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DNA Seminar Report

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A MEGA Surname Study

All the latest Guild news and updates

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of One-Name Studies

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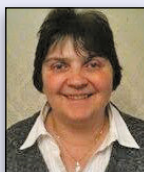
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Our Mission

*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
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interested in becoming one, please
contact Regional Rep Coordinator
Julie Goucher: rep-coordinator@one-name.org.

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The Guild's WebForum is open to any
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Guild Marriage Index

marriage-index@one-name.org



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

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From the Committee...

by Julie Goucher, Guild Secretary

Yesterday the journal of a long standing genealogical organisation arrived through my letter box. I joined that Society in 1987 and next year I will have been a member for 30 years. What I noticed immediately was that two key officer posts were vacant. Last week I shared to my Committee colleagues a blog post (<http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/2016/02/16/do-we-still-need-genealogy-societies/>) which considered the question, are genealogical societies the way forward?

My personal view is YES, but there must be an option to adapt and progress. The field of genealogy has been transformed in the last decade and when I cast my mind back to the first meeting I attended of the Society I mentioned above the genealogical world has moved beyond recognition. The internet has revolutionised the way we can research and interact with others, in fact the world has shrunk to the size of a matchbox!

Whatever societies do, they do through the hard work and dedication of volunteers and the Guild is no exception. We function and run completely by the efforts of volunteers. We have an amazing seminar committee who make seminars available where they can, with the majority of sessions recorded and available on the website for members only. We have regional reps, globally and there is a list of Reps and vacancies elsewhere in this journal. We have a variety of indexes and transcribers and an active presence on social media channels. To see a list of Guild benefits, visit <http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/membership-benefits/>

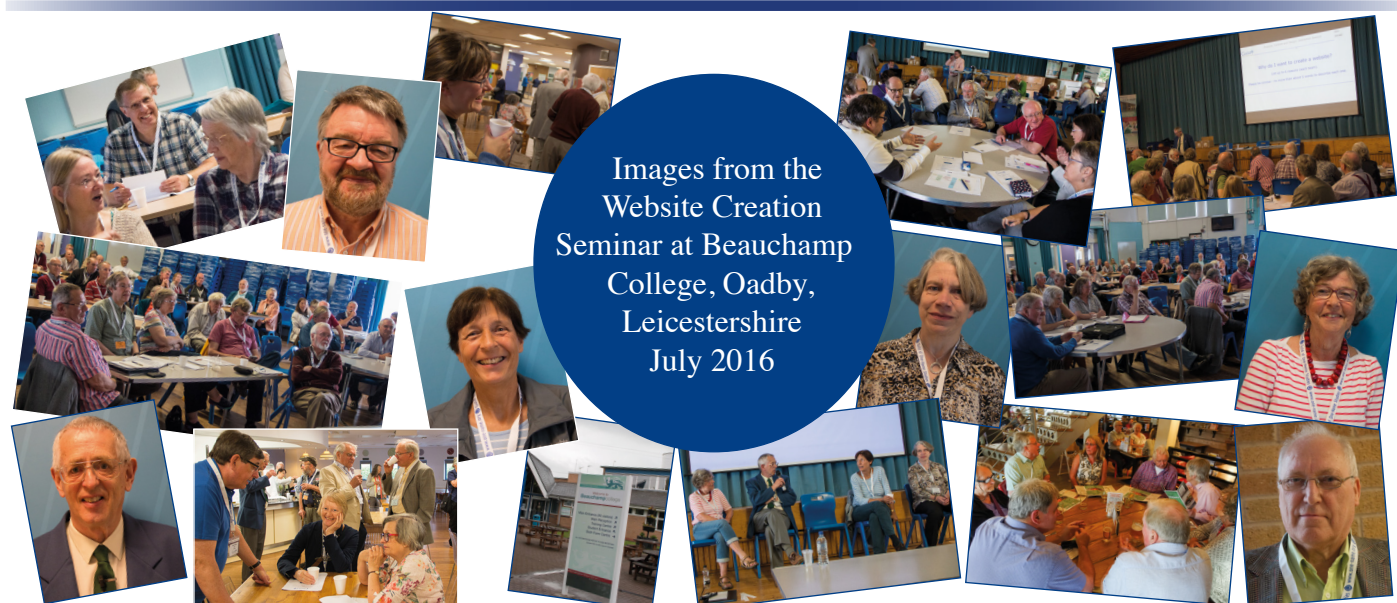
The Guild functions by the ethos of members helping members. Please ask yourself: can I give the Guild one hour of time in any capacity? We would love you to join us to contribute to the Guild for the benefit of the members, whether that is

filling a vacancy or helping index, joining the seminar team, contributing to the News Watch project. If you would like to assist, then please drop a note to volunteers@one-name.org.

In many ways the things I have mentioned here set us apart from other societies. We are an innovative organisation, we have members who create proposals to Committee that are approved and become fully fledged projects and initiatives - the Members Website Project, the TNA (The National Archives) Wills project and the more recent project with FamilySearch and there are many more. Every single thing is undertaken by a volunteer for the benefit of everyone. The Committee thank every volunteer, because without your support the Guild would not function.

Sadly, the functionality of the Guild costs money and for the first time in seven years the subscription rate will increase from 1 November 2016. This was not a decision taken lightly, but as Trustees of the Guild it was not an option for us to reduce our reserves in order to subsidise subscriptions. There was a more in-depth article written by the Treasurer and Registrar in the July edition of the journal (Volume 12 Issue 7 page 30).

The increased subscription rate of £18 or £20 for those who wish to have a printed copy of the Register should ensure that there will not need to be an increase for a number of years to come. We very much value the support given to the Guild from the membership. You are the people that make the Guild the organisation it has evolved into. ■



Photos courtesy of Peter Hagger



Marriage Challenge Update: What are the Benefits?

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

This article is directed to members who have recently joined the Guild and those who are not yet familiar with Marriage Challenge. Perhaps you are wondering what it is all about and whether it will be of any benefit for your one-name study.

Challengers select a Registration District (in England and Wales) and a time period. 1837 to 1911 is typical, but more recently Challenges have gone on to 1939 or to when a particular Registration District was closed. So look at the list below and work out whether there are any of your one-name marriages registered for each District and time period. If you have not yet extracted your marriages from the General Register Office (GRO) index, then you can use FreeBMD to check your one-name against the District and time period. FreeBMD will provide the full name of the person married and give a reference (area code and page number). This information is sent to the Challenger.

The Challenger will search for your marriages in the registers that have been deposited at the relevant Records Office or other repository. These will generally be the Anglican church registers. When a marriage is found the details will be transcribed and subsequently will be sent to you (the Requester).

The details contain much more useful information than that given in the GRO index. Most importantly it will tell you the name of the spouse (although after 1911 the GRO index will include the spouse). Also very importantly it will tell you the names of the fathers of the bride and groom and their occupations. It is quite likely that this will enable you to identify the person married so that he/she can be placed in the correct family tree. Ages of the bride and groom are often given, although during the period 1837 to about 1870, the term "of full age" (i.e. over 21) is often seen. There will be the groom's occupation and addresses of bride and groom.

If all this information is still insufficient to identify the person, the names of witnesses to the marriage can possibly help. Brothers and sisters of the bride and groom are frequent witnesses.

But they are only transcriptions, you may remark, and could contain errors. True, and I am the first to admit that there

is this risk; I once transcribed a father as David when it was actually Daniel. The quality of hand-writing in parish registers is variable and can sometimes be very hard to read. But the Challenger may well become familiar with the hand-writing by examining other entries in the same hand, making errors less likely. It is important to realise that the marriage certificates that we purchase from the GRO are themselves transcriptions and may contain similar errors. Personally, I am happy to transcribe entries where the requester has already purchased a certificate, especially where there is some scepticism about the accuracy.

The last thing to realise is that marriage certificates cost £9.25 when purchased from the GRO, whilst the transcribed MC entries are FREE.

More information on Marriage Challenge can be found on the MC webpages within the Members Room (old) - <http://www.one-name.org/members/mchallenge.html>

The Marriage Challenges beginning in the coming months are listed below. All members are encouraged to send their requests to the Challenger 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).

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 is much preferred, but willing to accept other formats;
- C. Requests sent in any form accepted.

Being a Challenger is rewarding and enjoyable and you will be helping your fellow Guild members with their studies. You can share the task with a friend or another Guild member. If you think you could become a Challenger, I look forward to hearing from you. Contact me, the Marriage Challenge Coordinator, on marriage-challenge@one-name.org ■

Registration District and Period	Request Deadline	Challenger	Challenger's email	Key (see above)
Huntingdon 1837-1911	01 Nov 2016	Peter Hagger	peter@hagger.org	B
Islington 1922-1926	01 Nov 2016	Christine Usher & Ann Cossar	gilholm@one-name.org	B
Winslow 1837-1935	01 Dec 2016	Brian Horridge	horridge@one-name.org	B
North Bucks' 1935-1951	01 Dec 2016	Brian Horridge	horridge@one-name.org	B

¹search will be limited to Bucks parishes only



DNA for your ONS: Project Management, Part One

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

Adding DNA to Your One-Name Study

A Y-DNA Surname project is a perfect companion to your ONS.

When you are ready to embark upon the discoveries you can have from a DNA Project, first check if a project already exists for your registered surname(s).

Search each of your registered surname and variants on the link below, under the words "Project Search":

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

The search results screen can have up to 3 sections, depending on the results.

Section 1: The number tested in the database for the surname.

Section 2: This section lists the surname projects that include the surname, and the count of total members in the project, regardless of the surname. Section 1 might show 5 tested with a surname, and then Section 2 shows a project that includes the surname and shows 20 members of the project. This is no guarantee that any of those tested with the surname are in the project. The projects listed are surname projects that include the surname, regardless of if there is anyone with the surname in the project. This distinction is important. The search works this way, so that people looking for a project for their surname can find it. Each DNA project has a corresponding DNA Project profile where the project lists the surnames included. Having a surname listed makes the project appear on the search results page when the surname is searched. If you want to see if anyone has tested with the surname you searched, click on the project which takes you to the project profile, then click on the project website, then click to reach the Y-DNA results chart, and read down the surname column looking for the surname of interest. Most projects display the surname of the persons tested. A few projects don't.

Section 3: Other projects, such as mtDNA, geographical, and haplogroup

As a Guild member interested in a Y-DNA Project, section 1 and 2 are of interest to you.

If any of your registered surnames are included in a surname project, please contact the DNA Advisor to get an assessment of the situation and your options.

If your surname is not in any Y-DNA Project, and you are ready to proceed forward, contact the DNA Advisor, who will request and setup your project with proven marketing material, and

send you an easy Getting Started email with a sample recruiting email and letter. Just follow the 20 easy steps in Getting Started and you are on your way to success. You can change anything that has been set up for you.

Be sure to let the DNA Advisor know the results of your surname search at Family Tree DNA.

Projects are started every day by people all over the world, so if you wait, your surname may be taken. The rules are only one project per surname, though there are rare exceptions.

You decide how much time you spend on your DNA Project. So if you are short on available time, you can get the project, and just let it sit there until you are ready. Someone might come along and find it and test. They can't find your project if it isn't there.

Once you have a project, the recommended priorities are testing your tree and any trees with limited surviving males.

Your Project is Ready

Once the DNA Advisor is done setting up your project with standard options and proven marketing material, you receive an easy to follow 20 step Getting Started email and the login credentials for your project. Doing the complete Getting Started email is important. For example, if you don't do the whole email, you may miss steps such as registering your DNA Project with the Guild Registrar, and the important step of inviting others with your surname(s), who have tested, to join your project.

Once you have done Getting Started, it is important to explore the project management system at Family Tree DNA. To do this, you log into your project. You have a unique User Name and password to log into your project. If you also have a test kit, to log into a test kit, you use a kit number and password. The project is separate from a test kit.

The purpose of a DNA Project is to group participants for ease of access, analysis, reporting and to set search criteria. The latter attribute is especially important for a Y-DNA Project, and is not relevant for mtDNA or Family Finder (autosomal) tests.

A Y-DNA test kit can be set for searching to either the whole database, or to within the project. Most matches with other surnames are not relevant, and eventually everyone will have matches with multiple other surnames. If each kit is set to search within the project, then your match emails, that you receive as the project administrator, will only be relevant matches. You can encourage the participants in your project to set their searches to the project: [They log into their kit, and click: Manage Personal Information, Match and Email Settings, Only In My Projects, Save]. At any time, they can see

matches to the whole database, by clicking Y-DNA Matches, then toggle to “The Entire Database” and click Run Report.

There is a menu bar on your screen when you log into your DNA project. The menu bar has these items:

- Member Reports
- Genetic Reports
- Project Administration
- My Account
- Resources
- Feedback

The selections under Member Reports are:

- Country of Origin Charts
- Maternal Ancestry
- Member Distribution Map
- Member Information
- Member Notes
- Order Summary
- Paternal Ancestry
- Pending Lab Results
- Pending Shipment To Lab
- Project Joins
- Project Statistics
- Received Lab Results
- Unreceived Kits

The report you will probably access the most is Member Information, found under Member Reports. This report lists all the participants in your project, and the key elements, such as their kit number, name, email address, and whether the kit is out (the date is red) or returned (the date is black). There is an optional Notes field, where you can put notes about the participant, such as what test they took, or even their tree label, if you are labeling your trees. Some people note deceased members in this field. It is up to you how you utilize the Notes field.

It is easy to get familiar with each of the selections under Member Reports, by clicking on them, and viewing the report generated. Most of the reports are self-explanatory. Two sample reports are shown as exhibits to this article.

For example, when you click on Country of Origin Charts, you will see a graph showing the count of members by either Most Distant Paternal Origin for Y-DNA, or Most Distant Maternal Origin, for mtDNA. You can select to view the chart as a Pie,

Bar, or Column style chart. A count for those with an origin of “unknown” is not shown. Unknown is used when a migration has occurred, and you do not have a documented connection to the ancestral country. This is quite common when the direct male line goes back to colonial times in the USA. Figure 1 shows an example Country of Origin chart.

