

Journal

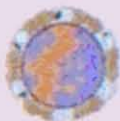
of One-Name Studies



www.one-name.org



National Burial Index for England and Wales



First Edition, April 2001

NBI Viewer v1.01

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Website: www.ffhs.org.uk/General/Projects/NBI.htm

WE REVIEW THE NBI **Is it good value for** **one-name studies?**

**Overwhelmed by
Whitehouses – a
member is forced
to de-register**

**The advantages of
being a GOON? Our
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**More reviews of
Family Archives CDs
with lots of data
for one-namers**

Guild

of One-Name Studies



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A LIST of Regional Representatives of the Guild in a number of UK counties, and overseas, can be found on the inside back cover of this Journal. If you are interested in becoming a Regional Rep, please contact the Regional Representatives Coordinator, Graham Tuley (address and phone number on the inside back cover).

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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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Chairman's Notes By Alec Tritton

THIS last quarter has been a quiet period for the Guild and family history in general.

I suppose that we are all anxiously waiting for the release of the 1901 Census. There has, though, been one very significant development in internet genealogy with the expansion of the Public Record Office website at: www.pro-online.pro.gov.uk

This has been developed to include a pay-per-view service and now includes wills held at the PRO for the years 1850 to 1858. Each will can be downloaded as an actual copy of the relevant page. The system is being expanded, and in April 2002 those wills held from 1830 to 1849 will be added to the searchable database.

1901 microfiche

Another piece of important news from the PRO is that they will, after all, sell copies of the



1901 Census microfiche. From January 7 2002, the PRO's Record Copying Department will be taking orders for microfiche of the 1901 Census for England and Wales from UK family history societies [as defined in the official list published by the FFHS].

This is a clear indication that the PRO has listened to the voices of the FFHS and Guild representatives on the Advisory Panel, and we are delighted with this announcement which will benefit many family historians.

In this issue, you will find a nomination paper for election to the Guild's committee. I urge you to consider standing if you feel that you have some skills and new ideas that will be of benefit to our community. It is now six years since the last contested

election and exercising this type of democracy is vital for any organisation. I was elected to the committee at that time and feel after two-and-a-half years as Vice-chairman and the last three as Chairman, it is time for someone else to take the helm. I am not the only committee member retiring, so there will be a need for new members.

So now is the time to join the committee of what I believe is one of the most vibrant societies in the Federation.

Finally, please remember that in April 2002, we are hosting the Federation at our weekend conference. I hope you can come to what we hope will be a most memorable occasion. Bookings are coming in thick and fast and if you want to be guaranteed a place at the Saturday banquet, you must book early.

If you cannot find the booking form which was included with the last Journal, they can be obtained from: Jeanne Bunting, Firgrove, Horseshoe Lane, Ash Vale, Nr Aldershot, Hampshire, GU12 5LL. ○

Registrar's Notes By Ken Toll

Just a short column this quarter. It would appear that the Registrar's work is never done. As I write this at the end of November, there is still a constant flow of new applications – many more than I had anticipated.

We have already had over 300 new applications this year plus several re-joins, so I'm confident we will have enrolled at least 310 members by the end of 2001 – our best year ever! This compares with 239 in 2000 and 223 in 1999. Checking back over the past 10 years, new membership has grown on average at about seven per cent per year.

As the membership grows, so do the Registrar's duties, and the



Treasurer's, and the DPM's, and Journal distributors. We are rapidly reaching the point where some jobs are becoming too large to get future volunteers to take on the roles.

In order to prepare for a possible split of the Registrar's and Membership Secretary's roles, the Committee has agreed to split the current membership application form into two, having one form for joining the Guild and another for registering a surname. This may also discourage the less experienced applicants from endeavouring to register three common (i.e. frequent) surnames simultaneously!

At this point I would like to thank all of you who have renewed their subscription, especially those that sent their renewals to me (we know who you are!). Next year, we will endeavour to use a much larger typeface for the details of the

Renewals Secretary.

I have also been surprised by the sheer volume of changes included on the renewal forms. It seems that many of you have been waiting all year to tell us you've moved house or ISP, or whatever! Ple-e-e-e-ase tell us when it happens, or you won't get your Journals or your e-mails.

Next year I propose to have the Changes section removed from the renewal form – then you'll just HAVE to contact us. Write to me (address inside the front cover) or email changes@one-name.org.

I am still getting a trickle of complaints about members not replying to enquiries.

Please try and answer them in a reasonable time scale – even if it is only to say that you are currently unable to assist, but will keep the request on file in case you subsequently find the information they require. ○



Just my opinion...

A personal view of a genealogical topic

By Roy Stockdill

IF THERE are two phrases that make me grown inwardly, they are "Privacy" and "Data Protection Act". I sometimes think we have become paranoid and obsessive about so-called privacy, and over-react unnecessarily in our search for it.

I am sure we have all, in the course of our researches, endeavoured to establish contact with people we know to be distant, or even not-so-distant, cousins and have been brusquely rebuffed with allegations of intruding on their privacy. That, of course, is their right, and we cannot expect everyone to share our passion for genealogy – but, honestly, I've met people who are so obsessive and precious about their privacy that they seem to regard knowledge of what they had for breakfast as a State secret!

This wouldn't matter were it simply a question of individual attitudes, but my fear is that a consuming preoccupation with privacy is infiltrating its way more and more into official thinking and, ultimately perhaps, into law.

Living people

I keep hearing worrying whispers, for instance – I put it no higher than that – of a possible change in the UK's system of access to birth, marriage and death certificates, with access to records of living people becoming much harder, and there are said to be those who want the 100-year confidentiality limit on census records imposed on civil registration records also.

It goes without saying that this would be a massive blow to genealogical research.

There are, of course, genealogists who themselves refuse to give out any information on any

living person or anyone born less than 100 years ago. I find this an overly scrupulous view, just as I find the removal of data like birth dates on living people from genealogical databases unnecessarily prissy.

Personally, I couldn't care a ha'porth of red wine who knows my date of birth (it's July 4 1940, by the way). Why should I? The fact I was born on a certain day of a certain year is a matter of public record and certainly not my exclusive property. However, there are those who seem to think birth dates should be official secrets – and I am not referring here just to ladies' dislike of revealing their age!

It seems to me there is already far too much censorship in the world and it is not the role of the genealogist and historian to add to it, especially by way of self-imposed censorship. Freedom of information and freedom of expression for all is one of the bastions of democracy – but in a sense, this concept is diametrically opposed to that of the right to individual privacy, and the two make uneasy bedfellows.

I am sure the arguments for preventing crime and terrorism, by making it harder for wrongdoers to get birth certificates for nefarious purposes, will be raised against me. I am not so arrogant as to think my hobby is more important, and if I thought that restricting access to the records of living people would achieve results in the war against crime I might accede to it – but I'm afraid I don't believe it would.

Determined criminals and terrorists are extraordinary resourceful and will always find a way round any restrictions. And at the end of the day, removing general access to public records would be

Enough of this paranoia over privacy

a more serious blow to the very democracy we fight to protect.

I get fed up, too, of hearing family historians worrying themselves sick about the Data Protection Act. My own view of the Act is quite simple – I don't believe it was ever intended to be aimed at genealogists at all but, as is so often the nature of laws, it has grown tentacles to become a catch-all monster.

I keep records of living people on my one-name database, including their birth and marriage dates if known, and I don't care who knows it. In any event, family historians are clearly exempt from registering under the Act as domestic and recreational users.

Where the possible grey area arises is if you pass that data on to others, or publish it. Here, too, though, I think people are worrying unnecessarily. Does anyone seriously believe the Data Protection Registrar is going to prosecute genealogists for exchanging information, which is the very lifeblood of our hobby? I can just see the dock of every court in the land overflowing with family historians!

There appears also to be a curious belief among some folks that you cannot publish data on the living without their consent. As far as my reading of the DPA goes, this is just not so. It might be polite to ask permission, but I am not aware of any restrictions on publishing information on living people, provided it's accurate and especially when it is already in the public domain.

Were it some kind of offence to publish information about the living, there would never have been a decent biography of any famous living person written within the last 100 years! ○

An overview of the National Burial Index and its value for one-namers

By John Hanson



I AM SURE the vast majority of you are well aware of what the National Burial Index (NBI) for England and Wales is, but for those who may have been asleep for the past year, or perhaps those new Guild members who are not yet aware of it, I will give a brief overview, followed by some comments on its potential value to one-namers.

What is it?

The NBI is an ongoing project, conducted by the Federation of Family History Societies in the UK, to assist family historians find burial records and, in so doing, to try and provide the information missing from the International Genealogical Index (IGI). It is intended that the NBI will become a major archive, giving worldwide access to the sources held by local repositories or the societies, groups or individuals that provided the information.

It is a collection of over 5.4 million burials from more than 4,400 parish, non-conformist and cemetery burial registers. The records come from a

variety of sources including parish registers, bishop's transcripts, earlier transcripts and printed registers. However, it does not contain any information from monumental inscriptions.

History

The overall coverage is for the period from 1538 to 2000, but the contributing organisations chose what period of time and parishes to transcribe. They were helped in this by a computer program called *Shroud*, which was specifically written for the project. However, the majority have concentrated on the period from 1813 to the 1850s. The coverage has been, unfortunately, lessened by the fact that not all organisations were willing or able to participate in the project in its early stage.

Installation

Installing the viewer was not problematical, using the easy-to-follow instructions. But once installed, checking the online help under "User Setup" reveals details of how to set the pro-

THE National Burial Index, published by the Federation of Family History Societies, has proved since its launch to be a runaway success, with 17,000 copies sold to date.

