records not only provided information, but a timeline and authenticity. It would seem that records from uniformed groups survive better.

Nigel gave an insight into the “enemies” of archives: the paperclip with its rusty marks, staples, stickytape, and Post-it® Notes, through poor storage and human mishandling. The attitudes of custodians pose a threat, and the practice of sampling destroys a timeline of information.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century provides a huge amount of records, and Lloyd George’s “Domesday Book” (the 1910 Land Valuation Survey) and the Rating and Valuation Act of 1925 are recommended.

Other useful sources are records of clubs and societies, political groups, and local authority (pre-DVLA) vehicle licensing records, to name but a few. Family history is now being digitised, improving accessibility, but we need to be careful that we don’t lose the context.



Colonel Dane Memorial Hall in Alwalton

## Discovering Your One-Name in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century *by Janet Few, family and local historian and author*

Janet Few’s talk provided interesting and detailed advice on how we can enhance our one-name studies with data-rich sources to provide the social history – daily lives of ordinary people. Janet introduced us to the stages of data collection, synthesis, and preservation. She advised us to look at depth rather than breadth. She offered suggestions as to starting points. A time period focuses the mind, helping with the collection of stories and making the end product more attainable.



Janet Few

Janet went on to outline the difficulties and potential research topics with a wealth of sources. She encouraged us to start with living people – collecting stories, memories, etc., using interviews, letters, diaries, and other documents in conjunction with other sources home and abroad (e.g. the National Farm Survey).

Janet went on to look at synthesis. Possible projects include family and war (she gave a wide range of sources for the First World War), family size and infant mortality, occupations, etc.

Finally, she discussed preservation – putting together a story to preserve your records using one or all of a range of presentations, books, articles, blogs, tapestries/quilts. It does not necessarily have to be the written word. More detailed notes can be obtained from <http://thehistoryinterpreter.wordpress.com>.

## School Records and Electoral Rolls *by Alex Cox of Find My Past*

Unfortunately, Alex could not make the seminar through illness. A webinar had been sent in his place – “100 Years of School Records and Electoral Records.” However, the slides within the webinar were unavailable, which rather spoilt it, especially after an excellent lunch. The audience were very patient.



Information forthcoming concerned the British Library, which holds the largest number of non-current electoral registers. The registers available over the years, the historical information found within, together with the how and why you were eligible to vote, changing boundaries, voting for women, and other records the registers would complement (e.g. census records) formed the core of the webinar.

### **My Story** *by Rod Clayburn*

This was a very interesting, witty presentation by Rod concerning his preparation for a book brought about by the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of his great-grandfather in the First World War.

### **Adoption and Divorce** *by Ian H Waller FSG, chairman of AGRA*



Ian H Waller

You are likely to come across divorce and/or adoption in your studies and Ian introduced the scope of the records available.

Divorce is the means of ridding yourself of your marriage partner. Pre-1857 it was all husband-instigated by, amongst others, selling your wife or an Act of Parliament. Post-1857 it was done through the courts. At one time,

removing the patriarch meant the collapse of the home and family.

Ian gave some interesting facts and figures concerning divorce: 1923 was the first time women were allowed to petition; pre-1914 divorces were rare (in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there was only one divorce in 450 marriages). The First World War led to reforms that put men and women on an equal footing.

The grounds for divorce have changed over the years. In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it was still regarded with a feeling of shame, but as the years went on further grounds were added through reforms, and it gained legal and public acceptance.

The custody of children is still granted to the father.

Records can be found in the TNA under J77 and J78, and the divorce registry.

Legal adoption did not start until 1 Jan 1927 – and Ian outlined where it was possible to obtain facts and figures. If the child



Ian H Waller explains methods of “ridding oneself of your marriage partner.”

was in a home, The Mother and Baby Home website and the Adopted Children Register may provide answers. However, this must be done through intermediary agencies by the adoptee or immediate next of kin.

It was interesting to find out about pre-1927 adoption through so called “professional” child adopters, baby farms, fosterers, child sales, children’s homes, etc. Two of the key ones were the Foundlings Hospital (now the Coram Foundation) and Waifs and Strays Society (now the Children’s Society). These are a source of information through case studies, their own magazines, and newspapers. Baptism indexes can be found on FamilySearch.

### **Writing Up your One-Name Study** *by Gill Blanchard, historian, researcher, tutor, author*

Gill led us through what we needed to think about: chronology, story, how to create an interesting family history, challenges and anomalies, format and structure, and writing in an interesting way.



Gill Blanchard

She outlined the importance of the who, what, when, where, why, and how – whether for a person, place, or generation.