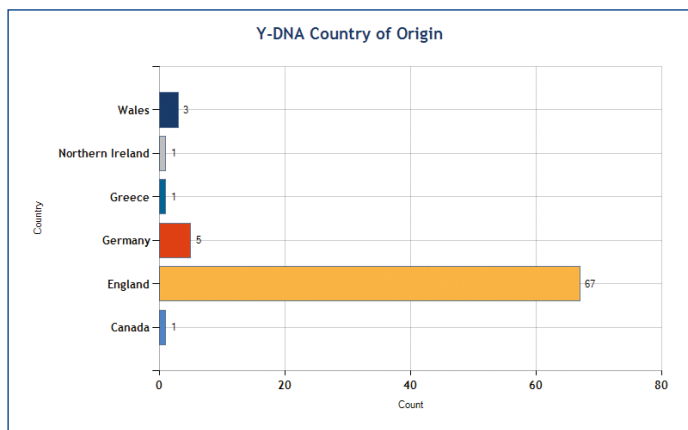


Fig.1. Country of Origin chart

If you want to use the Member Distribution Map, you will need to enter the co-ordinates for the Most Distant Ancestor for each participant. To check which participants still need this information entered, first click on Paternal Ancestry. Make sure that everyone has a Most Distant Ancestor identified. This field is based on documents, and usually involves the name of the Most Distant Ancestor, the year of the earliest event, and the location. Then, if a map location and/or Most Distant Ancestor has not been entered, click on the Kit Number to open the participant’s Personal Page in a new tab, then click Manage Personal Information, Genealogy, Most Distant Ancestors. Follow the directions to enter the Most Distant Ancestor information and/or the map location. Then click Save.

Once you have entered the information for all the participants, you can view the map by clicking Member Distribution Map.

When only a generic location is known, such as a state in the USA, or a county in the UK, or a country, such as England, a pin will be placed in the middle of the location. You can move the pin around, by adjusting the latitude and longitude.

To view the progress of your project, click Project Joins, to get a chart of the progress of your project in terms of adding participants. Figure 2 shows a sample Project Join report.

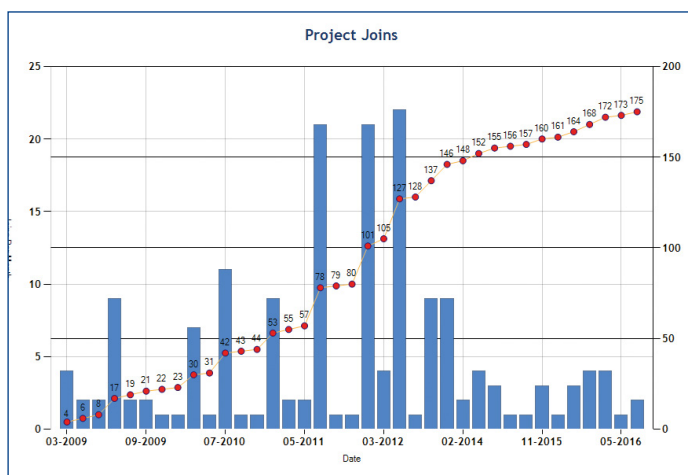


Fig.2. Project Join report

Explore all the selections under Member Information, by clicking on each selection, to see what information is provided and how the information can help you in managing your project.

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. 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. ■

Exploits of the Harmston Family

by Ray Harmston (Member 5933)

When Jesse Harmston, my great-grandfather's uncle, (born Bulby Lines, 22 August 1831) set out for the USA to become a farmer in 1851, he would have had little idea of the events that were to follow.

His third son, Edgar Fernando Harmston (born Princeton, Mercer, Missouri 24 February 1864) married Mary Ellen Cumberledge on 21 December 1884 at Centreville, Appanoose, Iowa.

Edgar, his wife, and family joined the first white homesteaders to move to the unallotted land of the Ute Indian reservation in northeastern Utah. The land had been opened to "homesteading" by act of Congress in 1905 (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homestead_Acts). Edgar had paid the requisite \$2.50 per acre for his plot of 160 acres. The "system" was that you bought land, built a home on it, and improved the land. After living there for five years you could file for title to the land from the US government.

However, as Edgar well knew, the nearest stream of running water was miles distant from his plot. He was a civil engineer, mathematician and a very busy man. Edgar installed two of his sons, Artemus Craig and Floyd Edgar to "sit out" the required five years on his behalf. They were, in fact, the first two residents of what was to become Roosevelt City, Utah. The original name for this inhospitable location was Dry Gulch City, since it was between two dried-up river beds, close to the Uinta Mountains and 5,250 feet above sea level. Mary (Cumberledge) told Edgar that if they were

to remain there she "did not wish to be labelled as a Dry Gulcherite." Mary, as it happened, was a personal friend of the then president of the United States – Theodore Roosevelt. They had corresponded regularly, and his replies were always on official White House stationery. She wrote to Theodore, suggesting that the city should be named after, in her opinion, "the best president the USA had ever elected." Theodore Roosevelt agreed to the renaming.

Meanwhile, with remarkable foresight, Edgar Fernando – with others – had set up the Dry Gulch Irrigation Company, and soon there were ditches and canals created, resulting in water flowing down many streets and alleyways. Later a reservoir was built. In 1907 the Harmston family donated two acres of their land to Roosevelt citizens for a school. Soon, Roosevelt became the economic centre for the area.

After the First World War, depression struck. Banks went bust and mortgages were foreclosed, but out of the blue a miracle occurred, called the "million dollar crop" – it was alfalfa seed. The land, now irrigated, was fertile, and the seed companies moved in. Millions of dollars flowed into the Uintah Basin.

To conclude the story... Edgar and Mary, who by 1907 had produced eight children, named their last child Theodore Roosevelt Harmston. Edgar Fernando Harmston died 20 January 1925 (apoplexy) and his wife, Mary, died 18 December 1939 (broncho-pneumonia brought about by influenza). ■

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 are 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.

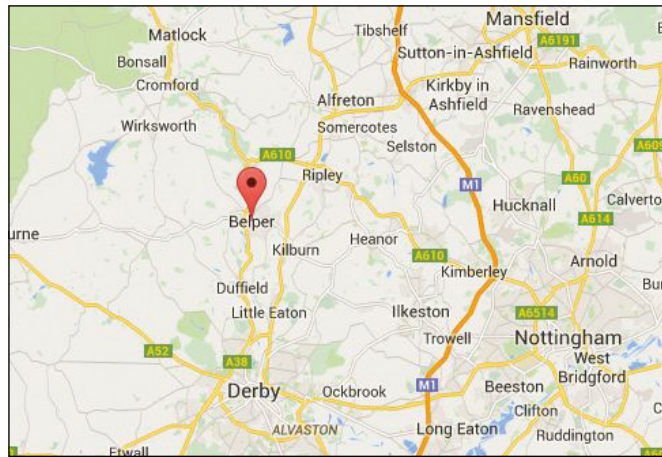
Peter Copsey MCG (Marriage Challenge Coordinator) will give advice on what is needed and on any aspect of a Challenge that is concerning you. Most Challengers find the Challenge a rewarding and interesting experience. Why not send him an email at marriage-challenge@one-name.org if you think you can contribute.



Vayro Ancestry in Belper, Derbyshire: an Unsolved Mystery and an MBE

by Rennison Vayro (Member 4374)

In December 2014 a couple of new contacts from a social network opened up another avenue for research in Belper Derbyshire, one of the areas of the UK that I had not considered before. Information received was that a Thomas Henry Vayro was born c.1890 in Belper and died aged seventy-seven in Belper in 1967. Both contacts were his great granddaughters but by different sons. Henry and his wife Edith had three sons, Norman, Percy James Thomas and Dennis Vayro. It turns out that Henry was not born in Belper after all, so initially that little piece of information proved a little misleading. What I found interesting was that one of these brothers disappeared without trace, a mystery yet unsolved, but more importantly I have now found someone famous in the family, someone who received an MBE.



Details from the family showed a vague tree of four generations all from the Belper area. So as usual I issued a plea for help and turned to colleagues in the Guild and Upper Dales FHG and within days various pieces of evidence turned up in my email inbox, so I cannot thank them enough for their help and assistance.

Thomas Henry Vayro and Edith Short

Entries for a Thomas H Vayro were found on the 1891, 1901 and 1911 census sites, and it turns out that he was born in the small village of Pickhill near West Tanfield in North Yorkshire. Thomas Henry was in West Tanfield in the 1891 census, age five months with his parents John (twenty-eight born Clifton Lodge Bedale) and Martha (twenty-three born Thirsk) and his sisters Christiana three and Sarah six.

Ten years later in 1901, at ten years old Thomas and his parents were at Harlsey Grove Cottage in East Harlsey in the Hambleton District of North Yorkshire near Northallerton. John Vayro and Martha Ann Rose had married in the December Quarter 1884 and John turned out to be one of the sons of Thomas Vayro and Sarah Todd of Clifton Cottage on the Clifton Castle Estates.

In the 1911 census Thomas was working as a groom at Willoughby House, near Rugby in Warwickshire; not quite Derbyshire, but he'd clearly headed south from Yorkshire. Again his birthplace was shown as Pickhill Yorkshire. Now aged twenty, like many before him and after him, he was a farm hand working with animals. Immediately prior to the start of the First World War there was probably little farm work available, so Thomas had moved south to find agricultural work, but he was not yet in Belper Derbyshire. A close family member confirmed the

story that Thomas Henry was a groom and when the gentleman he worked for went off to the First World War as an officer in the cavalry, Thomas also went as a foot soldier attached to the cavalry brigade.

It is also thought that he had met his wife (who originated from Belper) whilst she was working in service at Willoughby House, his place of work. It was not uncommon for young girls going into service to move to a different area. Whilst there was plenty of employment for girls to work in the cotton mills and stocking factories in Belper and surrounding areas there was little else available, so the domestic life as a maid in a Yorkshire Country House was probably a great attraction.

On <http://www.findmypast.com> a marriage was located in Belper of Thomas H Vayro to Edith M Short in 1914 and also an entry for a Thomas H Vayro 3374 300 Battalion, Private, Household Cavalry, Staffs Yeomanry, Sherwood Rangers, Corps of Hussars CMIC SWBC. That's a lot of separate regiments, but I think the Household Cavalry can be confirmed by going off to war with the "master of the house".

The "Burnt Records" on Ancestry.com were consulted to see if Thomas Henry's First World War Service Records were available. Unfortunately not, but his Medal Index Card is there showing service in the Staffordshire Yeomanry, Sherwood Rangers and Corps of Hussars. No mention of Household Cavalry, but the medal rolls which put his name forward for the British War Medal and the Victory Medal come from the Corps of Hussars, a sub-unit within the Household Cavalry and Corps of Cavalry. I think that might re-confirm where the Household Cavalry reference comes from.

See <http://www.1914-1918.net/staffsyeo.htm> and <http://www.1914-1918.net/nottsyeo.htm>

A family contact confirmed that there is an inscription in a book "*The advance of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. July 1917 - October 1918*", which reads "Trooper T.H.Vayro of the 1/1 Nottinghamshire Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, 14th Cavalry Brigade 5th Cav. Div. served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force." This book was reputedly given to Thomas by his commanding officer, presumably the "master of the big house". Normally Thomas Henry would have probably joined a Yorkshire Regiment, with his roots in Uredale but he must have acted on his master's advice and the chance to join a more prestigious regiment.

So I needed to re-focus and search for details of Thomas Henry's parents.

John Vayro and Martha Anne Rose

Firstly to recap, from the 1891 and 1901 census returns, evidence suggests that Thomas Henry Vayro was born 1890 in West Tanfield North Yorkshire and his parents were John and Martha Vayro. His father John was in turn born at Clifton Lodge, (on the Clifton Castle Estate in Uredale) so it was highly likely that



Clifton Castle

he was the son of Thomas Vayro and Sarah Todd and baptised 16 February 1863. Basic calculations could show that John was born in 1863 and Martha in 1868.

Interestingly it was a colleague that spotted an 1871 census entry with a John Vayro shown aged eight, with his brother William aged ten, and they are living with their maternal grandparents, namely William and Dorothy Todd. Although he was not living with his parents, little snippets of information led me in a certain direction. William and Dorothy's daughter Sarah Todd had married Thomas Vayro c.1860 and John and his brother William are the first two of their thirteen children. Fortunately I already had a wealth of information on that family but more importantly this took the ancestry back one more generation. I was able to find John on 1891, 1901, and 1911 census sheets with his wife Martha Anne.

On the last of these, John and Martha Anne have a grandson James Henry with them. I have no proof but the grandson may well be an illegitimate son of one of their daughters Christiana and Sarah who had already left the family home. By then Thomas was in Warwickshire.

To tie up another loose end and possibly locate the parents of Martha Anne Rose, I had a look on <https://familysearch.org/> and on the 1871 census for Thirsk in Yorkshire I found a John Rose aged twenty-four, (born Pickhill), Sarah Ann Rose aged twenty-four, Martha Rose aged three (born 1868-1869) and Esther Rose aged one. The Martha shown is probably Martha Anne Rose and the fact that Pickhill was mentioned clinched the deal, because it is possible that Thomas Henry was born in his grandparent's house in Pickhill. Previously it has been shown that John Vayro and Martha Anne Vayro (née Rose) had married in 1884 and were at the Hind's Cottage in West Tanfield in the 1891 census with children Sarah, Christiana and Thomas Henry.

There were two other clues in the names of John and Martha's daughters, Sarah and Christiana.

It is often the case that parents pass on a particular first name to the next generation. In this case I thought that the Sarah was probably sourced from John's mother. And it turns out that the only Christiana (May Hudson) I have on my database is the wife of a William Vayro married in Thornton Watlass in 1936, a grandson of a Thomas Vayro and Sarah Todd.

Thomas Vayro and Sarah Todd

There was a marriage between Thomas Vayro and Sarah Todd registered in the Northallerton area in 1859.

This particular Thomas Vayro (the Grandfather of Thomas Henry) was baptised 13 December 1835, at East Witton, was the son of Richard Vayro and Mary Bussfield and died aged fifty-five and was buried 23 July 1892 at Thornton Watlass. Sarah Todd was born in 1836 and was buried aged seventy-one on 23 April 1907.

Thomas and Sarah are known to have baptised thirteen children at Thornton Watlass and apart from William their first born in 1861 at Thirn, all the others were born at Clifton Lodge in lower Wensleydale in quick succession. Although it is only John born 1863 that I was concerned with, they had eight daughters and three more sons. Having examined the actual Parish Register it is possible that they had two sets of twins, with two boys baptised together in 1867 and two girls baptised together in 1871. Unfortunately there are no notes in the margins of these entries to suggest they were twins and nor are their dates of births recorded.