Many of the United Kingdom's family history societies have supplied data to the NBI, to the extent that it contains over five million entries from more than 4,000 parishes.

In this review, JOHN HANSON, the Guild's Data Processing Manager, looks at the NBI in detail, assessing its value both for ordinary family historians and for one-namers.

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Information website: www.ffhs.org.uk/General/Projects/NBI/htm

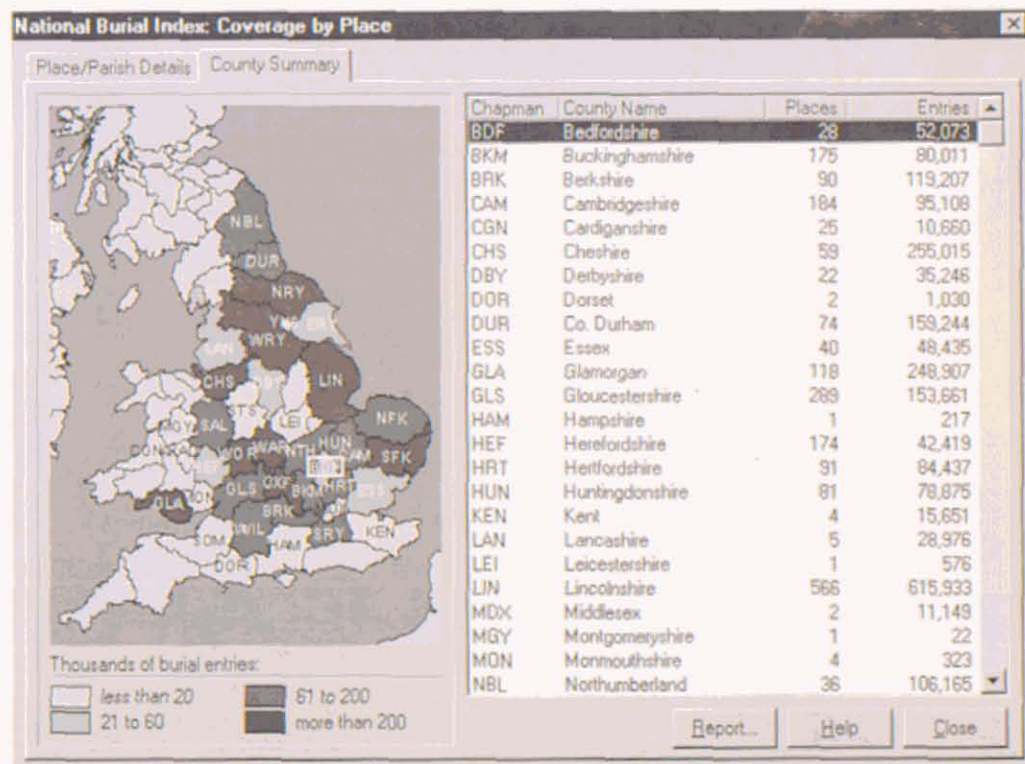


FIGURE 1 — the Coverage by Place-County Summary screen

gram to use two CD-ROM drives, if you have them on the same machine, or even how to install it to your hard drive. The latter option takes up about 1.2 gigabytes of hard disc space but does save constantly swapping CDs. I have used this last option on my laptop machine, which means that the information is always with me without having to take the CD's everywhere and, of course, it also has the advantage of making it run that much faster.

Checking the coverage

Take the time, before you start searching, to look at the information that appears on the "Reference" menu tag. The two options here show the coverage based on place and dates.

The "coverage by date" is a chart that shows the total number of entries for each year. On the other hand, the "coverage by place" has two tags. The first shows a county summary (See Figure 1), listing the total number of entries for each county, as well as showing the information graphically. It is clear from this that there are large parts of the country that aren't covered at all. Unfortunately, one of the major areas missing is London and the south coast. But, hopefully, the coverage will be better in the second edition.

The second tag lists each parish that is included and, by using the details button, you can access the full details of the parish, including whether the information has been checked, the denomination of the church and the original source.

Accessing the data

When you run the program you are presented with what appears to be a blank screen with columns. This will show the results of your searches in due course. From here you can call up the search request screen. This you can do by either pressing the F2 key, clicking on the binoculars in the tool bar or by selecting the "Search of individuals" from the Search menu option. You are then presented with the screen in figure 2.

This screen allows you to search for anything in the database. The normal criteria that most people will use is surname and forename, but having spent so long using the LDS viewer, I still tend to put the entries in the other way round! In both these fields you have the option of specifying whether you want all spelling variants or exact spelling only.

One point that should be made here is that the variant list is taken from the 1881 UK census index, with the permission of the LDS. So, you will find some of the peculiar groupings here as well. In addition, the author of the program, Steve Archer, a Guild member, was given access to the Guild sur-

name list, so if you find a name that wouldn't normally be grouped by the LDS, you now know why. Unlike most programs, however, you can look at the list of variants that will be used for any search, using the drop-down list box provided.

The same facility exists to look at the variant list for forenames. One nice feature is that when you search for a forename all occurrences, including those as second or third names, appear. Obviously, if you use the "Exact spelling only" option you don't

FIGURE 2 — the opening search request screen

get the facility to explore the name lists.

You can also use the normal wild cards of ? and * to replace single or multiple characters. As with all wild card searches, use them with care, as they can seriously slow down the search process, particularly if you are accessing the data from the CD-ROM drive. There is also nothing to stop you entering a wild card at the beginning of a name.

There is a restriction in that you can only display, as the result of a search, a maximum of 2,000 entries. If you use the new library version anywhere, then the limit is reduced to only 50.

Reducing number of results

One way of reducing the size of your result is to use the burial place. This can be a two-fold process. First, you can select the county from the list that is displayed. This only contains those for which data exists, so there is no chance of selecting an invalid one. Having selected the county, you can then select the parish from the second drop-down list. Again, the only ones that are displayed are those for which

there are data. You can restrict the search still further by specifying the religious denomination. You can also select a year for a burial and a range of up to five years either side. This later option is useful when searching on some of the more common names. Mind you, I'm still trying to find the person prepared to do the one name study on the Smith family!!

As a matter of interest, if you want to find all of the entries for a particular parish, select it using the burial place drop-down lists and specify the surname as *. You will be presented with a list of all the burials for the parish in ascending name order, but it does take a while to produce the results – in fact, it can take a very long time indeed, unless you have the entire data installed on hard disc and a very fast computer.

There is a feature on this screen that I do like, however, and that is the "Unique Surname Search" tag. This enables you to go through the entire list of surnames and add them to the search list. You can, therefore, build up your own list of names to search on.

This list can be used in conjunction with the burial date and place options from the opening screen to produce a much more refined search list. However, it is not possible to save this list and you would need to re-enter the list of names every time.

Perhaps this is a feature that could be included in Version two.

What to do with search results

Figure 3 shows the result of searching for my own one name study of Fosker – only 112 entries found and the vast majority I was aware of. However there are still a couple in Suffolk that are new to me. From here you can view the details of any one entry, by double-clicking on it. This will bring up the details screen shown in Figure 4. This has the full details for the record selected and also the map showing the distribution of the result entries. The highlighted record is shown in a different colour and you can even overlay the full NBI map if you wish. You can use the details screen to move through the list of entries rather than keep going back to the list.

One point that should be made here is that it may well be worth contacting the supplier of the original data. In a lot of cases they may well have further information, such as occupations, relations or the abode of the person detailed. However, the only way of doing that is by going to the Federation website to find the details of the contact. Not so easy for anyone who doesn't have access to the Internet, and there are still a few around.

But what can you do with the information? Well,

	Burial Date	Forename	Surname	Age	County	Place / Details
1	23 Mar 1678	George	FOSCUE		Beds	Husborne Crawley, St Mary Magdalene
2	7 Oct 1679	[widow]	FOSCUE	80+	Beds	Campton, All Saints
3	1701	John	FOSCUE		Berks	Longworth, St Mary
4	1704	Francis	FOSCUE		Berks	Longworth, St Mary
5	9 Oct 1712	John	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
6	25 Jun 1713	Thomas	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
7	4 Oct 1724	Richard	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
8	28 Oct 1727	May	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
9	17 Feb 1729	Alice	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
10	10 Jun 1729	?	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
11	31 Aug 1732	?	FOSCUE	inf	Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
12	9 May 1733	Mary	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
13	2 Apr 1747	John	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
14	20 May 1756	Samuel	FOSCUE		Beds	Eaton Bray, St Mary the Virgin
15	26 May 1807	John	FOSQUE		Herts	Northchurch, St Mary
16	26 Jun 1808	Keziah	FOSQUE?	inf	Herts	Berkhamsted, St Peter
17	4 Aug 1810	Mary	FOSQUE		Herts	Northchurch, St Mary
18	29 May 1813	Sarah	FOSKER	27	Suffolk	Monks Eleigh, St Peter
19	1 Apr 1817	Isaac	FOSKEW	83	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
20	7 Jun 1817	James	FOSKEW	73	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
21	29 Apr 1821	Elizabeth	FOSKEW	56	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
22	29 Mar 1823	Elizabeth	FOSKEW	95	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
23	13 Jun 1823	Isaac	FOSKER	inf	Suffolk	Monks Eleigh, St Peter
24	15 Jun 1824	William	FOSKEW	7w	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
25	3 Nov 1824	Richard	FOSQUE	inf	Herts	Berkhamsted, St Peter
26	22 Dec 1825	John	FOSKEW	27	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
27	23 Dec 1827	Sarah	FOSKEW	32	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence
28	20 Feb 1830	Martha	FOSKEW	79	Suffolk	Great Waldingfield, St Lawrence

Disk 2: 1826-2000 2,840,183 1/112 Finished

FIGURE 3 – the results of the author's search for his one-name study of FOSKER

you can print it out, to begin with, as a single list of people, having sorted the list first. This would provide a useful checklist for you to use at a record office or other repository. Alternatively, you can print a detailed report. This includes the full church details, for each entry. However, this print greatly increases the amount of paper used. For my small one-name study the number of pages for the 112 entries were increased from two to 11 pages. On a larger study, say like the editor's Stockdale/Stockdill one, which produced a basic result of 898 entries, the increase was from 15 pages to 82.