She set out some key considerations for starting out: the importance of planning and organization; making it interesting (not just facts and dates); the craft of your writing; goals; readers’ knowledge; and style of presentation (fictional, factual, etc.).

Gill also went through the common elements of good stories: how to explain the missing pieces and anomalies, adding local social history, timelines, and advice on using resources. She also addressed copyright and plagiarism. In the long run, you are bringing your family history to life.

For more detail, read her book or attend her course. [\[See page 30 for special Guild discount offer for Gill’s classes.\]](#)

Throughout this session and Janet’s, I recalled my own experiences. My background is in teaching design, craft, graphics, etc., but I am also a qualified author of learning/training materials for the computer. All used the processes of analysis and synthesis, knowing who your audience are, their interests, which team they support, etc. These give you a range of points to focus on. My own family history has a rugby league star, a popular BBC radio and clubland singer from the ’50s, four generations of policemen, and six generations of miners. I could even focus on the eight families of the same name that lived in the same lane (yard).

So, as with all good things, the seminar came to an end. Five excellent speakers, slide presentations, and informative sessions, gave us plenty to think about and explore. Writing up your one-name study was of particular interest to me, having not gotten to grips with mine yet.

A few displays were on show: 1939 register, books by Janet Few, *Writing Your Family History* by Gill Blanchard. You could even buy your marmalade for your Sunday morning breakfast.

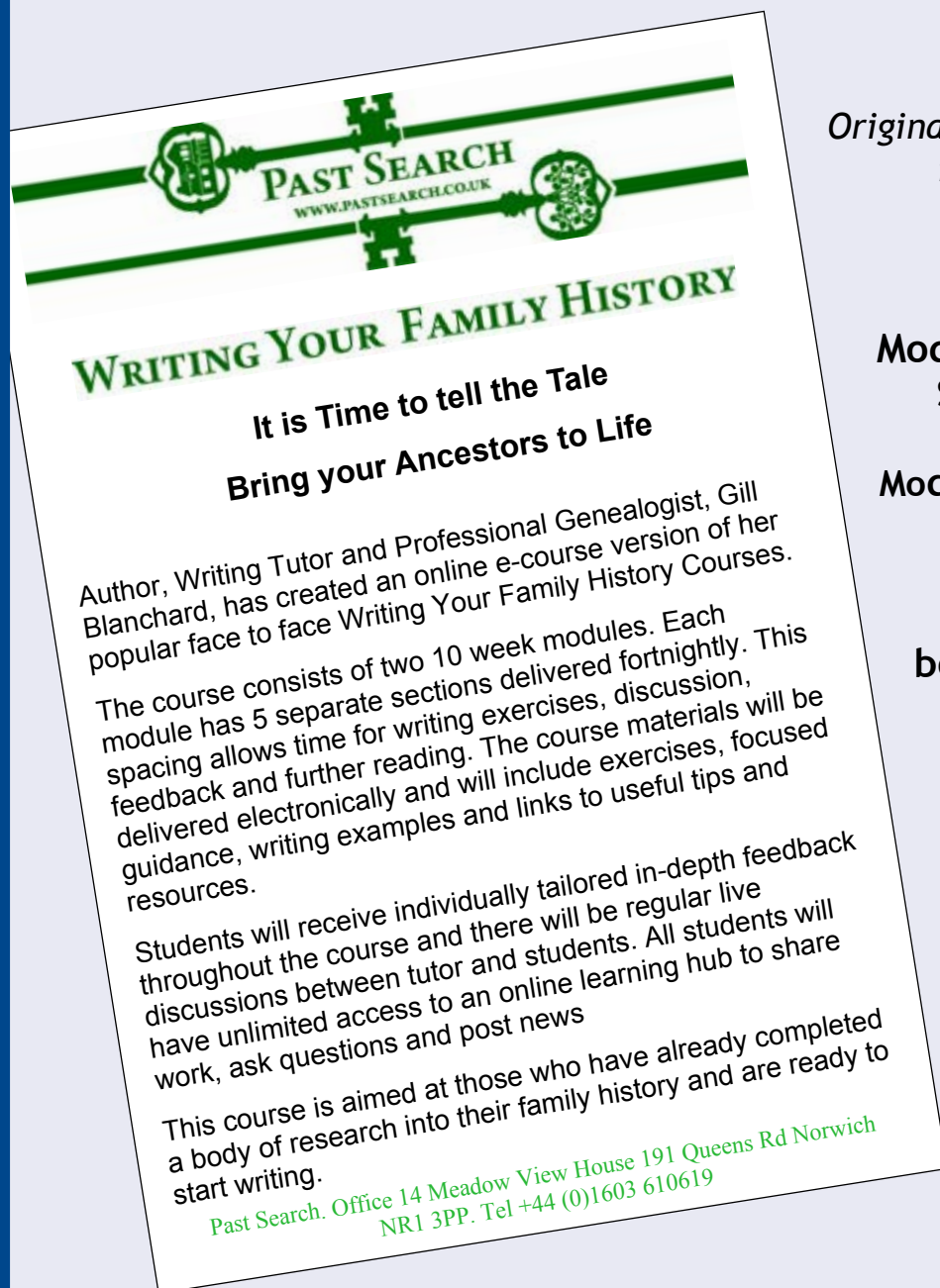
The organisers are to be congratulated for some of the best pre-seminar information I have seen – details of the programme, directions, public transport, parking, overnight accommodation – and for an excellent day. ■