The last of their sons, James, was born in 1880, joined the Northumberland Fusiliers 27th Battalion Irish (Regimental number 48227), and went off to fight in the First World War and died in the Western European Theatre of War on 17 April 1917. There is a small memorial for James in Thornton Watlass, but he is buried at the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais in France.

Whereas I have not been able to locate Sarah Todd's birth details, on the 1851 census for Horsforth, Askwith there were a William Todd aged fifty-one (born 1800) and a Sarah Todd aged forty-five (born 1806) and their daughter Sarah A Todd aged twelve (born c.1839). If these are her parents they are still at Askwith on the 1861 census, William Todd age sixty-one and Sarah Todd age fifty-six. And if this is the same Sarah Todd then she would have been twenty years old when she married Thomas Vayro, and the mother of both the William Vayro and John Vayro who happened to be living in Walworth with their Uncle and Aunt.

Belper in Derbyshire Connection

As every researcher knows it is worth investigating the facts and evidence, to separate these from the guesswork and storytelling. It is like detective work leading to our past generations. However on this occasion I was working on a particular branch of the family that were completely new, so I decided I needed to rely on the information supplied by my contacts in the direct family. I was already convinced that there was a direct line back to my own ancestors and a particular part of the country in the distant past. More importantly their roots, like mine lay in the villages of Wensleydale.

When I started looking into the ancestors of my two contacts they gave me basic information that their great-grandfather was a Thomas H Vayro, who had three sons, Percy, Norman and Dennis. Several records of births and marriages were found on <http://www.ancestry.com> for Belper that contained familiar names and were passed on by a colleague from the Guild. The most important was the marriage in 1914 of Thomas H Vayro and Edith Short from the GRO, and basic registration details for their three sons:-

1917 Percy James Thomas Vayro (mms' Short)

1924 Dennis J Vayro (mms Short)

1931 Norman Vayro (mms Short)

¹Mother's maiden surname

Percy James Thomas Vayro

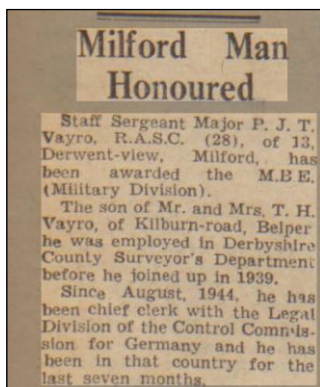
Percy James Thomas Vayro was the eldest of the three brothers, first generation born in Belper Derbyshire 1917. In 1944 he had married Vera Milnes and they had two boys, Brian and Keith Vayro.

It is thought that Percy used one of his middle names during his time in the army. He was awarded his Member of the British Empire Medal for work he did whilst working for the Central Government Control in Germany. The family have a wonderful photographic record of his work in Germany at the end of the Second World War, but no details whatsoever of what he actually received his award for.



Percy James Thomas Vayro MBE

A supplement of the London Gazette 1 January 1946 carried a list of New Year's Honours, and among them was Warrant Officer Class 1 (acting) Percy James Thomas Vayro number S/1888023 of the Royal Army Service Corps. The local press had a heading "Milford man honoured" and added the extra information that the MBE had been awarded in the Military Division. It reported that Percy had been employed in Derbyshire County Surveyor's Department since 1939. Also that he was the chief clerk of the Legal Division Control Commission for Germany and had spent several months there in 1944. So although it can never



London Gazette 1 January 1946

be proved his work may have been secret and certainly high status.

Percy passed away in 1970 and Vera in 1995. He is known to have written a book on "*The Strutt Family: Belper's Benefactors*", but it was only published posthumously in October 1995, by his son Brian as a tribute to both his parents.

Dennis J Vayro

Dennis J Vayro was the middle brother of the three sons born in 1924 to Thomas Henry and Edith. He married a Dorothy Winson (Dolly) in Belper Derbyshire in 1943, and they had three children, David J, Hilary and Philip.

There are unusual circumstances surrounding Dennis, and some of the family have reported that he may have gone into witness protection, may have changed his name and was always a bit of a "dodgy character". What might best be described as a "black sheep" in the family ancestry? In my time researching the Vayro name I have found quite a few.

Dennis had worked as a taxi driver for a local cab company and I can only suggest that suddenly the family had the equivalent of a torpedo exploding in their midst, tearing their world apart. Dennis simply walked out one morning suggesting he was going to work, and was never seen again. He just disappeared. Quite

unusual circumstances to "lose" a member of close family, and despite police enquiries being made at the time, he simply "went off the radar". Attempts have been made at intervals to try to locate him but nothing was ever found.

Norman Vayro

Norman was the youngest of the three sons born in 1931, and in 1953 he married June Varney and they had two children, Celia Anne and Andrew N Vayro.

The Derby Evening Telegraph of Friday 5 September 1952 carried a feature "Belper Shipmates Back From the East" and photograph of two crewmen of the cruiser HMS Ceylon which had been patrolling Korean waters and had taken part in bombardments of enemy onshore batteries and installations.



Norman Vayro Aged 21

The two seamen named were Stoker-mechanic Norman Vayro aged twenty youngest son of Mr and Mrs T H Vayro, and Stoker Peter Billyeald, enjoying home leave. Both had apparently been pupils of the Belper Pottery School, and Norman had gone on to the Herbert Strutt Grammar School in Belper. Presumably the same H Strutt that Percy had written about and later to be published.

The newspaper item mentioned that Norman was a Portsmouth based rating and his twenty-first birthday was later that week. Norman had married June Varney before leaving for Korea.

Before joining the Royal Navy Norman had worked as a mechanic at Spencer's Garage in Strutt Street, Belper.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance given by colleagues in the Guild of One Name Studies, and the Upper Dales Family History Group, together with additional details provided by relatives living in Belper, Derbyshire: Patricia Ann Vayro, Samantha Vayro Redfern and Anna Raynham. ■

Newswatch Project

Many of you will have benefitted from information gleaned under the Guild's Newswatch project. The idea of this project is that members volunteer to 'adopt' a local newspaper (purchased or freebie) by checking it for Announcements (Births, Marriages and Deaths – 'Hatches, Matches and Despatches') concerning Guild names, and sending the details to the relevant member. Please contact Jim Isard, newswatch@one-name.org, to volunteer or for more information.



The Hillman Family on St Helena Island, South Atlantic, Part Two

Soldiers, sailors, slaves and settlers

by Dr Jesse C Hillman (Member 3868) and Sheila M Hillman

The presence of the family name Hillman amongst the slave population was noted in the records of the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic. Research led to a significant line bearing the name, all descending from a single soldier of the St Helena Regiment. In addition, a number of other visitors to the island with the same family name were researched. It was noted that the name disappears from island records after 1888, seemingly due to emigration resulting from economic hardship generally on the island.

The second John Hillman - Private soldier:

The first John Hillman was followed forty years later in December 1820 by the next soldier John Hillman, originally born in 1792 in Sussex, and who had already served (1813-1820) in Bangalore, India with the 34th Regiment, British Army. He remained on the St Helena Regiment Muster Rolls from 1821 to his discharge in 1836 - a period of sixteen years - by which time he was fifty-eight years old. We do not have any other convincing records of his presence or absence on the island after this, nor any records of any relationships he may have had.

The third John (possibly middle initial "C.") Hillman, East Indiaman Captain:

There is a record in the island Consultations of John Hillman, Captain of the East Indiaman "Richmond", bringing a slave to the island. This was a form of taxation, and presumably the slave, named Richmond after the vessel that brought him, was from the Far East since most sailing vessels only called in to the island on the way back to Europe, going via Brazil to the Far East due to contrary winds. The slave Richmond was sold to Mr Purling and is mentioned in the slave manumission record.

We next see Capt. John Hillman as Master of the East India



Fig. 1. The EIC East Indiaman "Scaleby Castle" (painting at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London)

Company vessel "Scaleby Castle" when it called several times at the island on return from the Far East to Britain in the years 1832 and 1834. He was still Captain of a number of other

vessels post 1836, including the "Mary Ann" at Valparaíso in 1840, and the "Cadet" to Australia in 1844 and 1845.

While we have no evidence of any further effect that either the second John Hillman, soldier, or the John Hillman, ship's captain, had on the island, the first John Hillman, "Sarjent", did have a significant effect upon the island's gene pool as mentioned in the first part of this account.

And that is not the end of it - two other Hillmans are mentioned briefly in the island annals that, as far as we can tell, bore no relationship to any of the others resident on the island:

William Hillman, sailor:

William was a Royal Navy sailor on HMS Hecla at the time of his death recorded at St Helena on 8 June 1851. HMS Hecla was part of the Royal Navy West Africa Squadron attempting to intercept ships crossing the Atlantic from West Africa to the Americas bearing slaves. Any slaves so "freed" were brought to St Helena, and if they survived were repatriated as far as was possible. HMS Hecla was involved in two journeys at this time, calling in at St Helena on 10 May and on 25 June in that year. William was either sick and left on the island to die at the earlier date, or died at sea and brought to the island, or buried at sea but recorded as dying "at" St Helena. No grave is known for William Hillman, aged forty-one, so born around 1811.



Fig. 2. HMS Hecla at Naples, the ship on which William Hillman served

An impressive monument exists to this day in the Castle Gardens in Jamestown, known as the "Waterwitch" fountain. It is inscribed with the names of the sailors who died at various times during the Royal Navy anti-slavery operation, but sadly William's name does not appear.

Robert Hillman, whaler:

St Helena became a focal point for American (USA) whaling ships harvesting the south Atlantic. One such - the Trelawney, out of Bristol, England - was captained by Robert Hillman, who was from Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard (Robert Hillman, born 30 March 1747, died 20 October 1824). The ship's presence in Jamestown was recorded in September 1796 with Robert Hillman as the Captain. We have no other information

of him on St Helena, nor of any progeny he might have sired whilst there.

Whatever happened to the Hillmans?

What has happened to this family name that is no longer present on the island, and what does this say about the island?

The last record we have of a named Hillman in the BMD records (baptism/marriage/death) is the burial of Ann Hillman (née Bastina), second wife of William Hillman, recorded for 12 June 1880. Henry Benjamin Hillman, was born 25 November 1878 and baptised 19 January 1879.

Eliza and Elizabeth Hillman (perhaps one and the same person?) were recorded as witness or sponsor to various baptisms at St James Church, Jamestown, in 1888.

In 1870 the net balance of earlier births/baptisms indicate that at least thirty-four people with the family name Hillman should have still been on the island. The same number in 1880, less one death and six known emigrations to South Africa, gives a total of twenty-seven. Seventeen of these were female, so if their marriage has gone undetected, that would leave a minimum number of ten males bearing the name Hillman on the island. There are, however, no further Hillman records on the island from our research so far. Where did they all go?

The clue may lie with the Hillman emigrants detected to date, all of whom went to South Africa.

Julia Ann Hillman (born 1855) arrived, we think, as Ann Hillman at Port Natal, Durban from St Helena in 1873 on board the “Basuto”, aged seventeen years. She may well be the Ann Hillman who is recorded as marrying Richard Knipe (another St Helena name) in Pietermaritzburg on 16 April 1876 - only three years later.

Eliza Maria Hillman left the island and travelled to South Africa, where she married John William Anderson in 1891, when just eighteen years old, then died in Pietermaritzburg in 1910. She was born and baptised on the island in 1873. It seems likely she travelled with her older brother's family to Port Nolloth (see below). Their family descendants moved to the UK and then to Canada where they live today.

Thomas Edward Hillman who died in Pietermaritzburg in 1911 was noted to have been of St Helena origin and was married to Charlotte Smith in 1899. He was born and baptised on St Helena in 1870. His emigration record has not yet been located.

John William Hillman and Emma Hillman (née Leo) were married on the island in 1878, and their first child Henry Benjamin was born one month before this. John was then recorded as a Boarding House Keeper in Jamestown. Emma Hillman was recorded as a witness at a baptism on the island in 1880. The couple next appear at Port Nolloth, Cape Province, South Africa at the birth of another child Mary Jane in March 1884. We have no further information on their first child Henry Benjamin, either on the island or in South Africa.

The family went on to produce a total of eight children born at Port Nolloth, the last in 1896. John William was each time recorded as a “boatman” at Port Nolloth - a skill he would have learned in the difficult waters around the island.



Fig.3. The Waterwitch Monument in Castle Gardens, Jamestown, St Helena (photo - John & Pauline Grimshaw)

The Rev W.J.R. Morris in 1874 reported that “A large proportion of our congregation, both here (Ookiep Copper Mine) and at Port Nolloth, is composed of emigrants from St Helena, all labouring men, earning but a small sum per diem”.

E.L. Jackson (1905) records that “In 1893 many of the islanders emigrated to Port Nolloth, to work at the copper mines, others in search of domestic service went to the Cape”.

Clearly this movement began earlier than 1893 with John and Emma's second child born there ten years earlier, and Morris' 1874 report. Witnesses at their children's baptisms include the family names - George, Maggott, Knipe and Leo. One witness was Eliza Maria Hillman in 1886, John William Hillman's younger sister, who went on to marry John William Anderson in Cape Town in 1891. She was only thirteen in 1886, and eighteen when married.

Further records for John and Emma Hillman's family give some idea of what happened to the “Saints” that emigrated at this time. There is an undated burial record for John William Hillman, at St Peter's Observatory, Cape Town, in the period 1877-1977 (possibly in 1920), where several others in the family were also buried. Sadly, in 1916 there is the record of a Motion to continue to detain Emma Hillman, Lunatic, at the Robben Island Mental Hospital.

Of their children, a few records exist - their second daughter, Agnes Eliza Hillman, married William Christman Footman in 1910 at Westerford, Cape Town. She must have died by 1922 when he re-married.

Their son, William John Hillman was an Assistant Steward on the Union Castle ship SS “Rufedje” in 1915, and died in 1939, apparently unmarried and childless, as a watchman for South African Railways and Harbours.

Another daughter, Margaret Ann Hillman, bore an illegitimate son in 1908 in Claremont, Cape Town, who died shortly after birth. She herself died unmarried, as a house servant in Claremont in 1917.

The death of their daughter, Ethel Elizabeth Hillman, was recorded in Cape Town.