You can also export the information as a GED-

opinions. A couple said they hadn't bought it because they could see from the details available that it didn't include the data they wanted. But the vast majority had found information that was of use.

From a personal point of view, at £30 the NBI is well worth the money when one takes into account the fact that one is saving the cost of travel to record offices, etc. So, like a lot of these databases, it has to be money well spent. Yes, I want to see more from the south coast – don't we all? But I hope those societies that haven't submitted their data will see the error of their ways and submit it for the next edition.

If you belong to a society that hasn't submitted data yet, then start by asking the question as to why and see what you can do to help. Maybe they are short of transcribers. I know the Federation is currently looking at a scheme to index some of the areas where family history societies are reluctant to do it.

It is stated on the Federation of Family History Societies' web site (www.ffhs.org.uk) that it is the intention to produce a cumulative edition at approximately three-yearly intervals. I somehow think that we will not be waiting three

years for Version two. The indication, following the resounding success of Version one, is that a number of the counties that are missing will be better covered in the next version. My own index of over 140,000 burials from the City of London will certainly be in it.

Where can you get it?

The product costs £30 for the twin CD set and comes with its own viewer for examining the data. If you still haven't got the NBI and want to purchase it, then you can do so from the Guild bookshop where the price to members is only £27, a discount of 10 per cent on the normal price. ○

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FIGURE 4 — the detailed screen shows full data on an entry

COM, Dbase or HTML file. I had no difficulty doing any of these and the speed from the hard drive was impressive. The GEDCOM option is extremely useful, as you can then import the information into GenMap UK, Steve Archer's excellent mapping program. This gives you many more options in terms of the ability to customise your maps. I had no troubles importing the Dbase files into either Access or Excel.

Any drawbacks?

From a personal point of view, my only gripes are with the interface and one or two of its non-standard keyboard shortcuts. As to the data, the only thing I would change is to include on the main list whether the data has been checked or not. Mind you, it is there on the details page.

Yes, we can all moan about the fact that the data we want isn't there. There are some Suffolk parishes that aren't there yet, and the existing data, with a couple of exceptions, doesn't start until 1813. I want the entries prior to that. Hopefully, the next edition will solve some more of these queries of mine.

I did ask on the Guild e-mail forum for people's



Overwhelming Whitehouses force my sad decision to de-register

By Keith Percy

IN this article, a Guild member researching a very frequent surname – a subject broached by Guild Librarian John Colloff in the October issue – tells how he has been forced by circumstances to de-register his one-name study.

THE official start date of my Whitehouse Information Centre, as it was then called, was April 30 1981. It was then that I put out a release to *The Midland Ancestor*, the journal of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry. The name WHITEHOUSE is very much concentrated in the West Midlands, and for months I had been quietly accumulating census information from fellow researchers in the BMSGH.

The original idea was based on a kind of inverted thinking. I have "lost" some suspected cousins of my Whitehouses, who might be able to tell me some more about the family history. I suspect that they went abroad, some to West Africa, some to the USA. The idea was that if I set up this specialist resource, then eventually the descendants of these lost cousins would contact me. It has worked in a limited way, as 16 years later I was approached by someone descended from a collateral line but, unfortunately, not from one of the "lost" cousins I had targeted.

It soon became apparent that if I started collecting Whitehouse data in a systematic way, I might stumble accidentally upon something of potential value to my own history. Earlier, by working forwards in time (how neglected this strategy is among researchers), I had tracked down a distant cousin with a family bible. It contained a crucial clue, the burial date and age at death of the brother of my suspected ancestor, this brother being Richard Whitehouse of Tipton (1755–1830). Then, while I was extracting Worcester wills for the Whitehouse Information Centre, I came upon one in which Richard Whitehouse could fit nicely as one of two unnamed boys. I still can't be certain that this will really does relate to the right person, but the wonderful complexity of relationships in it make it an interesting discussion point and give me hope.

It struck me quickly that other people's ancestors are rarely interesting to read about. To try to run a Whitehouse Family History Society with a regular magazine seemed pointless, if all I could fill it with was stories about members' personal genealogies. So, I preferred just to work on my own to try to help people individually. It would be a much better use of time than collecting subscriptions, holding committee meetings and wondering whence the material for the next issue would be forthcoming.

Providing a free armchair research service had its

advantages. Firstly, I could register the name with the Guild. Secondly, correspondents would be more likely to contribute material if they were doing so for the public good. This has worked well. Sometimes I have received a kind donation, ploughed back into buying wills or an index.

The name being so frequent, I realised I could never build up collections of all possible records. There was also the problem that I could spend a lot of time on, say, extracting Whitehouses from unindexed census returns in the West Midlands, only to find my work later superseded by an index. A key decision in the early 1980s was to abstract wills and administrations of Whitehouses. This has become a very important record, with over 3,000 other surnames besides about 1,000 Whitehouses, covering 1731 to 1857 in all the major registries. Since few could complete their Whitehouse family history properly without recourse to this index, it would serve as a driving force for others to contact me.

Another crucial step was to concentrate resources on extracting the 1841 census of places in the West Midlands. The 1841 is much neglected, because of inexact ages and lack of an exact place of birth. Yet, in many cases it has proved vital in establishing connections by means of adjacent households.

Marriage mining

Latterly, I have been keen on "marriage mining", the term I give to matching spouses in the General Register Office indexes of marriage registrations. Basically, the idea is to use the knowledge of correspondents, the IGI and parish registers to find the spouse of every Whitehouse, check it in the GRO index and thus provide a cross-reference that is lacking for the years 1837 to 1912.

Paul Millington contributed an excellent article on how to do this [*Journal of One-Name Studies*, Vol. 7 No. 7, July 2001]. One additional method to those suggested there is to search the LDS transcript of the 1881 census on CD-ROM, by using just the forename and date of birth of a female. That will yield a list of possible married names, which can then be checked in the GRO index. Of course, it can only work when the forename is reasonably rare. Though this project is far from complete, it has been alarming to discover many marriages in the 1840s that never found their way to the GRO indexes.

With a job, family, and other interests, I had little time for computers and so created a paper-based record system. One advantage was that I could use my train journey to work in London to create a card index of the genealogies of my correspondents. The cards are basically miniature Family Group Sheets

which give parentage, spouse and children. Now, after 20 years, they fill nearly seven shoe boxes. The value of the index in connecting distant cousins has been immense. My rough estimate is that 25 per cent of the genealogies received have been connected to someone else's through my intervention.

News about the service I offered spread slowly at first, but after 13 years I had accumulated some 175 genealogies. Thus, I was answering a little over one enquiry a month. Searches in the paper records and the resulting letter often took over four hours.

Pressure

All worked fairly well until my presence on the web. During the year 2000, the number of enquiries rose to 70, about five times the previous level. Despite these huge numbers, I coped, although a few people had to wait several months for a reply to follow-up queries. The year 2001 brought some reduction, with only about 40 new genealogies arriving in the first nine months. However, follow-ups from the previous year were an added pressure.

Another problem loomed. There were now over 400 family trees. Related ones shared a file and some of the smaller trees were housed in bundles. Nevertheless, there was only half a drawer left in a four-drawer filing cabinet. It became clear that in order to continue to keep a record of the correspondence, everything would have to go digital. A large exercise in transferring material from one computer to another would be required, along with scanning-in of a large volume of post. That raised the issue of whether the correspondence was worth keeping. A tree would summarise most of it, but some valuable source material, such as family bibles and handed-down tradition, would be lost.

Meanwhile, the records continued to improve, aided by voluntary contributions. I completed transcribing the Principal Probate Registry wills indexes from 1858 to 1935 and annotating them with GRO Death Index entries, an interesting exercise, as there was surprisingly little ambiguity. Another project was extracting Whitehouses from the surname indexes to the 1851 census of Staffordshire (749 households). It might be hard for those who have a rare name to appreciate the scale of operations – paper slips for over 3,000 census households, excluding the 1881 census, and books containing 7,000 marriage entries from July 1837 to 1900 copied from the GRO indexes will give some idea. The improved records meant more thorough searches, taking even longer. The answer was to computerise the records, but I had no spare time.

Final solution

On October 10 2001, I came to a sad but necessary decision. The Whitehouse Family History Centre, as it is now called, closed the door to new enquirers and informed existing correspondents that it would continue to serve them until the end of the year. Instead of spending time on manual searches to

answer enquiries, I shall be using the time to create databases, which will then be posted on my website. In other words, I am switching to self service. The process is likely to take three years, maybe more.