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# Forthcoming Seminars

**13 August 2016**

**DNA**  **#GuildDNA**

Last visited in February 2013, we return to NSC for a long overdue DNA seminar and with many DNA experts within the Guild are considering offering some parallel introductory streams and round-table discussions. There is plenty of scope for an update on the latest DNA techniques and suggested potential subjects include the identification of Richard III, getting started, choosing a DNA testing company, the role of autosomal DNA, beyond Y-DNA-37, Big Y, SNP testing and multi-origin surname projects.

**Venue:**

National Star College  
Ullenwood, Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire GL53 9QU

**5 November 2016**

**Care and Consideration**


 **#GuildYork**

Care and Consideration subjects will include Childrens' Homes, Copyright, Mental Health Records, The British Library. There will be an opportunity to visit The Search Engine railway archive and library at NRM over the lunch period and an optional visit on Friday to The Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York, Heslington, York YO10 5DD.

**Venue:** National Railway Museum  
Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ

**11 February 2017**

**The Name of the Game**

 **#GuildName**

Time for another seminar to attract those thinking about starting a one-name study, assist new members further, and inspire others to progress in their studies.

As well as reviewing the support the Guild can provide to one-namers, it will look at the latest in official resources, social media, and genealogy software, together with different aspects of an established study.

**Venue:** Bearley Village Hall,  
Snitterfield Road, Bearley, Stratford  
upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 0AR

## Website Creation

Beauchamp College, Ridgeway,  
Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 5TP  
9:30 am for 10:00 am, Saturday, 9 July 2016

The aim of this much-requested Seminar is to guide members who wish to create their own one-name study website or to develop an existing site. Participants will be helped to clarify their aims in having a website and from there to consider the content and the design of such a site. Members will then be able to choose which tools might be best for their purposes, content and design.



Beauchamp College

The options for hosting your website will be examined, including the Members' Websites Project.

## Programme

09:30 - 10:00	Registration and Coffee
10:00 - 10:10	Welcome
10:10 - 11:10	<b>Purposes, Content, Design: Interactive Session</b> — Mike Spathaky
11:10 - 11:30	Comfort Break
11:30 - 12:30	<b>Method and Tools: Choosing Break-out Sessions</b> — Paul Featherstone
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 14:30	<b>Break-out Session — WordPress, TNG, Moonfruit, and Tribal Pages</b>
14:30 - 14:40	Comfort Break
14:40 - 15:40	<b>Break-out Session — WordPress, TNG, Moonfruit, and Tribal Pages</b>
15:40 - 16:15	Tea Break
16:15 - 16:45	<b>Final Q&amp;A</b>
16:45	Close

If you will be traveling by train, please contact us for help in finding a lift from Leicester station.

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, is £18.00. Bookings close on 25 June 2016. All bookings will be confirmed by email, with full joining instructions, on or before this date. To book and pay online see [http://www.one-name.org/seminar\\_2016jul\\_oadby](http://www.one-name.org/seminar_2016jul_oadby).

We would like to ensure that disabled delegates can participate fully in this event. Anyone with any special requirements should telephone the Guild Help Desk on 0800 011 2182 or email [seminar-booking@one-name.org](mailto:seminar-booking@one-name.org).

For more information look under the Events tab at [www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org) or from the Guild Help Desk Tel: 0800 011 2182.



**#GuildWeb**



# Pictures from The 20<sup>th</sup> Century is Now History

Colonel Dane Memorial Hall, Alwalton, Cambridgeshire  
Saturday, 13 February 2016

Vol 12 Issue 6 • April-June 2016



**ABOVE:** Seminar delegates – including Helen Tovey, editor of Family Tree Magazine (front row, second from right) – enjoy introductory remarks by seminar organiser Rod Clayburn.



**LEFT:** Delegates break for lunch.

**BELOW:** Members gather Friday night for a pre-seminar dinner.



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