A further emigrant “Saint” name is that of John Hillman, born on the island in 1839. His death was recorded in 1897 at Woodstock, Cape Town, South Africa, the informant being his niece - Eliza Maria Anderson (née Hillman). He was a labourer at the time of his death, and reportedly had been separated from his Saint wife, Elizabeth Louisa Caroline (née George), for over twenty years. At the time of his death she was still alive in Durban, Natal, South Africa.

The island's history has been one of support from external sources from the outset. Initially it was a valued way station for sailing ships returning from the Far East stations of the East India Company, useful to restock with water and food, and a place to leave those too sick to survive the final leg to Britain but who might recover in the island's "temperate" climate. The prevailing winds made the island less useful on the way to the Far East when many vessels crossed to South America and then headed east to avoid these winds, thus going far south of the island. In this way the island actually had closer links with the Far East, which was probably the source of many of the earlier slaves, and not Africa as people often believe.

Until the 1850s the island and its people had depended on a steady stream of sailing ships of the East India Company through Jamestown requiring water, food, entertainment and security, all of which provided employment for the Saints. In the mid-1800s a number of changes in the world and on the island had drastic consequences for people living there. The India Act of 1833 devolved control and management of the island to the British Crown from the East India Company in 1834, with significant cost-cutting exercises then causing economic hardship.

The East India Company lost credibility as the result of its handling of the Indian Mutiny in 1857 and was disbanded. The Suez Canal was opened to traffic in 1869, resulting in an ever-increasing number of vessels travelling to the Far East by that route, again missing out the island. Sailing ships were rapidly giving way to steam powered ships by the 1870s, which could travel against the wind with ease and travel much greater distances between refuelling or refreshment stops. Between 1855 and 1889 the number of ships calling at St Helena annually fell from 1,100 to only 288. Finally, the military establishment was reduced on the island after Napoleon's death in 1821, and further reduced in 1864 as slave ship interception by the Royal Navy came to an end, removing a major source of employment and resource demands. These factors all combined in reducing the economy to a minimum and resulting in great hardship for St Helena residents who knew no other home or means to make a living. The island was on its knees financially.

In 1887 the Emigrants Advice Office was established in London for employers in South Africa interested in employing Saint artisans and domestic labour. One hundred men left the island, head-hunted by South African employers, and the suggestion is that at least 442 Saints

emigrated to Natal in 1873 alone. It seems plausible that most or all the fit Hillman men and any unmarried women chose to leave the island at this time, judging by the total absence of Hillman BMD records after 1888.

As evidenced by those Hillmans it has been possible to trace, most did not find a greatly enhanced quality of life in South Africa, and then faced considerable hardship later under the apartheid regime after 1948 when they were defined as "coloured". They represent the diaspora of Saints at the end of the nineteenth century, a process that has continued to this day as families seek to better their fortunes by working away from the island, especially now at the military establishments on Ascension and the Falkland Islands.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Toni Andrews of Cape Town for pointing me at the information on the Hillmans at Port Nolloth. Toni is a descendant of one of their daughters - Agnes Eliza Hillman.

I am also grateful to Chris and Jackie Kennedy for information on Eliza Maria Anderson (née Hillman) and her descendants. ■



Get Your Study OUT THERE! Using FaceBook

by Julie Goucher (Member 3925)

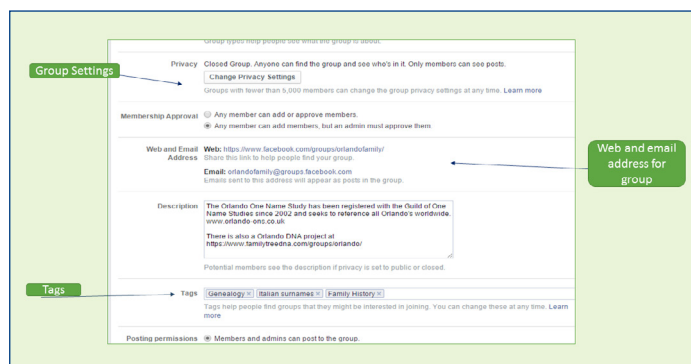
Since I wrote the original article, "Get your study OUT THERE" (Journal of One-Name Studies Volume 12 Issue 5 Jan-March 2016, pp14 -15) I received about ten emails asking about either Facebook or DNA. What I propose to cover in this article is Facebook, leaving DNA for a later date. I am not an expert on either, but I will share how I use both elements to assist my study.

I created the Orlando Family (One-Name Study) Group on 9 March 2013, so by the time you read this article the group will have celebrated its third birthday! I decided on a group as I wanted to have the ability for myself and others to upload documents. Once the group was formed the settings facility enables the facility of a vanity address for the group: <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/orlandofamily/>>. There is also the feature of being able to send emails to the group by using <<http://www.facebook.com/groups/orlandofamily>> and in order to post you need to be a member of the group.



As I said previously, at the time you start a group you need someone other than yourself to belong to it and without that you cannot create the group. I added my husband and once the

group was up and running my husband removed himself. The group has grown; at the time of the last article there were 12 members of the Orlando group and now there are 18. I have done no actual promotion of the group - no emails to living Orlando's currently but by the time you read this I will have.



In the group settings there is a facility to use tags, in much the same way as various blogging platforms. The tags I opted for are Genealogy, Family History and Italian Surnames. Anytime someone searches for those words up pops the Orlando Facebook group. I also arranged for the group to feature on the Genealogy on Facebook list <http://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>

The group is closed, meaning that the group and who is in the group can be seen by anyone, but posts are only visible to members.

Like anything if you want people to interact you need to say something. Imagine going to a cocktail party and everyone is standing on their own, clutching a glass and looking at the floor. Most people don't like silence, which is why when you go to a cocktail party in addition to holding a glass you engage in conversation with someone else. Facebook is no different. In this situation virtual strangers are together and they perhaps have anything from zero interest in their family history to being obsessive. Maybe they stumbled across the group and were curious? Perhaps they know they are from an Orlando family in the middle of Chicago and wondering whether they connect to another Orlando family in the same area? Or perhaps they joined the group in the hope that I hold all the answers! Of course, as I type this I realise that I am pretty much talking about the foundations of the Orlando study! The aim is to get people talking, sharing pictures and sharing their information. How does their information slot into material the study already has? Or is the information completely new?

With the issue of privacy at the forefront of my mind, how do you approach absolute strangers and say "I have a great study going on and I want you to consider joining it?" It's a tough question and what you want to avoid is being reported for a breach of netiquette or spamming. Timing and getting the tone of any email or Facebook message you send is paramount to success. Firstly, I searched for the word Orlando and then selected people. I trawled through all the individuals listed and created a spreadsheet of information - preparation is 9/10th of the work! Remember, some people will have very little information visible to non-friends. My own Facebook profile is only visible to friends. So, back to the spreadsheet. What is the point of it and what information do I extract?

The point of it is so that I can see who I have contacted. The spreadsheet is purely an organisation tool for myself. The

spreadsheet contains their name, their location in terms of Country or perhaps state and Country, the link to that person's profile then I can find them again to send them a message. I also record the date I contacted them and any notes or responses. The responses might vary from "My family come from Italy and my Grandfather was Antonio Orlando" to "I am not interested" or no response. In the case of Antonio Orlando, I would say snap! Of course people join Facebook every day and I would not know. It is not my intention to particularly keep the spreadsheet up to date.

There were also other groups relating to the name of Orlando mostly relating to the location in Florida. There were pages relating to various businesses with the name of Orlando in the title. There were also people with the first name of Orlando and they were also excluded.

For me, the moral dilemma I have is how much information should or could I extract from a person's Facebook profile? A recent discussion took place on the Guild's Facebook group in which I explained that I had lost contact with a family member and wanted to see if a particular person was my family member. The picture on their profile did not provide a clue. I looked through the profile and was able to extract their name, the names of their children from their four marriages, yes, four! In this case it was my family member and I sent a message and we are now connected once again. I also suggested that she look at her privacy settings. The discussion in the Guild group was if someone puts their information on Facebook then don't feel bad, they made a choice and I think that we each need to do what our own moral compass tells us.

The message here is I hope that the living Orlando's continue to find the group. Let's be open here, the dead are exactly that and are not going anywhere. The living however, are perhaps worth focusing on at least for a time because they will bring a modern dimension to the study. Of course, if you have a small study then the chance is that everyone on Facebook with that surname will be connected or married to the connection. A page in the Guild Wiki uses the 1881 Census as the way to identify if a study is big or small and that is fine for the UK based studies. In 1881 there was only one Orlando record and in fact that was a transcription error and should have been Deslandes! There were other Orlando's that should have been found and were recorded as something else. Orlando is a reasonably common surname in Italy and Sicily, Argentina and the United States. It of course appears elsewhere but not in significant numbers.

We are living in the twenty first Century, the internet has shrunk the world to the size of a matchbox and it enables us to research faster and smarter and extract all those wonderful entries for our studies. It enables us to reach out to strangers across the globe, from the safety of our armchairs and desks and to use the Guild email alias.

What is important to remember is that the Guild does not insist you have a Facebook group for your study, you are not required to contact living individuals. There is no right or wrong way to expand or advertise your study. You get to choose how you organise and work with your study and living individuals bearing your study name.

If anyone has tried contacting living people using Facebook (or any other social media platform) then I would be interested to hear. ■

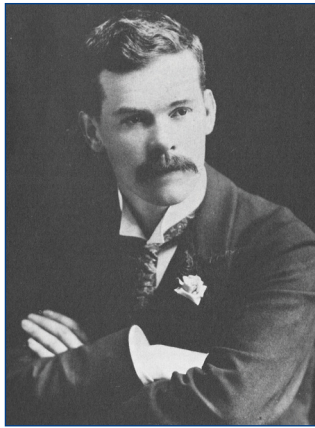


The Buildings of Francis Mawson Rattenbury in British Columbia, Canada: A Visit Rewarded

by John Rattenbury (Member 3555)

On 28 March 1935 Francis Mawson Rattenbury (FMR) died in the Strathallen Nursing Home, Bournemouth. Not peacefully, as might be expected of a sixty-seven year old in a nursing home, but as the result of a head injury sustained in his own

home, the Villa Madeira, Manor Road Bournemouth, days earlier on Sunday 24 March. His wife, Alma and their chauffeur George Stoner were charged with his murder and appeared at the Old Bailey on Monday 27 May. George Stoner was sentenced to hang but Alma was acquitted and in great distress she died in the River Avon, at Christchurch after stabbing herself. Stoner was reprieved on 25 June. These sensational events are described in *'Rattenbury'* by Terry Reksten and *'Murder at the Villa Madeira'* by



Francis Mawson Rattenbury

Sir David Napley who argued that it was Alma who killed FMR. They were adapted into Terence Rattigan's last play, *'Cause Célèbre'*. They had their origin in Leeds and Bradford in Yorkshire, in Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia and ended tragically in Bournemouth and Christchurch.

FMR was born on 11 October 1867 in Leeds, the second child of John Owen Rattenbury and Mary Anne Mawson. His father's parents and some of their descendants were prominent Methodists. John Owen was artistic and found it difficult to settle in business unlike his wife's family who were in printing, textiles and architecture. FMR inherited his father's drawing talent and joined his architect uncles in Bradford. In their previous association with Henry Lockwood they had completed prestigious commissions for public buildings but were now past their greatest achievements.

In 1892, after six years with the firm, FMR left for Vancouver, British Columbia where he set up an office and advertised his availability for architectural commissions, arranging for it to be accompanied by a friendly article. His drive and ambition were revealed at once. Though claiming to be an architect, he was not qualified. He referred to past achievements with Lockwood and Mawson although Lockwood had died while he was still a boy.

Within months of arriving in Vancouver, he replied to an advertisement for a competition to design new Legislative Buildings in Victoria, Vancouver Island. He falsely claimed association with Lockwood's major works at Saltaire, the Law Courts in London and Bradford Town Hall. He signed his entry 'BC Architect' to suggest he was on home ground and won the commission; work started the following year.

He was twenty-five years old. Although his design was much admired, problems arose with the building and he entered into bitter disputes which typified his later career.

One such dispute followed soon after when he was unsuccessful in his bid to design Capitol Buildings in Olympia, Washington State. He was believed to have initiated a rumour that he had been invited to bribe the Washington Commissioners.

The Legislative Building (Parliament) of British Columbia was officially opened on 10 February 1898. FMR was not present.

The previous year the Klondike gold rush had burst upon ports and cities on the west coast of Canada and the US. Money was to be made not only by finding gold but by supplying the needs of prospectors. FMR would not let such opportunities pass him by. He teamed up with a cattle dealer from Calgary called Pat Burns to transport beef to Dawson City, and set up the Lake Bennett and Klondike Navigation Company with three steamers and the Arctic Express Company to supply the Yukon in winter.

In June 1898, FMR married Florence Nunn: a surprising match, for 'Florrie' brought neither wealth nor influence to this ambitious architect and entrepreneur, and was unkindly considered plain and rather dull. Nevertheless, FMR took Florrie for their honeymoon on an expedition over the Chilkoot Pass to Yukon to show a sceptical public that there were no difficulties or dangers on the route and wrote letters to newspapers to this effect. Despite his claiming to have returned to Victoria with £20,000 in gold, the goldrush had peaked and FMR severed his connections with the failing companies, claiming that he was too busy with architectural projects. This was



Florence Eleanor Nunn

actually true since he was designing public and private buildings across British Columbia.

He obtained major commissions such as the replacement for Cary Castle, the Governor General's mansion which had burned down and,



Porte Cochere at BC Governor's Mansion, Cary Castle, Victoria



Empress Hotel, James Bay, Victoria

CPR terminal, FMR's three iconic buildings still dominate the James Bay waterfront.

In 1905, FMR was at the peak of his success and reputation but from 1906 things began to go wrong. There were disputes with CPR over the interior decoration of the Empress and he suffered a public attack over his previous work. He resigned from his post with CPR and transferred his allegiance to Grand Trunk Pacific (GTP), the other main railway company.

By 1912 he had designed hotels for GTP and had purchased enormous tracts of land along the length of the railway. The enterprising general manager of GTP travelled to England but returned on the Titanic. As a consequence of the First World War, GTP went bankrupt and FMR's investments became almost worthless. However, commissions still came in including the prestigious amusement centre known as the Crystal Garden.

In 1923 FMR attended a celebratory banquet for the opening of the Crystal Garden at the Empress Hotel. He went into the lounge for a cigar and met Alma Pakenham.