Because this is a long time, I have devised an interim "quick fix" to help researchers. I am asking all correspondents to submit their pedigree in a simple text form, which will appear as a Word file and be searchable using "Find". The Word Pedigree uses numbers to denote generations and A, B, C etc. to denote sibling order, with X, Y etc. to denote that the order is unknown. Here is a fictitious example (c. = baptised, i. = buried in my nomenclature):

1. John WHITEHOUSE (Coal Miner) c. 07 Jan 1816 Tipton St. Martin's i. 30 Jul 1853 West Bromwich m. 24 Dec 1835 Dudley St. Thomas to Jane CLARK b. 1815-16 d. 14 Nov 1870 Tipton.
- 2E. Charles WHITEHOUSE (Coal Miner) b. 08 Jan 1849 Tipton d. 09 Dec 1899 Birmingham m. 13 Apr 1870 Tipton to Sarah MULLINS b. 13 Dec 1850 Tipton d. 14 Jan 1891 Preston, Lancs.
- 3X (from 2E). Mary Ann WHITEHOUSE b. 14 May 1873 Tipton d. 1954 Dudley m. 15 Jun 1892 Dudley St. Thomas to John BRIGGS (Clerk at Iron Works) b. 10 Dec 1870 Bury, Lancs d. 1940 Birmingham
- 4A (from 3X). Joseph Thomas BRIGGS (Engineer) b. 01 Dec 1893 Birmingham c. 02 Apr 1894 Birmingham St. George's d. 21 Dec 1967 Lincoln, Lincs. m. 27 Dec 1914 Birmingham St. Martin to Ada Louisa FULWOOD (Shorthand Typist) b. 01 May 1894 Stourbridge d. 23 Aug 1986 Leeds.

De-registration

Meanwhile, one may not remain on the Register of One-Name Studies without answering enquiries. This has meant de-registering and giving up my forwarding e-mail address of whitehouse@one-name.org, an excellent service by the Guild. Since I intend to remain a Guild member, I have the alternative of using keith.percy@one-name.org. That's nice, but the address containing the Whitehouse name is now quite well known and is passed around by e-mail. I am assured by John Hanson, the Data Processing Manager, that when it ceases e-mails will not bounce without explanation, but the Guild will provide a message giving a new e-mail address.

When computerisation of the major records is complete, I shall be directing allcomers to the website, to do their own research. Since that is not really answering an enquiry, I shall presumably have to remain de-registered for Whitehouse.

Perhaps I should then register the name WHITEHOUSEDATA. It can reasonably be predicted that I shall be able quite comfortably to reply to all enquiries relating to that surname! ○

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How many genealogists can boast two Registrars among their ancestors?

By Harvey Horton Kernick

As a small child 50 years ago, I was aware that my middle name of Horton was my grandmother's. I was also aware that her father was something called a Registrar. These facts meant little to me then and lingered through my life without meaning a great deal. That is until my son's awareness of his ancestry started us both on the hobby of genealogy.

In the last 18 months, our quest has led us through three centuries of Cornish history, a dozen generations of Kernicks, and more recently into other family names, amongst which are the Hortons of Buckinghamshire. During this quest, I also found that another great-grandfather was called Harvey. Our searches discovered great-grandfather James Horton, his wife Lois, and 13 children. We were quite excited when one of our first census searches revealed that he was indeed a Registrar, and it was not just a mis-remembered fact from my childhood. We were even more excited when we discovered James's father, Thomas, and that he was also a Registrar – not even a dimly remembered fact.

We are all aware of the part played by Registrars. Without their work for the last 164 years, we would have none of the certificates with which we support our family trees and prove our more recent ancestry. We are proud, then, to boast two Registrars amongst our ancestors!

Lord Melbourne's government of 1836 introduced two major pieces of legislation, the Marriage Act and the Registration Act. These acts necessitated the creation of the General Register Office (GRO). The Registrar was the official appointed to register events such as land purchases, births, marriages and deaths, although occasionally the Marriage Registrar was a different person. The Registrars' work started on July 1 1837.

The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 created the post of Relieving Officer, which in Victorian times was a post frequently held by the Registrar. This Act also brought about the abolition of the Parish Workhouse. The parishes amalgamated to form Unions controlled by a Board of Guardians. The Unions were then split into districts each with a Relieving Officer whose job it was to assess the circumstances of anyone applying for relief. He was also responsible for assuring the care for the insane and any other uncared-for persons. In 1843 the Relieving Officer received about £100 per annum.

My great-great-grandfather, Thomas Horton, was one of the first Registrars. He was at this time married to Louisa and they were living in Stone, Buckinghamshire. He was Registrar and Relieving Officer for Quanton District, working from offices

in Temple Square in Aylesbury in 1847. By 1854 Thomas had moved offices to Broad Street, Aylesbury and was now responsible for Waddesdon District. He is last recorded in 1864, at the age of 58, still with Waddesdon District.

Thomas's eldest son, also Thomas, was born in 1837, but as his actual date of birth is not known, I can only speculate as to whether his was one of the very first recorded births. As the Horton family were living in Stone, it is possible that his birth was recorded, as well as notified, by his father. Thomas's second son Harold, born in 1851 and his last son, my great-grandfather, James, born in 1844, certainly had their births recorded by father Thomas.

In 1868 James married Lois Ruth Grace and they moved to Whitchurch, where their first two children were born, the second, in 1871, being my grandmother, Ada Florence Kate. Surely, not many people can boast amongst their collection of birth certificates one that shows the same person as father and registrar!

I found the first record of James Horton as Registrar in the 1869 Kelly's Directory for Aylesbury. He had taken over his father's district of Waddesdon, his office being in Church Street, Aylesbury. By 1874 the family had moved to Simpson Road, Fenney Stratford, and in 1876 Harrod's Directory had James in the post of Registrar for Fenney Stratford district. James continued for the rest of his working life as Registrar of Births and Deaths, No 1 Fenney Stratford Sub-district, and Relieving Officer, Fenney Stratford District, Newport Pagnell Union. It is here in Fenney Stratford that the rest of his 13 children were born.

In 1891 James was holding the post of Vaccination Officer. The government introduced legislation under the Vaccination Act of 1867 to make vaccination against smallpox compulsory, and in order to enforce its provisions, required local registrars to make a return to the local Vaccination Officer of all births and infant deaths in their area. This was to allow the tracing of children in the birth and infant death registers, to ensure that they had either been vaccinated or had died before the time of vaccin-



Registrar James Horton

ation. Although this suggests that the Registrar and Vaccination Officer were separate posts, in 1891 James was holding both. Kelly's Directory for 1903 was the last report we can find of James being Registrar, so he probably retired around this time, aged 60.

My next task was to find the actual dates Thomas and James had been appointed to their posts. Buckinghamshire County Record Office and the local Register Office couldn't help me, but suggested the GRO in Southport. They replied that "...the appointment records of registration officers for the period in question have been destroyed as part of our routine file management". If there is anyone who has any suggestions, then they will be very welcome.

Knowledge

It is a great shame that during my grandmother's long and eventful life, dying at the age of 99 in 1970 with full command of her faculties, I never saw fit to expand on the two words "Horton" and "Registrar". What a wealth of first hand knowledge I could have gleaned from her concerning the above rather flavourless narrative. I would love to have recorded perhaps how James set off for work in Aylesbury by horse or pony and trap.

How fascinating to have known his feelings when he came home after recording such names as Bloemfontein and Mafeking, given to children during the fervour of the Boer War. I have an acquaintance whose great-grandfather was named Inkerman after the Crimean War battle!

So please take note, those of you who have a taste for genealogy, with older relatives still alive – pick their brains and record their knowledge now before it is too late. ○

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Genealogical MISCELLANY

*Update on the latest news
of what's happening in the
family history world*

Internet project to produce surname index for 1851 census of Yorkshire

AN Internet project to publish a surname index to the 1851 census for Yorkshire has been launched. Whilst large sections of the 1851 for Britain's biggest county have been indexed by Yorkshire family history societies, there is no overall index. The Yorkshire 1851 Census Union Index project aims to correct this.

Pre-1974, Yorkshire was over twice the size of any other county and historically divided into three areas, the North, East and West Ridings. Yorkshire also has far more family history societies than any other county – currently numbering 17, when many counties have just one.

Following the success of the 1881 census project, attention is turning to the 1851 census on a county basis. Several counties have been completed by FHSs, but Yorkshire presents a more complex picture. Though much

indexing has been performed, it is uncoordinated and indexes have been produced in a variety of formats, with varying amounts of information.

The Yorkshire 1851 Census Union Index software is currently in beta-test. This will produce a complete surname index for the entire county, and will include listings of every registration district, subdistrict and enumeration district. It will also reproduce the entire Place Name Index from the 1851 census report to parliament, together with the full text of all the enumerator's notes, which give such information as the reason for a change in the population of a parish or hamlet since the previous census, and in some cases even tells the reader to which parish some migrants have moved. Website:

www.blanshard.demon.co.uk/yorks/51census.htm

Scottish news, by Graham Tuley

GLASGOW & West of Scotland FHS will host the 13th Scottish Association of Family History Societies' Annual Conference – theme "Saltmarket to Salt Lake" – on Saturday, April 27, in the Mitchell Theatre Complex, Granville Street, Glasgow. This is being held in the society's 25th anniversary year. There will be talks from Dean J. Hunter about the genealogical records the LDS church holds and what it plans to record in the future, and Allan Mackinnon on "Even Property has Roots". Trevor Parkhill will speak about "Irish Records – Alternative Sources," and Don Martin will give an insight into "The Glasgow Commuter".

Bookstalls will display a wide selection of publications. The conference fee is £11.00, with lunch £8.00. Societies have supplies of application forms, which are also available from the Conference Secretary, 6 Sutherland Drive, Glasgow G46 6PL, or can be downloaded from the Society's website at www.gwsfhs.org.uk

PETER Garwood, who is compiling a glossary of archaic terms used in Scotland – some genealogy specific, others more general – such as those used in wills and testaments relating to property and possessions, would welcome contributions, suggestions, corrections to this planned work. The glossary can be found on the following website, which also contains accounts of the Jamaican Slave Trade and the Wedderburn family...

pro.wanadoo.fr/euroleader/wedderburn/glossary.htm

REPORTS • NEWS • EVENTS

Your guide to what's happening in the Guild world...