Alma was born in Kamloops BC in 1895 or 1896 and was therefore some thirty years younger than FMR. She was a talented musician and in 1914 married Caledon Dolling in Vancouver. They moved to England, he enlisted and was killed in 1916. Alma worked as an ambulance orderly and returned to London at the end of the war. In 1921 she married Thomas Pakenham and they moved to New York. The marriage was a disaster and Alma returned to Vancouver and then Victoria.



Alma Pakenham c.1923

FMR and Alma initially met discreetly but later appeared as a couple in society. FMR and Florrie had two children, Francis born in 1899 and Mary in 1904. Florrie would not consider divorce until 1925 after bitter disputes. In 1928 Alma gave birth to a son, John, a half brother to Christopher Pakenham born in 1921 and Florrie died

later that year. Soon after, FMR and Alma left for England having become ostracised by Victoria Society. In reduced circumstances they moved into the Villa Madeira, Bournemouth where they were overtaken by the subsequent tragic events.

My own interest in FMR arose from my pursuit of Rattenburys through membership of the Guild. Though a namesake of FMR's son, I have not established a direct family connection but my own family and FMR's originate in Devon. My interest in FMR was much increased when I was sent a copy of Terry Reksten's book from BC and then reinforced by a work col-

league who had been to Victoria and made the Rattenbury connections. This year, accompanied by two family members, I fulfilled an ambition to visit BC and research FMR's buildings. I had a week and it soon became apparent that it was nowhere near long enough to see all of his buildings.

It also required longer to research and possibly visit those still standing throughout BC. My initial success came within twenty-four hours of arriving in BC. The Vancouver Art Gallery was designed by FMR as the city's courthouse in 1905. On the first of a number of occasions, I was warmly welcomed and assisted once I had stated my interest and introduced myself. It was important that I made clear that I had made no direct family connection but that did not diminish the positive responses I received. The same day I also saw the house on Barclay Street that FMR designed for Gustav Roedde. Now a museum, this charming small house is a distinct contrast to FMR's public buildings. After a day in Vancouver, I took the ferry to Victoria, Vancouver Island which has the greatest concentration of FMR buildings.

For my quest the first sight of James Bay, downtown Victoria did not disappoint. Three iconic FMR buildings, the Empress Hotel, the Parliament Building and the CPR terminal are all harbour side. Away from the harbour are his commissions for the Bank of Montreal and the Crystal Garden. In the suburbs between downtown and Oak Bay are a number of houses he designed for the wealthy and important of Victoria. Among them on Rockland Avenue is Cary Castle, the Governor General's Mansion. The original house burned down in 1899 and FMR and a local architect designed the replacement in 'English Baronial' style. This in turn burned down in 1957 and only the porte cochère remains of FMR and Mclure's work.



Author at FMR's house, Iechineel, Oak Bay

FMR designed a fine house for himself on the waterfront of Oak Bay. He called it Iechineel, a First Nation word meaning 'a place where good things happen', in fact in later years bad things transpired there.

I was fortunate to visit all these places over a week of glorious sunny weather. My good fortune was enhanced by the friendly, helpful and welcoming spirit of both officials and residents. Highlights included a day spent with a local historian, a tour of Cary Castle (albeit with only a remnant attributable to FMR), finding Iechineel and a tour of the Parliament Building with an enactment of Victoria's history including an actor playing the part of FMR. It was difficult at times to reconcile the scope, grandeur and artistry of FMR's numerous buildings with the flaws in his character and decline. His end was largely self-destructive but finalised by the hand of another. ■



A MEGA Surname Study: The Ridgeon One-Name Study

by Tanya Kimber (Member 6296)

Introduction

I was born a Ridgeon. As a child I disliked my surname, it didn't sound 'normal' like other surnames. Other than my relatives, no one else I knew shared it, or had even heard of it. I longed to be able to say my surname without anyone asking me to repeat it and then spell it.

Little did I realise that some twenty years or so later I would come to regard my surname as wonderful. Tracing ancestors is so much easier if you have a rare and unusual surname. At least that's the theory! So on reflection, I feel blessed to have been born a Ridgeon.

It was this rarity and peculiarity of my surname that prompted me to go beyond my ancestral research and start my One-Name Study (ONS). In this article I state the aims of my ONS, and describe my research, findings and conclusions to date. I end with some proposed next steps to help me discover more about my wonderful surname.

MEGA aims

The aims of my Ridgeon ONS are unlikely to differ greatly from those of similar studies, and are summarised as follows:

- **Meaning:** what was the original meaning of the surname Ridgeon?
- **Etymology:** what has been the historical development of Ridgeon from its original meaning and spelling into its accepted modern day form?
- **Geography:** where was the geographic origin of the Ridgeon surname?
- **Ancestry:** what is the ancestry of Ridgeon? By this I mean, is there a direct line from all Ridgeons to a single, common ancestor or are there multiple progenitors of the surname?

Since my ONS came about, as many do, as an offshoot to my family history research, I was able to begin from a reasonably informed knowledge base. The evidence accumulated from research into my paternal ancestry suggested a surname that:

1. was heavily west Suffolk based
2. appeared to have stable historical spelling variations in Redgen and Ridgen, and
3. seemed to be uncommon enough to have a single progenitor.

From this foundation my ONS began.

Meaning

Despite my ONS being three years old and my genealogical research reaching back over sixteen years, it is still not clear into what category the Ridgeon surname falls, i.e. whether it is locative, occupational, patronymic/matronymic, topographical, or whether it is a nickname. The assumption - based on the literal interpretation of the modern pronunciation Ridge-on - is that it must be topographical, as in someone who lived on or near a ridge.

However, the modern Ridgeon spelling has only been in existence in significant numbers for less than 200 years; it would seem likely, therefore, that the Ridgeon surname is what Robert Ferguson in 1883 described as a 'corruption' and 'which arise from the attempt to give to a name something of an apparent meaning in English' (quoted in Kennett, 2012, p.55).

Additionally, Bardsley notes that '[o]ne of the greatest difficulties in solving the origin of our surnames comes under the law of imitation. The parentage being forgotten, people naturally began to pronounce their names in a way as seemed to convey a meaning' (Bardsley, 1967).

The evolution of the spelling of the Ridgeon surname in my own ancestry is from Redgin/Redgen (seventeenth to mid-eighteenth century) to Ridgen (mid-eighteenth to mid-nineteenth century) to Ridgeon (mid/late-nineteenth century onwards), suggesting that the original spelling and pronunciation is likely to have been different to the prevalent form that exists today.

Surname dictionaries have yielded limited clues, as Ridgeon does not appear in any of the recognised texts that I have consulted, nor do any of its known variants. Reaney and Wilson refer to a heavily Kent-based surname, Rigden, and an earlier version in the form of Ricdun, which they explain as a diminutive of Richard (Reaney & Wilson, 1997). No connection between Rigden and Ridgeon has yet been found, but this could be explored via DNA (see later).

I have previously considered Ridgeon to be a patronymic surname possibly developing from a form of Richard or Roger e.g. Rogkyn (see later), but I have no evidence currently to support this. Ultimately, the discovery of the meaning of the Ridgeon surname is likely to come from, or at least be advanced by, further research into medieval records and through the study of the etymological development of the surname.

Recent etymology

Like many surnames, the modern version of my study surname, Ridgeon, is not its original spelling. The spelling Ridgeon only came into significant use from the mid/late-nineteenth century onwards, and analysis of census returns clearly illustrates the transformation of the surname over the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Figure 1 illustrates the prevalence of different spellings of the Ridgeon surname between 1841 and 1911 i.e. the modern spelling Ridgeon, its variants Ridgen and Redgen (both registered as part of my study), and also the deviant spelling Redgeon, as this was present in sufficient numbers to warrant inclusion.

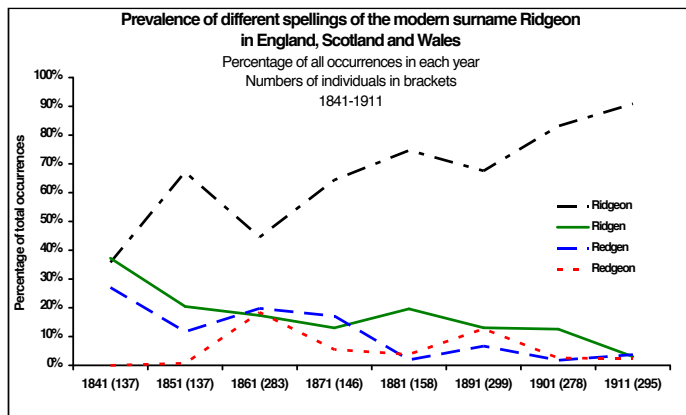


Fig.1. Prevalence of the modern surname Ridgeon, its variants and main deviant spelling in England, Scotland and Wales

Source: 1841-1911 England, Wales and Scotland Censuses of Population (accessed via Find My Past on 5th November 2014).

The growth of the spelling Ridgeon is evident, increasing from 35.8% of all individuals recorded with the surname in 1841 to 90.8% in 1911. However, this only tells the story of the surname from the mid-nineteenth century onwards; it does not provide any evidence of the development of the surname prior to this.

Historic etymology

The exact historical etymological origins of Ridgeon are currently unknown. I have demonstrated that the modern spelling Ridgeon has only been in existence for around 150 years and consequently the original spelling and pronunciation will differ from this contemporary version.

In trying to connect the ancestor at the top of my family tree - Robert Redgin, who married and was buried in the Suffolk parish of Fornham St Martin in the mid-1670s - to earlier generations, and being hindered by the break in parish registers between 1649 and 1660, I consulted other available sources. In doing so, I found several instances of the surname Rogyn in a series of late sixteenth century Views of Frankpledge for Fornham St Martin. I considered this a meaningful find. I theorised that Rogyn was an earlier form of my study surname, although I had no evidence at this stage to link this spelling or the individual that bore it to Robert Redgin. Recent research appears to partially support this idea, but has also taught me the importance of looking at a series of records rather than merely taking a sample of them.

My initial consultation of these Views of Frankpledge, several years ago now, can be described as little more than a quick glance through thirty or so years' worth of documents. Revisiting them and studying each individual record, covering 1559-1593, allowed me to follow a Thomas and John Regyn over this period (Bury St Edmunds Record Office, ref: E3/15.9/1.12). There were no fewer than seven different spellings of their surname, the earliest being Regyn in c.1560. Variations on this spelling (e.g. Regyne, Reggyn) appear up until around 1568 after which the first vowel transposes to an 'o'. For approximately the next twenty-five years the surname is spelt in these records with the second letter as 'o', predominately in the form of Rogyn or Rogen.

Prior to 1559, in another series of View of Frankpledge for Fornham St Martin, this time covering 1540 to 1546, Thomas appears as Thomas Rygyn in 1545 and then as Thomas Regyne in 1546 (Bury St Edmunds Record Office, ref: E3/15.9/1.9). So here the development of the surname in these particular documents appears to be from Regyn(e) (prior to c.1568) to Rogyn (after c.1568), a crucial detail I missed consulting these records the first time around.

Linking across record sources has also been beneficial. Thomas Rogyn does not appear in View of Frankpledge records after 1590 - despite appearing almost annually from 1545 - and the parish registers for Fornham St Martin record a Thomas Regyn being buried in 1590/91 (ref: FL510/4/1). This suggests that this is one and the same person, and thus links Rogyn and Regyn across two different record sources.

The parish registers also record a Thomas Regyn, son of John Regyn being baptised in 1565. Was this Thomas named for his grandfather perhaps? Three further sons of John were baptised over the following ten years, all with the first vowel as 'e'; so these records run alongside the Views of Frankpledge but the first vowel is consistently 'o' in one set of records (Views of Frankpledge), and 'e' in another (parish registers). In fact, parish register entries for Fornham St Martin relating to my study name from 1565 right up until 1693 almost exclusively record the surname with the first vowel as 'e' and not 'o'.

Using parish registers alongside the View of Frankpledge documents helped me establish that whilst Rogyn was an early form of the surname, it was potentially nothing more than a deviant spelling used for a relatively short period of time and in some records only. Nonetheless, I later discovered that it is not unique to this series of records or this parish; earlier instances are found in the parish of Rattlesden (1458) and in Bury St Edmunds (1464) (Grimwade & Serjeant, 1984). In 1381, John and Alice Rogyn were living in the parish of Stowlangtoft (Powell, 1896). Rogyns are recorded in the 1524 Subsidy Return for Suffolk, where a John, Robert and Thomas Rogyn are living in Fornham St Genevieve, a contiguous parish to Fornham St Martin.

Additionally, I have also discovered William, Geoffrey and Richard Roddekyn living in the village of Hoxne with Denham in east Suffolk in 1327 (Booth, 1906). Reaney and Wilson (1997) record an instance of a John Rodekyn in 1346 in Suffolk; John is recorded under the entry for the surname Rudkin given by Reaney and Wilson as a diminutive of the Middle English rudde meaning red or of Old Norse Rudda (Reaney & Wilson, 1997). Is it possible that Rod(d)ekyn and Rogyn are related?

The fourteenth to sixteenth centuries were a potentially critical time in the development of the Ridgeon surname. The spelling, and presumably pronunciation, seems to fluctuate - over time, within parishes, and across different record sets - between variations on Rogyn and Regyn. There is much to do here to establish which spelling and pronunciation predates the other.

More detailed investigation of how words and word sounds evolved in medieval Suffolk is now of particular interest to me. The Suffolk dialect potentially had a significant impact on the development of Ridgeon and other localised surnames. I intend to pursue this area to try and discover whether the -gyn ending of my study name could have evolved from -kyn. My belief that Ridgeon could be a patronymic surname - as in Rogkyn, for ex-

ample - stems from this theory, but I need to establish whether etymologically this is possible and/or likely. Additionally, how vowel sounds developed could be crucial in establishing links between Rogyn and Redgen/Ridgen.

Recent geographic origins

As noted earlier, my research suggests a strong west Suffolk link. My own Ridgeon branch spent a century living in the parish of Old Newton, near Stowmarket, but had travelled there via the west Suffolk parishes of Pakenham and Norton. The parish of Fornham St Martin, where the ancestor at the top of my family tree is known to have lived in the 1670s, is located just to the north of Bury St Edmunds.