Advantages of being a GOON has the e-mail electrons humming!

By Howard Benbrook

WAS it a virus? Was it a worm? Whatever it was, something was really infecting the electrons at the beginning of October. Members of the Guild's E-mail Forum were having a major identity crisis. Just what, it was asked, were the advantages of being a Goon? Was there, in fact, any benefit at all?

This brave challenge was presented by Mandi Cassidy. Facing an impending renewal notice with slim resources, she wondered how other Forum members felt – was it worth it? On joining, she said, she had hoped for "access to resources for my one-name study that wouldn't be available easily or cheaply elsewhere." That hadn't happened, so was she missing something?

Viv Dunstan's response came swiftly. She cited the Journal, the Forum and the one-name.org e-mail address as important to her, and also mentioned the look-ups in the Biography Database and the Soldiers Died in the Great War CD. But Viv bemoaned the loss of Brian's Lists, a compilation by Brian Teece of look-ups volunteered by members for each other, that she had found really helpful.

I don't much like the word "goon" – anyone with a memory of Popeye cartoons will recall that the image is not a nice one [*Some of us recall a certain celebrated radio show of the 1950s with rather more affection!* – Editor]. Instead, I prefer to talk of "Guild members"; but that's a term, perhaps, which conjures up an image of superiority. And it was this that moved the debate in another direction.

Elitist – moi?

One member, again concerned about renewal, felt that we are "an elitist group whose committee photos appear in the Journal at regular intervals in evening wear". Struck to his egalitarian core, our SuperEd Roy Stockdill was swift to defend the cause (they don't call 'em Yorkshire Terriers for nothing). Although admitting to being a tuxedo trendy, along with co-elitist Alec Tritton, who had appeared in full colour in the Journal pages, he listed the prestigious posts held by the committee and protested that the Guild was "powerfully represented at the very highest levels of British genealogy".

He had a very good point, but the debate quickly

turned away from committee-knocking to examining the real *sujet du jour* – just what were these advantages?

Phil Hollywood, in Thailand, was convinced he knew: 60% of the people he had initially mailed on Brian's Lists had responded, and "the amount of knowledge and expertise on this list is impressive". Forum members – take a collective bow!

Angela Watts said: "JOONS is a marvellous journal" and "some people's depth of knowledge is stunning". For Stephen Benham, "the leads that other members come up with, and the things that grow out of those leads are worth the membership. JOONS is the icing on the cake; GOONS-L [the Mail Forum] is the cake".

Crazy but not alone

Andy Prescott believed that "being a member of the GOONS reassures me that I may be crazy but at least I am not alone!", but went on to say that the "Forum has been immensely helpful" and that he has "been with the Guild for three Journals and they have all been very interesting".

Geoff Riggs, clearly thinking of his wallet, mentioned "the discount facilities when subscribing to Family Tree Magazine etc, when buying specialist software suitable for one-namers and, as recently announced, when buying vouchers to use the 1901 census". Treasurer Sandra Turner wanted people to know that she doesn't wear a dinner jacket!

It's clear that not all the members can get to the events run by the Guild, but Sian Plant was quick to praise her regional organiser in Hertfordshire, Barbara Harvey, for their quarterly meetings where they "meet to swap experiences, discuss problems and share source material". John Causton was "so sold on the value of being a GOON that I can hardly imagine why anyone doing a one-name study would not want to be a member".

Ruth Rathbone took a different turn and, for me, hit the nail on the head. She said: "A volunteer organisation/association is made "great" not by what people get, but by what others give". She then went on to say that her Guild membership "embodies a standard I demand of my own research" and that it is "scholarly rather than

elitist". She concluded: "It's a brand I can trust". Like the marketing messages, Ruth.

John Laws ("How long have I been with GOONS? So long I forget.") was of a similar mind: "It's not what GOONS can do for you, it's more what you can do for GOONS". Ann Cole agreed: "I am a one-namer - therefore I belong". *Very Descartes, Ann.*

When I first joined the Guild, I noticed an almost reverential tone when someone with a low membership number was mentioned. Gordon Lickfold is one such "low number", and he commented that we are "Now a flourishing and respected society among the elite in the FFHS". Not going to disagree there, Gordon!

Jess Jephcott, a member since 1983, felt that he had "enjoyed much correspondence, many discussions and have learned so much" from Guild membership. He again put it succinctly: "You get out what you put in".

"Guild is one warm place where I could curl up with my ancestors"

Right on cue, the next e-mail came from the instigator of all this internalising - Mandi. Not to be outdone, she volunteered "to do free lookups in Hertfordshire archives and more in-depth research in exchange for research at record offices I couldn't travel to".

A Research Exchange service, Mandi? Now there's a good idea! But why don't I have namesakes in Hertfordshire?

And Mandi had another good idea: that members should "put forward suggestions for what they would consider to be a benefit which isn't currently available". Any suggestions out there? Let's hear them, and your opinions about Mandi's Research Exchange proposal.

Theresa Heskins is a relatively new member, but she said: "already I've found that the Journal is stimulating, interesting and not afraid to deal with specifics; that the mailing list is always interesting; that other members are eager, helpful and knowledgeable in just the areas I need help. I'm enjoying it hugely".

Betty Choyce Sheehan, by contrast, is another "low number". She commended the Guild as "one warm place where I could curl up with my ancestors and the ancestors of my ancestors". That makes me feel like a comfortable old sofa, Betty!

Viv Dunstan re-entered the fray with a response to Mandi's most recent suggestion; she supported the idea but, unable to get about much, she renewed her appeal for Brian's Lists to be reinstated, pointing out the different lookup needs of one-namers and that other Guild members would understand. By the way, Brian has subsequently relented and re-introduced his Lists - how could the man resist?

David Mowbray was in broad agreement. Frank Leeson believes it is "very prestigious to be a

member" and his Guild membership is "a sign of respectability". I feel better by the minute, Frank!

Simon Martin again applauded the "GOONS List, of course, what would we do without it!" and Janet Heskins - clearly a lady who likes to make a contribution - cited the main benefits to her as: "to put some of my research into JOONS articles and to take part as a speaker in a seminar".

Just amazing

Laraine Hake from Norfolk had nothing but praise for "this list, it is just amazing!" Top of her faves was the mighty military man Iain Kerr for his "absolutely wonderful, detailed e-mail" and Andy Prescott, who, despite being a "GOON from North Carolina" (and therefore not from Norfolk), offered her "knowledge that I did not have". She concluded: "Worthwhile membership - you bet!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Yes, there were actually 17 exclamation marks, and here's one more!

The final word seems to have gone to Peter Alefounder, who responded to Mandi's appeal for further suggestions. He gently pointed to Paul Millington's article in the July journal, asking to implement his "excellent idea for a database to exploit his discovery of a link between the GRO index reference page number and the parish (or other place) in which a marriage took place". Thanks for the support, Peter.

And there, finally, the furious exchange of opinions and suggestions seems to have ended. But the impression remains.

Stimulating

Personally, I was quite touched by the extent of the involvement. Altogether, I counted 31 messages on this subject. It was quite the most stimulating of all the subjects in recent months and revealed a lot about members' feeling about the Guild. All of this, by the way, took place over a period of no more than five days from Mandi's initial contribution.

Those of you who use your Guild email address but have not yet signed up for the Mail Forum - you are really missing out! Instructions are in the Member's Room on the Guild web site, by the way.

So, after all this, what are the advantages of being a Guild member? Is it the discounts? Is it the seminars? Is it the Mail Forum, the one-name.org email address, the mighty Journal?

Well, yes, all of these, but come on, you know really - it's the members, of course! Thanks to all of you who made a contribution. ○

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HOWARD Benbrook is a member of the Guild Committee and also the Bookstall Manager.

To change or not to change? That is the categories question

By Geoff Riggs



IN this article, Geoff Riggs, Vice-Chairman of the Guild, sums up the categorisation controversy, on which members voted last year, and gives his view of the debate.

IN HIS Secretary's Notes in the July Journal, Jim Isard reported the results of the Categorisation Survey held last spring.

Of the 493 members voting:

- 214 members were in favour of retaining the present system or making a minor amendment to it under the suggested Method 1.

- 17 opted for Method 2, which suggested categorising a study according to whether the member was still gathering data or disseminating it.

- 262 opted for Method 3, which introduced a new category to identify a partial study, to cater for higher frequency surnames where a full study might be too onerous for one person.

It could be argued that the 262 who opted for Method 3 represented only 13.9% of our membership and, therefore, there was no clear mandate for change. But if we used the same argument at parliamentary elections, we'd still have a Conservative government (not that I'll comment either way on that scenario).

Partial studies

So the Guild Committee were persuaded to regard it instead as 53.1% of those voting being in favour of a system which allowed partial studies, and that they must, therefore, consider how to define a workable system.

It was agreed that a study cannot be constrained by time (even though it is recognised that some researchers may currently stop at 1899 or 1900 because of perceived Data Protection prob-

lems with data on living persons). The definitions for Category C and B applied to worldwide studies could be said to be even more meaningful for partial studies (where their equivalents could be R – currently restricted – and S – substantial – rather than the blanket category of P originally suggested). One would have to identify the country where the study was being conducted and if the 2-character ISO code was used, a member could register GB-S, AU-R and US-R, for example.

I suggest this reflects in practice the state of a significant

"To those who don't register a surname study at all, the debate is academic"

number of existing "worldwide" studies, over and above those where members have already acknowledged the fact on the Guild Forum and elsewhere.

Nitty gritty

Then the nitty gritty practicalities were considered. Under such a scheme, one would have to allow another member to register a partial study in one country for a surname where a partial study had already been registered in another country.

Naturally, the two members concerned would be encouraged to mutually co-operate and to consider combining resources with the view to eventually form a society, as a means of achieving a world-wide study. But either or both might be protective of the research they had already done in their own area.

The Registrar foresaw even greater problems where a mem-

ber wished to register a worldwide study for a surname where there was already a partial study registered by a different member.

The report of the original Working Group on Categorisation stated that: "If there is any potential conflict in such a case, then the Guild will attempt to reconcile the wishes of the members concerned."

On reflection, however, the committee felt that this was the rock on which partial registration proposals foundered. They, therefore, voted against making any such change, with only one member voting in its favour.

Nevertheless, let's not lose sight of the fact that the Register exists to give potential enquirers information about a registered surname. Apart from the member's name and postal address for contact purposes, we now include e-mail addresses in recognition of the increasing use and speed of such facilities.

We also include the address of the member's website (if he or she has one), so that an enquirer can find out far more about the study, its current state, and the amount of data covered for the countries concerned than any extended system of categorisation can possibly hope to have done.

We thank all the members who took part in the Survey, and expressed their views so ably on the Guild Forum at the time, but hope all members will accept the need for the Guild to operate a practicable system with the minimum of friction between members and potential members.

And the most important point of all, which we must not lose sight of, is that any researcher may join the Guild without needing to register a surname study at all – to them, the debate about categorisation is academic. ○

Thanks to so many of you for joining Guild Gift Aid scheme

WELCOME to another year – It will be 2002 when you read this, though as I write in early December it is already New Year for me!

It is the start of the Guild accounting year, so you can understand that I am busy with the end-of-year accounts and also working on the paperwork for the memberships in the New Year.

As I write this, some members have still not received the October Journal, as there seems to have been a delivery problem. We do hope this does not occur again.

I want to thank those of you who have opened a standing order for your annual subscription. This is so helpful, as entering cheque numbers and then banking them takes a lot of time. Despite the fact that this year Janine Brooks kindly offered to do this for me, some members still sent renewals to me, and some to the Registrar. Never mind – they all end up in the same place: Our Bank.

Duplicate forms

I'd like to say a big 'Thank You' to UK members for returning so many Gift Aid forms this year. I've received another 145 new ones. A number of you were not sure if you had signed one before, and I had 107 duplicate forms – but I would prefer that you send me a form when you aren't sure than not send one to me at all.

I did get a couple of phone calls from members checking whether the Gift Aid Scheme was a "fiddle", but I assured them that it's a UK government scheme

Treasurer's Notes

By Sandra Turner

that enables registered charities to reclaim tax from UK taxpayers. If you're hesitating and haven't yet signed the form – yes, it is genuine; we can claim the tax back on your subscription.

You will find the form on the Guild website, so just fill it in and send it to me. If you have trouble getting it from the site (and I know some of you do not have access to the Internet), then just ask and I will post you a form. You do not have to pay very much tax – you only have to pay tax equal to the amount we can claim back. At the moment this is 28p for every pound you give us.

Tax back

This means that if you Gift Aid your subscription, then if you pay tax of more than £3.36 a year, we can claim that back from the Inland Revenue. This does not have to be income tax on earnings. Even if you only pay tax on interest earned in savings accounts or share dividends, then we can claim it back if you sign the Gift Aid form.

I would just like to thank those of you who have taken the opportunity in your Renewal forms to give donations to the Guild. THANK YOU so much – it is really appreciated.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me. The quickest and easiest way is by e-mail. Send a note to treasurer@one-name.org. If this is not possible, then I do reply to letters, although it does take longer.

If any of you find that you have time to spare, there are many things that you can do to help – several members of the Guild Committee would be pleased for your assistance! There are some jobs that do not have to be done by committee members. As the membership of the Guild continues to grow, so does the

time it takes to do some of our tasks and a helping hand would be appreciated.

I do enjoy meeting members at conferences, seminars and, sometimes, at the FRC. If you see me, do come and say "Hello". I like to put a face to a name. Don't forget – you may see my photo, but I don't see yours!

We have some interesting seminars planned for 2002 – Essex in February, and Devon in May, so if they seem too far to travel, why not book a weekend around them or, better still, add the Friday and do some research! If you haven't already booked for the AGM/Conference in April, it's not too late! I'm already looking forward to these events and to meeting many of you there.

Happy New Year to you all and I hope to see you soon! ○



Calling Strugnells

KEIR STRUGNELL, Member 2626, is organising a get-together of Strugnell researchers from around the world – to be called a "Strugmeet" – in the UK on June 15.

He says: "Having now established the name Strugnell in USA, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Australia and the UK we are hoping to have 30 or more there for our first meet.

"This will take place in Droxford, Hampshire, which is rapidly becoming the front runner in the search for the home of the name. If anyone wishes to come, please contact me."

Those interested should contact Keir at his home address (in the Guild Register) or e-mail him at: strugnell@one-name.org

Website: members.aol.com/strugsearch

Walk with your fingers where ancestors trod – borrow OS maps from Guild Library

THIS article is to introduce the membership to a new service that the Guild has set up for them.

The service is to provide, on postal loan, a copy of relevant mid-20th century, 1" to the mile Ordnance Survey maps of England, Scotland and Wales. It is envisaged that this will be most helpful when a member has been unable to find the expected sequence of birth, marriage and/or death records in their anticipated locations.

Adjacent parish

By examining such detailed maps, it is possible to see if there was an adjacent parish or other location where events may have been recorded. Perhaps there was even a county boundary, on the other side of which events would

be recorded in an entirely different location – and perhaps the subject of your one-name study be given yet another spelling variant.

Other than unlocking mysteries, perhaps members would like to see the locations of some of those events that they have been studying for so long. You can assess for yourself just how far that rogue of a great-great-grandfather of yours had to walk to find himself a pretty wife!

Of course, we have no idea of how popular this will be, and initially we will be feeling our way towards a workable system. Also, although the collection of maps that member Brian Christmas generously donated to the Guild is very large, there is not complete coverage of the country, so we may not be able to help in all cases.

You are invited to enter your journal for Guild Award

WITH this Journal you will find an entry form for the Guild Award for One-Name Publications 2001. This will be the third year the competition has been held. The Guild Committee launched the Award in 1999 to encourage members to produce regular newsletters and journals to a high standard.

Once again there will be two classes: for Category A members and for Categories B & C combined. Last year, most of the Category A entrants were one-name society publications.

Judging will take place in February or March and the winners will be announced at the Family History Conference, which will incorporate the Guild's AGM,

being organised by the Guild at the University of Warwick in Coventry from April 12 to 14.

In order to qualify for the competition, you must send three copies of your publication to the address given on the form. Please note that they MUST be three copies of the same issue – not different ones – and must have been published during the year 2001.

The judges will be: Roy Stockdill, Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies; Jane Morson, Reviewer for the Journal; and John Blanchard, Editor of *Adversaria*, journal of the Blandshard Society and winner of last year's Category A award.

Website Award

THE Federation of Family History Societies' Web Award for its member society with the best website was a great success when

Librarian's Notes by John Colloff



In the first instance, apply with such locations as you have to the librarian, at the home address given in the Guild Register, or e-mail librarian@one-name.org

If we have maps that cover the area and may help, these will be posted to you on the understanding that they will be returned within a six-week period, complete with reimbursement to the Guild of the outgoing postage.

Other information

Even if we have no 1" OS map of the area, if the librarian finds any other information about the location, this will be returned to you.

We do not know if any other society offers a facility such as this, so there is a strong element in it. All comments from members are welcome and will be considered. ○

it was introduced this year, with 53 entrants out of 220 member societies.

The concept was the suggestion of Guild members David Hawgood and Geoff Riggs, and they have obtained the agreement of the Guild Committee that we introduce a similar award for our members.

Two sections

There will be two sections, one for an individual member's website and one for a one-name society's website (which the Guild member who has registered the corresponding surname can put forward).

This will be discussed at our February Seminar in Essex (which has a publishing theme), the judges will be announced in the April Journal and the criteria and an entry form will be published with the July Journal. So – watch this space! ○

Guild reports and news

Yorkshire Seminar a huge success – record attendance and outstanding speakers

THE GUILD'S Yorkshire Regional Seminar at Wakefield on Saturday, October 13 2001, was adjudged by all who attended it to be one of the best and most successful we have ever held.

With an all-star line-up of speakers, a near-record attendance, a venue in the historic capital of the West Riding and an enthusiastic and receptive audience, how could it fail? Our Bookstall Manager, Howard Benbrook, even reported record takings in a single day!

Around 90 people – an attendance rivalling even the Central London Seminar of February 2000 – rolled up at St. John's Parish Centre, Wakefield, to spend a day listening to four highly entertaining talks, browse the various stalls and enjoy meeting old and new friends to chat about genealogy and one-name studies.

Apart from the Guild's own bookstall, there were stalls of the Wakefield and District FHS, City of York FHS, Yorkshire Parish Register Society and Yorkshireancestors.com. Some Guild members also brought their own one-name displays.

The seminar began with a short introduction to the history of Wakefield by Eileen Piper, chair of the Wakefield and District FHS. Then seminar leader Roy Stockdill, Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies, introduced the first speaker of the morning session, Dr. George Redmonds, probably the world's leading authority on surnames of the West Riding and the author of a number of books. He also presented the recent BBC radio series on "Surnames, Genes and

Genealogy," in which several Guild members were featured.