Simon Archer's Surname Atlas (Archer, 2003-11), which uses data from the 1881 Census, supports Suffolk as being the county of origin, and identifies the west Suffolk Poor Law Union (PLU) of Thingoe (in which the parishes of Fornham St Martin and Pakenham were located) as having the highest rate of Ridgeon surname bearers, as shown in Figure 2.

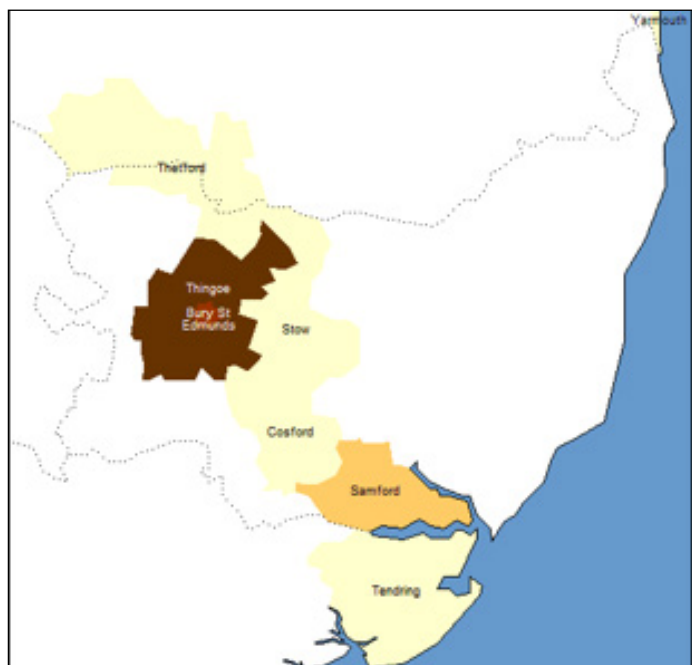


Fig.2. Ridgeon surname bearers in Suffolk, rate per 100,000 population, Poor Law Union areas, 1881

Source: The British 19th Century Surname Atlas, Archer Software, 2003-11

Twenty-three people per 100,000 population (number=80) in Suffolk carried the Ridgeon surname in 1881; the next highest county rate was in Essex, where two people per 100,000 (n=12) had the surname. Thingoe PLU area had a rate of 244 people per 100,000 (n=40) bearing the Ridgeon surname in 1881, almost ten times higher than the rate for the whole county. Bury St Edmunds PLU had the second highest rate, of 168 per 100,000 (n=27) and Samford PLU the next highest, of 43 per 100,000 population (n=5).

Further evidence that Suffolk is likely to be the county of origin is found when considering records of births, marriages and deaths for the first twenty years of civil registration (1837-1857). Three quarters (74.1%) of Ridgeon and variant birth, marriage and death registrations between 1837 and 1857 were registered in Suffolk. Figure 3 disaggregates the data further and shows the percentages of all Ridgeon (and variant) births,

marriages and deaths registered between 1837 and 1857 by Registration District.

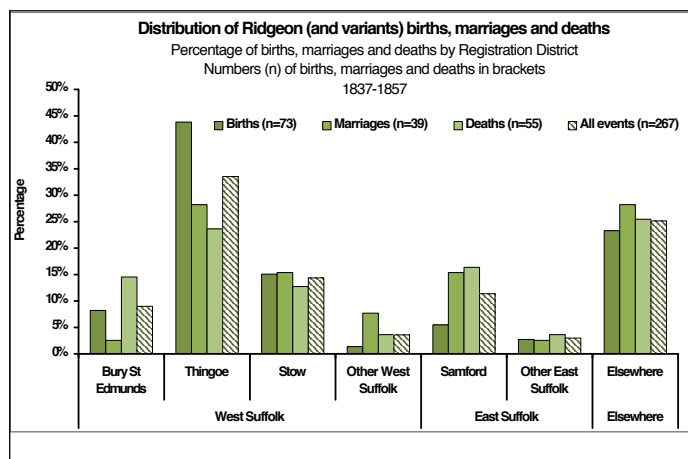


Fig.3. Distribution of Ridgeon (and variant) births, marriages and deaths between 1837 and 1857 by Registration District, percentages of all births, marriages or deaths

Source: General Register Office registrations (accessed via Find My Past 5th November 2014)

Potentially supporting the findings of Archer's Surname Atlas, the most commonly recorded Registration District was Thingoe - although only a third (33.5%) of all events were registered here. A quarter of all events were registered outside Suffolk. Some of these percentages are based on very small numbers however, and are consequently to be interpreted with caution.

Analysis of nineteenth century census returns and civil registration records suggests that Thingoe (PLU/Registration District) in Suffolk is a contender for the geographical origin of the Ridgeon surname. This is not necessarily as straightforward as it sounds; Thingoe PLU and Thingoe Registration district are not geographically coterminous (although Fornham St Martin is located in both). This highlights the importance of understanding the various historic administrative units, and how they can affect conclusions drawn about the origin of the study surname.

Historic geographic origins

Because of the rarity of the Ridgeon surname (just 244 individuals recorded with the surname and registered variants in the England and Wales 2013 Electoral Registers, Find My Past, 1st June 2016), it is plausible that all Ridgeons share a common ancestor, and that must allow for the possibility that it could easily have originated from within a different Poor Law Union area/Registration District in Suffolk, or even from a different county. A single name bearer that migrated into Thingoe PLU/Thingoe Registration District/Suffolk County could easily have established the surname there, and in doing so, has disguised the true origin of the surname.

Within the Ridgeon ONS, my own line goes back to Fornham St Martin where the surname exists over a long period of time, but the wider geographic area of interest extends to the east and south east of Fornham St Martin to take in the parishes of Rattlesden (Thedwastre Hundred) and Stowlangtoft (Blackbourn Hundred), plus the town of Bury St Edmunds, where the earlier instances of the surname in the form of Rogyn noted above are located. Taken together, these surname occurrences suggest a specific geographic area of interest unique to my study.

I am aware that others with an interest in the Ridgeon surname believe it to be of Flemish origin in the form of Redgen. This could be of particular importance because of the influx of Flemish and Walloon migrants into East Anglia in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and also pertinent given recent findings of the surname in the form of Regyn(e) in the sixteenth century. My research to date has not uncovered any evidence of a connection to the continent, but this theory remains a possibility.

Additionally, there is scope via DNA to investigate the origins of Ridgeon. It could also be used to discover whether there is a link with the surname Rigdon, a variation of the Kent surname Rigden discussed above, following contact from an individual interested in discovering whether the two surnames are connected. My Ridgeon DNA project (<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/Ridgeon>) is very much in its infancy but could ultimately allow me to discover whether there are any links with Rigdon, and could also provide further clues to the surname's geographic and etymological origins.

Ancestry

I have always believed the Ridgeon surname to have a single progenitor and that all Ridgeon surname bearers can trace their ancestry back to this original surname holder. The rarity of the surname would seem to support this, as does the geographic evidence pointing to a probable single point of origin in Suffolk. I have yet to prove, however, that Ridgeon is a truly unique surname with a single progenitor that bore a version of it in the fourteenth or fifteenth century. My research perhaps points more towards suggesting Ridgeon is a unique variant of another surname that exists in one or more other forms; so there may be a single progenitor of the variant but not necessarily of the original surname.

Supporting this, Kennett points out that a '*surname that has been in existence since the 1200s might now survive in a multiplicity of forms, many of which will seemingly bear little relation to the original name*' (Kennett, 2012), while Redmonds et al also note: The listener's need to make sense of names has had a strong influence on their history, creating variants that are effectively '*new*' surnames that do not conform to normal linguistic practice' (Redmonds, King, & Hey, 2011). So, pulling together my theory that the -gyn ending was once -kyn, and the discussion of early spellings of the name being Rogyn, could there be links to the fourteenth century Roddekyns of Hoxne with Denham, or Reaney and Wilson's John Rodekyn, all mentioned above (Booth, 1906; Reaney & Wilson, 1997)?

There are implications here for my understanding of the original meaning of the Ridgeon surname. A patronymic surname, as I have believed Ridgeon likely to be, rarely has a single progenitor. Should Ridgeon ultimately be revealed to be patronymic in origin, then this is most likely to arise from it being a variant of another surname. Of course, it could be something completely different, and I feel that discovering the original meaning of my birth name is perhaps the biggest challenge of all.

Conclusion

When I first decided to look into the origin and meaning of my birth surname, it all seemed very straightforward: trace back far enough in a straight line and see who is at the top, where they lived and how their surname was written. The reality, as I have shown, is much more complex.

In my introduction I stated that I began my ONS with a good understanding of the key characteristics of my surname: it had strong links to west Suffolk, had two stable variants, and was rare enough to imply there was a single progenitor of the surname. Although this article has demonstrated the likely west Suffolk geographic origins of the surname, it has also raised the idea that Ridgeon, rather than being a unique surname with a single progenitor, is potentially a unique variant of a different - and yet to be discovered - surname that could have any number of variant descendants. It may be linked to instances of similar sounding surnames in Suffolk in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, it may be connected to the Kent based surname Rigde(o)n, or may be of Flemish origin. In addition, without yet knowing the full ancestry or etymological development of the surname, it is impossible to conclude anything about its meaning.

There are a many new paths for me to explore in pursuit of my ONS MEGA aims. My next steps will be to:

1. collect, plot and analyse occurrences of the Ridgeon surname (in all known or potential forms) in geography and time with particular attention to the period prior to 1600 to try to establish a more certain geographic origin of the surname
2. gain a better understanding of how the Suffolk dialect may have influenced the development of the surname, initially focusing on whether '-kyn' could have become '-gyn' over time
3. develop a website and an online social media presence for the Ridgeon ONS
4. progress the DNA element of my ONS

My research has shown me, and I hope that this article has demonstrated, that my MEGA aims cannot be researched or considered in isolation. Each contributes evidence to inform the others, leading to a more developed understanding of my birth name and its history. Perhaps this is best summarised by Redmonds et al (Redmonds et al., 2011):

The successful identification of a surname demands of the researcher that he or she establish conclusive links between the modern spelling and a medieval by-name (Etymology). Once the circumstances of the name's heredity (Ancestry) are known, the way is open to a consideration of its origin (Geography) and meaning (Meaning).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank, and am sincerely grateful to, Anne Leonard (Member 6204) and Sarah Doig for their invaluable advice and feedback during the development and writing of this article. ■

Are you ready for DNA?

Simply write to Susan Meates at dna@one-name.org. You will receive a complete setup project, that you can modify, along with an easy to follow 20-step Getting Started email and a sample recruiting email and letter.



The Rise and Fall of the Surname Brazenor in Shropshire, Part One

by Aubrey Cox (Member 5050)

In the beginning

In 2007, I discovered that one of my wife's 4G grandfathers had married a Catherine Brazenor in 1810, at Hyssington, which straddles the border between Shropshire, England and Montgomeryshire, Wales. It became apparent that the surname was unknown in the area, not surprisingly since I was to find that the last male to bear the name in Shropshire had died in 1885. I was intrigued by this rare name and resolved to discover its origin and the reason for its disappearance from the area. The names of many of the families that the Brazenors had married into, such as Chidlow, Corfield, Dean, Downes, Everall, Marston, Oakley, Preece, Redge, Rowson and Wardman, were still known, so why not the name Brazenor. When my son informed me that there was a Brazenor Street, in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, I decided to research the name, joining the Guild and registering the Brazenor one-name study in 2008.

It was reasonably straightforward to trace Catherine's family back to her great grandparents Randolph Brasner and Margaret Nicolls, who married at Worthen, Shropshire, in 1659. I then commenced reconstruction of the Brazenor tree, from the top down. My method was to put all information for the name Brazenor and its variants into an Excel spreadsheet, tailored originally to hold parish register entries, civil BMD registrations and census records. I eventually realised that I could use the same spreadsheet for any information from whatever source and whichever country I chose. I ended up with what I call my Brazenor CHERT, which stands for Chronological History of Events and Relationships Table. This method has proved excellent for dealing globally with a rare name, with few extant individuals. I am now in the process of trialling it with a name which, in the UK, has about two thousand present day individuals.

The making of a name - Brasnell to Brasnor to Brazenor

It would appear that the parish of Worthen was the centre of the Brasner/Brazenor universe from about at least 1558 to the 1730's. The first definite record of what is now the name BRAZENOR/ BRAZENER, in Shropshire, was the baptism at Worthen, of Barnabe BRASNOR in 1621. There are a few earlier isolated, one-off recordings of Brasnor in Wiltshire, Kent and Suffolk, but the name did not persist in these counties. It is believed that the surname originated in the parish of Worthen, Shropshire as a variation of the name BRASNELL.

The Worthen registers go back to 1558, and one of the earliest entries is the death of Joanna Brasnell, wife of Randolph, in 1560. Randolph Brasnell remarried in 1561, to Elizabeth Erne, but when 'Elizabeth wife of Randulphi' was buried in 1588, her name is definitely not Brasnell, but could be Brasner. Again, when Elizabeth and Margaret were baptised in 1613 and 1616 respectively, their father Richard's surname leans towards Brasner, not Brasnell. When Barnabe, son of

Richard, was baptised in 1621, the register was written in a clear hand and the surname was Brasnor. However, when Richard was mentioned in a Will in 1636, his surname was Brasner.



Fig. 1. The village of Worthen, Shropshire, viewed from Bromlow Hill

It is unfortunate that there is a large gap in the Worthen registers from 1643 to 1659, the period of the English Civil War and the ensuing Commonwealth and Protectorate administrations, during which time persons named Brasnell may have died, moved away from Worthen, or in the case of females, changed their name by marriage. When registration resumed at Worthen, in 1659, one of the first entries was the marriage of Randolph Brasner to Margaret Nicolls, but there were no further Brasnell entries, the last indisputable one having been in 1582. The Brasnell name continued to be recorded in the eastern part of Shropshire, adjacent to Staffordshire. There is a connection with this area because when Thomas Brasnell of Chetwynd, near Newport, Shropshire, made his Will in 1577, he directed that he be buried at Worthen, his wish being fulfilled in 1580.

At Worthen, the variations Brasnor, Brasner, Brasnar and Brassnor were seen between 1659 and 1672. In 1678, Brasener was seen for the first time at Worthen, followed by Brazenor, in 1684. Brazener appeared at nearby Pontesbury in 1690, and by the early 1700s Brazenor and Brazener were established, eventually becoming the most common forms of the name. However, name spelling in the seventeenth century might best be described as freestyle. If you were literate you spelled a name as you thought fit and the majority of the population would be none the wiser, whatever you wrote.

In 1675, along with others, Randell Brassennoll, otherwise known as Randle Brassnor and Randolph Brasner, witnessed a

property deed at Worthen, making his mark with a cross. Although he was a relatively wealthy person of some standing in the community, he was illiterate. In 1766, almost a century on, Anne BRASENOR's death is recorded in the Worthen register but on her headstone, probably the world's oldest known Brazenor memorial, is clearly recorded the name Ann BRAZNOR.



Fig.2. All Saints Church, Worthen

The meaning of the name Brazenor/Brazener

Considering the origin of the name as a variation of the name Brasnell, it is perhaps pointless to try to assign a meaning to the name. Brasnell might itself have evolved from another name and the one that comes to mind is Brasier.

The name Brasier/Brazier is a more common name with a wider geographical distribution than either Brasnell or Brazenor, possibly befitting a trade related origin. A suggestion for the meaning of the name Brasier/Brazier is that a brazier was someone who made items from joined or seamed metal sheets which were soldered or braised together. Another suggestion is that if a glazier worked with glass, a brazier might have worked with brass.

The only metallurgical reference I have found is mention of a 'brazenor latten standard dish', used in the seventeenth & eighteenth centuries, for calculation of royalties or taxes, to be paid on lead ore from Derbyshire mines. Latten was thinly hammered metal, usually brass or tin, that was often used to make church utensils. The adjective brazenor might imply that this particular dish was made from brass.

However, concerning name development, there were and still are many Brassingtons in Derbyshire, but Brasiers/ Braziers/Brazenors have always been pretty thin on the ground in that county.

The earliest Brasnell/ Brasner/Brasnor families at Worthen

Barnabe Brasnor/Brasner, son of Richard, was baptised at Worthen in 1621. His father Richard was probably the Ricus BRASNELL baptised at Worthen in 1576. Ricus was the son of Randell Brasnell and probably Elizabeth Erne who married in 1561, though Elizabeth's name does not appear in any of

their children's baptismal entries. Barnabe may have married during the period in which the registers were either not kept, or were lost or destroyed, and he may have named a son Richard after his father. This speculative son Richard, may have been the Richard who fathered Elizabeth Brasner, who was to later marry Robert Brasner, her probable cousin. The comments above about various early Brasnell/Brasner relationships are speculative and because of this the Brasner/Brazenor/Brazener family tree starts with the marriage of Randolph Brasner to Margaret Niccolls, at Worthen, in 1659. This narrative will cover only people in direct line of descent to groups of present day holders of the name Brazenor/Brazener/Brazner, with an emphasis on the migrants.

Randolph Brasner (c.1628-1704) and Margareta Niccolls (1630 -1703)

Randolph, otherwise referred to as Randle, Randel and Randall is the earliest Brazenor for whom it is possible to construct a profile. His birth is unknown but he was probably born at Worthen, and his father may have been named Rowland. These earliest Brazenors were farmers. In 1659, Randolph Brasner of Lee, in Worthen Parish married Margareta Niccolls, at Worthen. Between 1660 and 1675, the couple produced at least eight children, including a Randle and a Robert. Randle junior could be called the father of the Brazeners and his brother Robert the father of the Brazenors, although there are quite a few exceptions to the rule on both sides.

In 1672, Randle Brassnor is recorded as having paid twelve shillings as Hearth Tax, levied on his home at Bromlow, in the parish of Worthen. He had a substantial home, which possibly still exists, on which he paid the third highest levy in the parish. At nearby Lee, Rowland Brassnor paid a tax of six shillings.

A few years later in 1675, Randell Brassenoll witnessed an agreement between two landholders at Bromlow. It is likely that Randell moved back into the home at Lee, possibly after the demise of Rowland, because later Randolph and Margaret are again referred to as being "of Lee". The present building at Lee (now known as Leigh), is a farmhouse, which was built in the 1660s. It replaced a fortified house known as Lee Hall, built sometime in the fourteenth-fifteenth centuries by the Corbett family. During the Civil War it was owned by Sir Richard Lee, and was garrisoned by Royalist forces in 1644, but was destroyed and abandoned by March 1645.

In 1690, an Elizabeth Brazener of Pontesbury, Shropshire, wife of Randle Brazener, petitioned the Court of Quarter Sessions for maintenance for her children, her husband being a soldier away on service. The following July, the court ordered Randle Brazener of Lee, in the parish of Worthen, to pay twelve pence weekly towards the maintenance of his grandchildren. Likewise Francis Ash of Harlscott, Shropshire, Elizabeth's father, was ordered to pay six pence weekly towards his grandchildren's upkeep. A Randle Brazener had married Elizabeth Ash in 1684, at Meole Brace, near Shrewsbury, and the court orders reveal that Elizabeth's Randle was the son of Randle Brazener, of Lee.

Margaret Brasenor, of Lee, was buried at All Saints, Worthen, in 1703, to be followed by her husband Randolph in 1704. Their Brazenor, Brazener and Brazner descendants are to be found today in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Australia.

The BRAZENER/BRAZNER Lines

Randle Brasner (c.1662-1735) and Elizabeth Ash (1657-1741?)

Randle was the soldier son of Randle and Magareta Brasner, of Lee. He married Elizabeth Ash at Meole Brace, in 1684. They had at least six children and are responsible for about a quarter of the total present day holders of the name Brazenor/Brazener/Brazner. Their line was continued down through their son John, baptised in 1696; grandson Robert, baptised at Pontesbury in 1733; great grandson William, baptised at Hyssington in 1762, and great, great grandson Thomas Brazenor, baptised at Wistanstow, in 1790. During the century between the birth of John and the birth of Thomas these families followed rural pursuits in Shropshire. Their UK and USA descendants are today predominantly named Brazener and Brazner.

Thomas Brazenor (1790-c.1858) and Mary Lea (c.1798-c.1866)

Thomas was baptised at the church of The Holy Trinity, Wistanstow, Shropshire, the son of William Brasner and Mary, née Dean. He was a descendant of Randle and Elizabeth Brasner of Pontesbury. Thomas Braziner (sic) married Mary Lea of Bromfield, at Ludlow, Shropshire, in July 1816, and their first son Thomas was baptised at Ludlow, in October 1816. John, their next son was born in about 1820, at Stanton Lacy, near Ludlow. Sometime between 1820 and 1824, the family migrated from Shropshire, to Astley, in Worcestershire. They were not alone in so doing, as rural dwellers moved in their thousands to the industrializing areas of the English Midlands, in particular to Birmingham. The reason for the move was no doubt to seek employment and better opportunities for advancement. At Astley, Thomas and Mary produced seven more children including William, Martha, Henry, Edwin, Frederick, George and lastly James. Thomas jnr, William, John, Henry and Edwin all became carpenters, like their father. Frederick and George were agricultural labourers, while James became a plumber.

The Brazener/Brazner lines were continued by sons William, Frederick and George.

William Brazener (1824-1894) and Harriet R Keene (1827-c.1901)

William, born in 1824, at Astley, was the son of Thomas and Mary Brazenor, née Lea. In about September 1851, he married Harriet Rebecca Keene at Worcester. In 1851 the family name was Brazener. In 1861 they were still Brazener, 1871 Brasenor, and 1881 Brazenor. However, by 1891, the family name was recorded as Brazner, with the exception of one of their sons Constantine Robert, who remained a Brazenor.

Of their six children three, possibly four, migrated to the United States.

The first to leave was their eldest child Alice, who married James Withington at Boston, Massachusetts, in 1879. In 1885, daughter Harriet arrived at Boston on the "Samaria", but nothing more is known of her.



Fig.3. William Keene Brazner (1870 - 1961), Los Angeles, in 1936.

In 1893, William (Keene) Brazner left Liverpool on the "Catalonia", for Boston, Massachusetts. He married Ida M Ohle in about 1897, in Boston, where they were to have three children William K Jnr, Hazel and Howard.

Constantine Robert Brazenor married Annie Duffield in about 1883, at Aston, Warwickshire. In 1891, he was a bolt maker living with his wife Annie and daughter Ann, at Harborne, Birmingham. In

March of 1911, all three arrived at Boston, Massachusetts, on the ship "Winifriedian". They probably travelled on to Los Angeles, California, shortly afterwards, because in 1912, Annie jnr married a Mr James Banks, at Los Angeles. In 1920, Robert and Annie were operating a janitorial business in Los Angeles. They made a visit home to England, in 1924, arriving at Liverpool, on the ship "New Toronto". It is not known when and where Robert died but Annie passed away at Los Angeles, in 1933.

Frederick Brazenor (1832-c.1883) and Priscilla Read (1829-1893)

Frederick, the son of Thomas and Mary Brazenor, née Lea, married Priscilla Read (Reed) at Kings Norton, Warwickshire, in 1861. They had four children Harry, Frederick, Emma Jane and George. Frederick was a grocer and provisions dealer while son George Brazener became a gunsmith. George's son William Frederick Brazener became first the General Manager and later a Director of the Birmingham Mint. Their present day descendants are to be found in the United States.

George Brazener (1834-1907) - Martha Allen (c.1836-c.1891)

George, the son of Thomas and Mary Brazenor, née Lea, probably married Martha Allen in Worcestershire, in about 1862. Their first son William Allen Brazener was born in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, in 1863. George was a gardener and William was to become head gardener at the Player (cigarette manufacturers) Family estate. William's present day descendants are to be found in England, predominantly in Nottinghamshire and Gloucestershire. ■



Before you start reading the seminar report, attendees at seminars may have glimpsed two ladies providing beverages and laying out the buffet food. The seminar subcommittee feel that a special mention and heartfelt thanks be given to these two unsung heroes of Guild seminars who sacrifice listening to our presentations in order to ensure the high standards in the catering department.

Thank you Judy Adshead and Dominic Johnson.



DNA Seminar Report

National Star College, Cheltenham 13 August
2016

by Diane Jameson (non-member), Lorna Emms (non-member),
Sue Wynne (5704), Brian Audley (5187), Kevin Hurley (4815) and
Nick Berkeley (5738)

With two parallel streams at this seminar, we asked a number of delegates to write reports to ensure all seminars were covered.

[DJ] A Guild member friend with a shared passion for family history alerted me to the DNA seminar to be held on the beautiful site of the National Star College near Cheltenham. As a non-member, I didn't know what to expect but was pleasantly surprised at the excellent turn out and delicious buffet lunch (prepared by Dominic Johnson with helpers Judy and David).

Organisation was efficient and useful for newcomers as colour coded nametags specifically identified non-members as well as new, more recent and committee members. On booking we had to determine whether we were beginners/basic or experienced/expert as some presentations separated the two groups: I was a beginner (Group B). The first and last presentations were shared by both groups.

[SW] Appropriately for such a new and developing subject this was the fourth DNA seminar. The 3rd having been held two years ago with snow on the ground, the weather this time was warm and sunny, enabling us to enjoy the fresh air and grounds outside during breaks. It was a welcome relief between such technical and scientific talks whilst taking the opportunity to meet newer members and catch up with others.

The day was as well organised as ever with a choice of talks for 3 out of the 4 programme slots. Not having attended previous DNA seminars, I chose the beginners talks and have come away much better informed. I was not alone in finding the technical content surrounding more advanced DNA in the afternoon was above my head at times but it seemed well within the grasp of some delegates. Many thanks must go to all those involved in planning and organising another successful event.

[LE] As a non-member I would like to say thank you to everyone for how welcome you made us feel on the day. Being fairly local, as soon as I saw this seminar mentioned on Twitter, I knew that it was something my husband Simon and I should attend to expand our knowledge.

I have become really interested in how DNA can help to confirm or deny believed genealogical links; there are still a few paternity questions to investigate in my tree and we hope DNA will enable Simon to research his maternal grandparents back further in the Ukraine where limited records remain.



Dr Turi King

Richard III - The Resolution of a 500 Year Old Cold Case

[SW] Setting the tone, Dr Turi King of Leicester University started the day with a speedy but detailed history of how Richard III was found by a multi-disciplinary team. She spoke with enthusiasm and humour to explain the background, research, excavation and analysis of the skeleton, clearly showing how DNA testing two collateral descendants confirmed Richard's identity. Having followed TV and press reporting of this keenly, I found Dr

King's talk absorbing and that she gave much more detail than I had previously come across. This on its own made the day well worth attending.

[DJ] The delivery of this hugely popular keynote session was lively, fun and informative, showing how the team were able to confirm beyond reasonable doubt that they had found Richard III. The DNA results raised some interesting questions on the paternity of this Royal Tree in two areas when she applied Bayesian Statistical Analysis.

DNA Basics for Beginners [B1]

[BA] In his excellent presentation, introducing the 3 different 'types' of DNA (mitochondrial, Y chromosome and autosomal) that we all carry, Dr Geoff Swinfield explained that:

- each type of DNA is inherited from our ancestors
- 'mistakes' (mutations) occur when DNA is copied from one generation to the next and these can predict family groupings and genealogical relationships



Dr Geoff Swinfield

- everyone has mitochondrial DNA but it is only passed from mother to child, therefore testing is only applicable to researching the maternal line

- Y chromosomes are passed from father to son and therefore Y-DNA testing is only applicable to the paternal line; within Y-chromosome testing there are two types of mutations measured: SNPs (used to assign a 'male haplotype') and STRs (used to predict whether there is any genealogical relationship between two people)

- autosomal DNA testing is applicable to all ancestral lines; the higher the test "scores" the closer the relationship between two people being compared

I would recommend this very informative presentation, viewable on the Guild website, to anyone considering whether DNA testing should be part of their one name study as it will help you decide what type, or types, of DNA testing would be appropriate.

[LE] We knew there were different types of DNA test and had tried reading up but ended up being more confused so attending this lecture was exactly what we needed. I now understand the differences between the 3 types of test using the redundant DNA that does not make up the 46 chromosomes that relate to our physical characteristics.

A very clear handout was provided and we look forward to checking out the links listed, some new to us. Overall this was a great talk and we definitely came away better able to understand our autosomal ancestry and my dad's FTDNA Y results.

[DJ] My first lecture was excellent, explaining clearly the make-up of the human genome and how variations affect eye and hair colour and mutations can cause death or inherited susceptibility to disease. We were introduced to DNA for testing for ancestry and to several commercial companies offering testing kits, comparing prices and variations in information supplied, and were encouraged to look out for company sales of DNA kits. The hand out supplied recommended two useful books by Debbie Kennett and Carolyn Abraham.