Dr. Redmonds kept his audience fascinated and enthralled with an account of his researches into West Riding names and, particularly, his belief that even many widely spread surnames could be shown to have a single origin, i.e. to stem from just one family. To some extent, this view confirms, albeit by a different route, the DNA findings of Professor Bryan Sykes of Oxford University on the supposed common origin of many holders of the surname, Sykes – very much a strong West Yorkshire name.

Use of aliases

Dr. Redmonds also warned we should always be aware of the fact that there was a widespread use of aliases in earlier centuries.

The second speaker was Mr. John Goodchild, a former professional archivist who has built up what is probably the largest private collection of local history material in the country. The John Goodchild Collection, an independent study centre for the central West Riding, is housed below Wakefield Library.

The collection, built up over four decades, includes hundreds of manuscripts, some material dating from the 12th century. Mr. Goodchild gave an informative rundown of the extent of his holdings, using by way of illustration documents relating to Thomas Taylor (1822–1900), a local man who was a lawyer, coroner, manorial steward, town councillor, historian and socialite.

The first speaker in the afternoon was another luminary of the family history world,

Pauline Litton, a Guild member and well-known columnist for Family Tree Magazine. Introducing her, Roy Stockdill described her as "the doyen of Yorkshire genealogy."

Mrs. Litton spoke on the subject which forms the title of her FTM column – "Pitfalls and Possibilities in Parish Registers". Using numerous examples, she regaled the audience with much sound advice and tales of parish register entries that were not always what they seem! She also warned of the perils that lay for the unwary within the IGI – a familiar theme to many of us, but one that bears repeating, nonetheless.

The final speaker of the day was another familiar figure in the Yorkshire family history movement, Angela Petyt of Wakefield. Her expert subject is schools records and she gave much useful information of where to find educational records and examples of how they could help research.

All in all, it was a quite outstanding day, much enjoyed and appreciated by everyone who attended. ○

Essex Seminar

WITH this Journal you will find a booking form for our next event, the Essex Regional Seminar at St. Cedd's Church, Icen Way, Shrub End, Colchester, on Saturday, February 16.

The theme of the seminar is "Publishing for One-Namers" and subjects and speakers will be as follows:

"Publishing a One-Name Study", Jess Jephcott.

"Editing a One-Name Periodical", Ken Grubb.

"Web on a Disk", John Blanchard.

"Policy and Practicality of internet Publishing", David Hawgood.

There will also be a discussion and general questions session. Members interested in learning more about publishing their studies should find this a most interesting and useful day. ○



Emigrants from Britain and Huguenot settlers feature in Family Archives CDs

HERE is the second part of our reviews of genealogical CDs in the Family Archives collection.

You need access to a computer with a CD-ROM drive and either a Family Archive Viewer 3.02 or higher (for Windows PC Users), which is shipped free with the purchase of any Family Archive CD, or Family Tree Maker Version 3.02 or higher (for Macintosh or Windows PC users). All the CDs are from the Family Tree Maker Family Archives collection and are published by:-

Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 101 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland, 21202-3897, USA. Fax: 410-752-8492. Phone: 410-837-8271 (international code prefix needed from outside the USA). Free Phone: 1-800-296-6687 for Visa & MasterCard orders only. Website: www.genealogical.com

For UK members, the CDs are available from: TWR Computing, Clapstile Farm, Alpheton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9BN. Phone/fax: +44 (0) 1284 828271. E-mail: sales@twrcomputing.co.uk Website:

www.twrcomputing.co.uk
TWR can also ship orders worldwide and if customers do not have Family Tree Maker v3.02 or later, they should request a free copy of the Family Archive Viewer CD when placing their order.

TWR Computing also sell all the CDs reviewed in the October Journal of One-Name Studies.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS 1607-1776. Family Archives CD 350. ISBN: 1 886914 56 7. Price: \$29.99 + p&p, or £24 inc. p&p from TWR Computing.

CONTAINED in six books reproduced on this CD are the details of over 140,000 individuals. The books, by Peter Wilson Coldham, are as follows...

The Complete Book of Emigrants 1607-1660, Vol. I

The foundation of this work was a book by another author that had been published some 100 years previously from information gleaned from passenger lists in the British state papers. The details, taken from Chancery and Exchequer records, were re-examined and records from port books, court records and other sources were also included.

The Complete Book of Emigrants 1661-1699, Vol. II

Information sourced from state and parliamentary papers, customs and treasury records, apprenticeship records, port books, criminal transportation orders, estate records and town and county records are used in this volume. Most entries give the individual's name, age, occupation, residence, ship and destination.

The Complete Book of Emigrants 1700-1776, Vol. III

Emigration during this period was a more sporadic migration of individuals, including indentured servants, merchants, soldiers and felons. Therefore, the records used in this volume are mainly

Our round-up of some interesting new genealogical publications

By Jane Morson

plantation apprenticeship bindings – but only for Liverpool and London, as these were the only ones that survived – port books (but not London, as all post-1700 London port books were deliberately destroyed) and convict pardons. Most entries give the same details as volume II.

The Complete Book of Emigrants 1751-1776, Vol. IV

After 1750, voluntary emigration was in decline, but by 1774, due to economic hardship in Britain, emigration reached epidemic proportions. During this same period, transportation of criminals also rose dramatically. Records used in this volume included port books, plantation apprenticeship bindings and treasury records.

The Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage 1614-1775

This publication lists approximately 50,000 men, women and children who were deported to the American colonies for a variety of crimes. Details were sourced from official court records, including the minutes of 11 Court of Assizes and Prison Delivery, 28 Courts of Quarter Sessions, treasury papers, money books, patent rolls, state papers, sessions papers and sheriff's cravings.

Sentence

An entry can include some or all of the following details: parish of origin, sentencing court, nature of offence, date of sentence, date and ship of transport, place and date landed in America and the English county in which the sentence was passed.

The Supplement to the Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage 1614-1775

This book contains information that was either unobtainable or missed out in the original book;

also, two groups of records were re-examined.

Included on this CD-ROM is an index of ships, which is another excellent tool for the researcher. The disc is packed with information, and by using the *Search Expert* facility it is extremely simple to locate any information by name, place, occupation or any other description.

The records make very interesting reading and guidance makes locating the original document easy. This is a must for the CD rack!

HUGUENOT SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE 1600s -1900s. Family Archives CD 600. ISBN: 1 57944 153 X. Price: \$29.99 + p&p, or £24 inc. p&p from TWR Computing.

SEVENTEEN volumes of Huguenot family and immigrant histories, containing information of about 19,000 persons, are included in this one CD. The volumes are as follows:

History of the Huguenot Emigration to America, by Dr. Charles W. Baird.

First published in 1885, this work is mainly devoted to the emigration of French Protestants via the Netherlands and Great Britain, in the last quarter of the 17th century, to Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia. It includes families who later dispersed to Pennsylvania and other States.

Huguenot Emigration to Virginia and to the Settlement at Manakin-Town, by Robert Alonzo Brock.

Using refugee and emigration lists, passenger lists, baptisms at Manakin-Town 1721-1754 and other sources, the author, whose work was originally published in 1886, deals with the Huguenot emigration to Virginia.

The Annals and Parish Registers of St. Thomas and St. Denis Parish in South Carolina from 1680-184, by Robert F. Clute, Rector.

In 1884 the author first pub-

lished this book, which includes about 700 marriage records, 1,000 birth/baptism records and 500 death/burial records and helps to identify about 3,200 individuals of the French Huguenot Settlement known as the Orange Quarter.

The French Blood In America, by Lucian J. Fosdick.

When first published in 1906, the author intended his work to give a true estimate of the presence and influence of the Huguenots as a factor not only in American life, but also to show how important a part they had in the shaping of America.

The Huguenots of Colonial South Carolina, by Arthur Henry Hirsch, PhD.

Attempting to identify the important Huguenot settlements in Colonial South Carolina as well as the eminent pioneers and their families, this work was first published in 1928.

The Huguenots Or Early French in New Jersey, by Albert F. Koehler.

This work contains brief genealogical and biographical sketches of hundreds of early Huguenot families of New Jersey.

Huguenot Pedigrees, Vols. I & II, by Charles Edmund Lart.

A collection of pedigrees of notable Huguenot families published between 1924 and 1925.

Family Names of Huguenot Refugees to America, by Mrs. James M. Lawton.

Reprinted from the 1901 constitution of the Huguenot Society of America, this work gives an important list of Huguenot family names and incorporates members claiming descent through several family lines.

The Huguenot Settlements In Ireland, by Grace Lawless Lee, B.A. (Mod.).

An account of the principal Huguenot family settlements in Ireland, first published in 1936.

The Huguenots in France and America, by Hannah F. Lee.

In 1843 this work was first published and gave an account of the origins of the Huguenots in France and the circumstances

resulting in the rise of French Protestantism. It also covers the Huguenots of America.

History of New Paltz, New York and its Old Families, by Ralph Le Fevre.

New Paltz is one of the oldest Huguenot settlements in America. First published in 1909, the first part is crammed full of various genealogical records. The second contains histories of prominent Huguenot and Dutch New Paltz families.

Memoir Concerning the French Settlements and French Settlers in the Colony of Rhode Island, by Elisha R. Potter.

This publication, originally published in 1879, contains genealogical data on the group of French emigrants who made an agreement in 1686 with French Protestants for the "Frenchtown" plantation that they then settled in.

List of French and Swiss who settled in Charleston, on the Santee, and at the Orange Quarter in Carolina, by Daniel Ravenel.