Promoting your Y Project [A1]

[KH] With a Y project set up Debbie Kennett's session showed us how to reach out to other people. If you prefer to let people come to you then "laying the bait" is essential to attract them

to find you and join in. This includes thinking about smarter use of the Guild profile page through to internet blogs and even tailor-made DNA websites.



Debbie Kennett

The next stage is "Active Recruitment to seek, find and recruit the people you want to be involved". Although the general approach may be the same that you use for a one-name study, DNA gives added complications particularly in the UK where there is a reluctance or suspicion from some people to participate in DNA testing. This requires more effort in building trust and relationships with potential participants.

Finally there were two main takeaway messages. The first was to allow people who may have autosomal DNA or



John Cleary

mitochondrial DNA results into your project - you may find they are useful in the future for persuading others to get their Y DNA results and often wives and daughters may persuade the males in the family to take tests. The second message was to take advantage of the Guild special offers for DNA testing at reduced rates. I found it a really great and thought provoking session.

Starting Your Y DNA Project [B2]

[DJ] The second beginners session by John Cleary introduced the four types of projects - Surname (matching surname lineage), Haplography (searching surname clusters and movements of people), Geography (studying DNA characteristics in a country/region) and Cultural Heritage (investigating societies and migrant groups in past times).

We went on a "Fishing Trip" to compare our results with another person's DNA looking for matches against 37 allele markers. It is useful to look for rare result matches, called signature markers. New SNP testing allows us to build a mutation history tree for any related individual. We were shown how to set



Dr Maurice Gleeson

up a DNA surname project and to decide whether to share results or keep them private.

Understanding Y DNA Results and Grouping People [A2]

[BA] In this very interesting presentation Dr Maurice Gleeson demonstrated how to get the most from Y chromosome

DNA results and how, with a number of participants in your DNA project, you can put people together into family groups. I will bookmark this presentation from the Guild website and return to it time and time again as my DNA project develops.

He presented a list of 10 'Markers of Potential Relatedness' that he uses to place individuals into family groups. These consist of 6 derived from DNA testing (genetic distance, Tip 24 score, genetic distance demarcation, the presence of 'Rare Marker values', consistent SNP predictions, consistent SNP testing) and 4 (same surname, same surname variant, the location of the most distant known ancestor (MDKA), the name of the most distant known ancestor) from 'documentary genealogy'.

Maurice discussed each of the above 6 DNA 'Markers of Potential Relatedness', how they are calculated, the value that indicates 'Potential Relatedness' and the advantages and limitations of each of these markers.

I would recommend this presentation to anyone with the Y DNA test results of two or more individuals as this will enable you to get the most out of any test results.

[LE] After a lovely lunch we then attended this more advanced talk. Again we thoroughly enjoyed the information which was very well presented but not unexpectedly this one started to get a bit much for our brains to handle on the day. We have made notes though which should start to make more sense as we properly utilise the DNA data. I think Simon will have a Y chromosome test on his Christmas List!



Barbara Griffiths

choosing the most useful one for each project. The more shared DNA, the closer the shared ancestry; the closer the ancestry the more chance that you will be able to find it using genealogical methods. Looking for common caveats between DNA data based versus pedigree-based information was suggested and testing known relatives and comparing results against close predicted relatives was recommended. This session was packed with so much useful information that at times it was overwhelming for a beginner!

Enhanced Y DNA Testing [E1]

[NB] James Irvine treated us to a breezy, personal and sometimes passionate run through the current state of play for y-DNA testing in the rapidly evolving field of genetic genealogy. Looking at it from a group administrator's viewpoint and using his own extensive Clan Irwin DNA Project data for illustration, he introduced the choices and then explained his thoughts on the relative benefits and worthiness of the y-tests available.



James Irvine

James advocated FTDNA's TiP scores as the best available indicator of the probability of common ancestry within the surname era. Going deeper, we heard of the progress in NGS testing (BigY; Y Elite) enhanced by raw (BAM) data analysis, and its use in the construction of the large Clan Irwin haplotype, one result being the recent registration of L555 as a private SNP unique to the Irwin project. The multi-marker SNP Pack tests, which supplement BigY and are best used in combination with STR tests, are an exciting new development.

The Irwin project is open to anyone with the DNA signature - relegating the significance of variant surnames. By ranking and interpreting multiple test data, enabling matching, grouping, and linking in the project's own enhanced haplotype, it was possible to make sense of the earlier discovery that, rather than one distant common ancestor, the Irwin study was accommodating 36 unrelated (by surname) genetic families. James is now fitting DNA results into conventional family trees and has already made some undreamed-of discoveries.

Wrap-Up Session/Q+A

[DJ] The day ended with questions from the audience answered by a panel of experts. I found the day very interesting and was caught up in the enthusiasm of the presenters with their topics. There was so much to take in. As a beginner it would be good to have a day that included small workshops studying specific topics, each group being led by an expert. It would give the opportunity to meet new people and to gain hands on practical experience of the subject.

[LE] In conclusion we felt the whole event was very well organised and other talks attended extremely interesting too. Hopefully we will be able to attend more seminars in the future and will keep an eye on the surname projects listed and if we come across anyone suitable will suggest they get in touch!

Videos and recordings of all the sessions, handouts and full versions of the above reports are available on the Guild website. ■

**Closing date for articles for next Journal:
20th October**



Regional Representatives

by Julie Goucher (Member 3925)

All Guild members are located within a region, which as you can see is quite an extensive list.

We do though have some Regional Rep (RR) vacancies, which are indicated below. If you are interested to volunteering to be a regional representative, please have a look at the Job Description which can be found in the member's room:

(http://one-name.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/editor_uploads/jobdescriptions/JD_Regional_Rep_20150321.pdf)

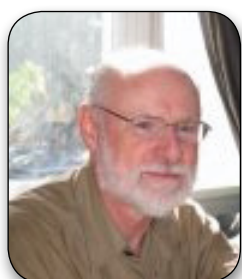
What is apparent is that there no right or wrong way to be a regional rep. The task is performed depending on how the regional rep wants to, in accordance with the Job description and the requirements of the members within the region.

Some members receive a newsletter each month from their RR, others less frequently. Some members receive frequent emails, or perhaps attend meetings or maybe a mixture of all the above!

If you are interested or would like to find out more, then please email me, Julie Goucher at rep-coordinator@one-name.org

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Australia NSW & ACT	Karen Rogers	rep-australia-nsw-act@one-name.org
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Australia South	Richard Merry	rep-australia-south@one-name.org
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Wales - South & West	Margaret Southgate	rep-wales-south@one-name.org



Family Finder DNA and One-Namers

by Peter Whitlock (Member 246)

I have been gathering research on the Whitlock family since 1968 and started a one-name group before we even had the name. For the past few years I have been co-ordinating the Whitlock DNA project on the Family Tree DNA site. We currently have fifty-three members participating.

One of the latest DNA tests is the Family Finder test which is intended to match you with your cousins within three to four

generations. Two of the features of this test are for participants to provide a Family Chart and a list of Ancestral Surnames.

If you match genetically as cousins then hopefully you will have an Ancestral Surname in common and you will be able to determine from the family chart how you are related. The problem is both parties will need to have done the paperwork to trace back to the common Ancestral Name to confirm the relationship.

This is where one-namers can be of help. Of our fifty-three participants, twenty-five have done the Family Finder test. The ancestral name files are searchable. I determined there were seventy-nine matches for the name Whitlock and White-lock plus eight who matched more than one participant. I have now contacted all of the seventy-nine matches and updated our charts with these connections where charts were included or additional details were provided as a result of my email.

Many of these led to even more information being added from the Find a Grave site or Family Search. The vast majority of these seventy-nine new contacts were persons who had never been to the Whitlock Family Association website or knew very little about their Whitlock ancestors. I did Main Lines for many of these persons and several who descended from the Virginia families were able to add eight or nine generations to their charts and are now in the process of getting to know their Whitlock ancestors back to the 1400s. As others have their Family Finder test done more matches are likely to be found.

I was interested to see that while most Family Finder participants with multiple matches for the name Whitlock had multiple matches for the same Whitlock family, I had a couple

who matched for three or four different Whitlock families. I was able to place every one of the Matches that included a chart. Doing this analysis has changed my opinion on the usefulness of the Family Finder test and also increased my understanding how joining a DNA project can greatly expand the potential of your own DNA test. For several of these matches I was the first person to contact them with proof of a documented relationship to other members of their family.

I encourage anyone taking a DNA test to make sure they include a chart and to use the search box on the Family Tree DNA site to see if there are DNA projects for any of your Ancestral Names. Join as many of those projects as you can as this multiplies your chances of matches and that is the whole purpose of taking the test. I also encourage any one-namer who is not yet co-ordinating a DNA project for your name to start one.

While the Family Finder Test is aimed at closely related cousins, including the Family Chart and list of Ancestral Names expands the time frame of matches and allows connections to be made as far back as you have been able to trace your ancestors. ■



The Guild and Volunteers

by Peter Hagger (Member 4177)

Our Guild is, to my mind, a most wonderful organisation. It is made up of like-minded people who wish to pursue the study of Surnames. Despite the fact that for many of us this is a never ending quest, well over 200 of our members volunteer to help the Guild and their fellow members. Some spend many hours each week on some of the key tasks, such as serving on Committee or in one of the more demanding roles like Registrar or Web Master. Others perhaps adopt a Newspaper as part of the Newswatch Project and scour it each week for Guild Surnames, a task that may only take a few minutes. To me it is all of these people that make the Guild unique, in that so many members volunteer to help the Guild and either directly or indirectly help their fellow members.

Despite the fact that we have lots of volunteers we always need more and now is a good time to take stock and ask you to consider volunteering with the Guild. Job Descriptions for posts are available on the web site, or contact volunteers@one-name.org and I will send you a copy.

Current needs include the following:

- Education Liaison Officer
- Regional Reps - These people provide the local contact for our members worldwide and whilst there is a Job Description for the job, it is also realised that every Regional Rep has to do the job in the most suitable way for their Region and their own time commitments. Current vacancies include:
 - Bedfordshire, Cumbria, Essex & East London, Gloucestershire, London West, Northumberland, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Surrey North, Surrey South, Yorkshire East - and South Africa.
- The BMD index project requires people to transcribe information so that it can be uploaded onto the online indexes.
- The Members Website project has been very successful and whilst the current team is coping, a little extra help from members with skills in one of the following areas would be much appreciated - WordPress, HTML or TNG.
- Carry out a Marriage Challenge; (see panel below), see the regular article in the Journal or the Marriage Challenge page on the web site.
- Join the Newswatch Project and adopt a newspaper; see the Newswatch page on the web site.
- Why not make an offer to do look ups in your local Records Office or perhaps a specialised index you have access to; See the Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) page on the web site.

If none of the above appeal to you just volunteer and tell us your skills and the type of thing you would like to do.

All Guild vacancies are advertised on the Guild Web Site. Use the Forum drop down and select Volunteer Opportunities. To discuss a particular vacancy or generally enquire about what you might be able to do please email me at volunteers@one-name.org. I am also happy to send you links to any of the pages mentioned above. ■

- Data Protection Advisor

Forthcoming Seminars

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 their studies. As well as reviewing the support the Guild can provide to one-namers, it will provide useful information on 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 0SR

06 May 2017 What's My Line?

 #GuildOccupation

This seminar plans to focus on a range of specific occupations such as willow basket making, stonemasons and administrative roles such as the Georgian clergy and legal professions.

Venue: Leasingham Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Leasingham, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 8LB

15 July 2017 Catalogues, Collections and Archives

 #GuildCanterbury

A visit to Canterbury, the home of Canterbury Cathedral Archives, whose records go back to the 8th century, about which the cathedral archivist will talk. Other talks include "Canterbury in the 15th century" and "Analysing Your Data".

An optional visit to the Cathedral Archives has been arranged for the Friday afternoon with the possibility of a guided tour of the cathedral as well. A charge will apply.

Venue: Chartham Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 7JA

Care and Consideration Seminar

National Railway Museum,
Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ
9:30 am for 10:00 am, Saturday 5 November 2016

The venue for this seminar is the greatest railway museum in the world and home to the UK's national rail collection and we will look at records and their preservation,



National Railway Museum

copyright and children's homes. There will be an opportunity over the lunch period to visit the Search Engine railway archive and library at NRM and on Friday 4 November an optional visit has been arranged to the Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York, Heslington, York YO10 5DD, with a guided tour and document display for which there will be a small additional charge. Places are limited for both optional visits.

Programme

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 09:30 - 10:00 | Registration and Coffee |
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Welcome to the Seminar - Jackie Depelle |
| 10:15 - 11:15 | <i>Exploring the Retreat Archive</i> - Dr Katherine Webb
(Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York) |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | Comfort Break |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | <i>Copyright - Help or Hindrance in the Electronic World</i>
- Rev. Graham Cornish, Copyright Consultant (The Copyright Circle) |
| 12:30 - 14:00 | Lunch Break - including opportunities to visit the Museum Galleries or attend a talk in The Search Engine with document display |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | <i>Caring for your Digital Records</i> - Stefanie Davidson,
Records Management, Collections and Digital Archives
Co-ordinator (West Yorkshire Archive Service) |
| 15:00 - 15:30 | Tea Break |
| 15:30 - 16:30 | <i>No Place Like Home - Researching Children's Homes and Their Records</i> - Peter Higginbotham |
| 16:30 | Close of Seminar |

The museum is only a few minutes' walk from York station, please contact us if you will need a lift. There is free seminar delegate parking at the museum.

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, is £22.50. Bookings close on 23 October 2016. All bookings will be confirmed by email, with full joining instructions, on or shortly after this date. To book and pay online see http://one-name.org/seminar_2016nov_york

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

For more information look under the Events tab at www.one-name.org or phone the Guild Help Desk Tel: 0800 011 2182

 #GuildYork

Pictures from the DNA Seminar at National Star College, Ullenwood, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire Saturday 13 August 2016

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Our Six Reporters



Top row (left to right)

Diane Jameson, Kevin Hurley, Sue Wynne

Bottom row (left to right)

Brian Audley, Lorna Emms, Nick Berkeley



Photos courtesy of Alan Moorhouse and Rod Clayburn

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