This is one of the earliest known lists of Huguenot emigrants who applied for naturalisation in about 1695-6. It gives full names, places of origin, parentage, whom they married and names of children born before and after arrival in South Carolina. This work was first published in 1868.

The Trail Of The Huguenots, by George Elmore Reaman.

An estimated two million Huguenots fled from France and this book, first published in 1963, tells the story of their exodus at the end of the 17th century and dispersal to places in Europe, America, Canada and South Africa - a genealogist's nightmare, as they chose to merge themselves, very successfully, within their adopted country and often descendants are unaware of their backgrounds.

The Huguenots: Their settlements, Churches and Industries in England and Ireland, by Samuel Smiles.

This work, first published in 1868, includes not only a history

of the French Protestant emigration from France to England but a collection of 300 biographies of noted Huguenot refugees who settled in Britain. There is also a section on Huguenots in America.

Memorial Of Huguenots In America, by Rev. Ammon Stapleton, A.M., M.S.

This book deals with the Huguenot emigration to Pennsylvania and contains genealogical information, including a list of about 1,000 Huguenot refugees with their dates of arrival and places of residence. It was first published in 1901.

Fantastic tool

Although not as sophisticated, slightly different to use and containing a great deal more narrative than the other CDs included

"We owe a thank you to those who wrote these books all those years ago, so we might enjoy them today"

in this review and those in the October 2001 Journal, this is still a fantastic tool for the location of individuals.

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the works included here, although the text and the layout is not so user-friendly. I would also strongly suggest that all information is checked.

Having said this, if these publications had not been written and not been made available to us today in this modern, relatively easy-to-use form, a lot of the information could have been lost forever.

This disc is most definitely a welcome addition to the CD rack and I feel we owe a "thank you" to those who wrote these books all those years ago, so that we might enjoy them today!

ONTARIO AND NOVA SCOTIA SETTLERS 1790-1860. Family Archives CD 274. ISBN: 1 57944 225 0. Price: \$29.99 + p&p or £19 inc. p&p from TWR Computing (not kept in stock but can supply within one month).

THE page images of six books, giving the information on about 130,000 early Canadian Settlers, are included on this CD.

Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867, Vol. 1, by Col. Leonard H. Smith Jr. and Norma H. Smith.

First printed in 1992, this publication is the result of information taken from vital records, land records, probate records, township books, church records and passenger lists held in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, and the archives of Fredericton, Church Point, Ottawa, Boston, London, Paris and 450 articles from Nova Scotia magazines.

Each individual has their information fully sourced, which generally gives name, occupation, place of origin, age, family members, name of ship, date of arrival and military affiliation. This publication mainly enables Scottish, Irish, English, German or loyalist ancestry to be researched.

Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867, Vol. 2, by Col. Leonard H. Smith Jr. & Norma H. Smith.

The companion to the above, this volume was first published in 1994. It identifies immigrants recorded in selected periodicals published outside Nova Scotia and selected published diaries and journals. The information generally given for each individual includes name, place of origin, name of spouse and parents, date and place of arrival and source citation.

Loyalists and Land Settlement in Nova Scotia, by Miss. Marion Gilroy, M.A.

Approximately 10,000 loyalists were eligible for land in Nova Scotia. Each individual is identified by name, date, site of grant acreage and occasionally military rank.

Yarmouth Nova Scotia Genealogies, by George S. Brown.

In this book, 186 articles, which were originally published in the Nova Scotia newspaper, the Yarmouth Herald, between 1896 and 1909 as Mr Brown's columns, have been transcribed. They focus almost entirely on New England families of English descent who migrated to Nova Scotia around the time of the American Revolutionary War.

Many of them were descendants of the original Mayflower colonists and these families are traced from their earliest known origins in the old world down to the end of the 19th century, and about 60,000 individuals are named.

Early Ontario Settlers, by Norman Crowder.

Published originally in 1993 this work was compiled using population returns, provisioning lists, settlers location lists, maps and lists of immigrant arrivals to identify the early settlers of Upper Canada, many of whom were from the American Colonies especially New York's Albany area and Mohawk Valley.

Ontario People: 1796-1803, by E. Keith Fitzgerald.

This publication is a transcription of the District Loyalists Rolls of 1796. Here, individuals who were settlers who were either discharged British or German servicemen, or former members of American loyalist regiments and even some civilians and refugees, and who had appeared in court to confirm their land rights and possibly to obtain loyalist status for the benefit of their children, were recorded in these rolls.

Details often include full name, township and place of residence and maps of Upper Canada, (which became Canada West and then Ontario), for each individual.

Again, this CD is easy to use and by using the electronic name index it is very simple to locate anybody who has been included in these six, once separate, publications. All entries are source-cited, which enables the reader to trace the original entry.

BOOKS...

Useful one-name studies and Irish guides by a Canadian Guild member

ORGANIZATION FOR ONE-NAME STUDIES, by Dr. Penelope Christensen. 104 pages, paperback, spiral bound. ISBN: 1 894018 34 6. Published September 2001 by Heritage Productions, c/o Louise St. Denis, 30 Wellington Street East, Suite 2002, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5E 1S3. Price: Canada \$12.00; UK £6.25 + p&p to UK: surface £2.70 or air £5.10. Payment by British Sterling cheques to: Dr. Penelope Christensen, 32251 Silverfox Terrace, Mission, British Columbia, Canada V2V 6M8. Telephone: (604) 820-1113 E-mail: penelope_christensen@telus.net

IT is always a pleasure to review publications from a fellow Guild member and, in this case, if anyone should know how to organise a one-name study it should be the author, who has conducted not one, but five one-name studies. Three are registered with the Guild, the largest consisting of about 35,000 individuals.

LDS Centres

The author also has for over 20 years been involved with working in, teaching staff, organising and setting up new LDS Family History Centres. Her Ph.D. is in taxonomy, which is the science of classification and organisation. Using this knowledge she has given us this very useful book.

Although written for use in conjunction with the LDS PAF

genealogical programme and using the sources available through the LDS Family History Centres, it is possible to use any genealogical program and obtain your data from the original repositories and still use this organisation system.

The publication is well set out, easy to understand and full of ideas that will help any researcher not only to get their study organised, but also how to find the proof. Also included are a variety of charts and letter templates, which can be copied for home use.

Drowning in papers? Can't find anything? Need expert help in not only organising your study, but learning how to acquire a database, using an FHC? Then this book is a must for your bookcase.

FINDING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS, by Dr. Penelope Christensen. 108 pages, paperback, spiral bound. ISBN: 1 894018 03 6. Second edition published October 1998, reprinted 2000, by Heritage Productions (as above). Price Canada: \$10.00. Price UK: £5.25 + Postage & Packing as above. Payment by British Sterling cheques to: Dr. Penelope Christensen (details as above).

RESEARCHING Irish ancestry is notoriously difficult, but this publication treats us to the wealth of data that is available through the holdings of The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, which is accessible through any worldwide Family History Centre.

Packed with information, this book not only introduces us to the Provinces and Counties of Ireland, it guides us through the types of information, its availability and how to record what has been obtained. There are even forms for recording information, which can be copied for home use.

I found this book a joy to read

and it shows an avenue for Irish research, which seems often to be ignored in other books on the subject.

Lost in Ireland? Then this book could very well be the answer. It is a most welcome addition to the bookcase.

ONE-PLACE GENEALOGY, by David Hawgood. 64 pages, A5 paperback. ISBN 0-948151-22-6. Published in 2001 by David Hawgood, London. Price £3.80 plus p&p from: ABM Publishing Ltd., 61 Great Whyte, Ramsey, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE26 1HJ. E-mail lesboon@family-tree.co.uk

GUILD member David Hawgood is a prolific author and this, his latest book for genealogists, is a bit of a departure from the norm. Rather than dealing with one-name studies, it focuses on one-place studies, and aims to help family historians looking for ancestors in a particular place.

In a one-place study, a researcher, or researchers, brings together information about a specific place – it can be a parish, village, town or even an area – from a variety of sources, such as parish registers, census returns, indexes, MIs, manorial records, books and articles, etc., with the focus being on all the people in that place, rather than an individual family.

Author Hawgood started a one-place study of Warminster in Wiltshire over 20 years ago. It was for an Open University course and he admits the scope was limited, concentrating only on people who lived there between 1830 and 1845. However, contacting others who were also working on one-place studies gave him the idea for this book. The book has 18 pages of valuable background and general information before listing, county by county, dozens of one-place studies. Details are given of information held and how to contact the holder.

The work will also be published on a website in early 2002 at: www.hawgood.co.uk/opg/ ○



Letters

THE issue of non-computer users increasingly feeling they are becoming isolated, and even excluded, from mainstream genealogical research is one that has clearly touched a nerve with some members. Here are some more letters on the subject...

Non-computer users on the committee

I AGREE with some recent letters that the quality of the genealogy, rather than use of a computer, is what is important in a member of the Guild. For many years I have used computers to handle databases and as a word processor. About two years ago I gained access to the Internet and find e-mail helpful, but do not use the rest of what is available.

For five years as a member of the Guild committee I have attempted to avoid computer domination and also to have regard to members away from the south of England (I live in the north of Scotland). In connection with the committee, my greatest regret was getting e-mail.

I am not standing for re-election this year but hope that three people will be elected who will not use e-mail in connection with their Guild activities. This will disrupt the current way that the Guild committee carries out some of its work, but three people will be able to support each other and demand explanations where the committee goes into "computerspeak".

Please, will some of those who do not have access to e-mail step forward to offer themselves for election to the committee? I am particularly concerned that almost all the recent new members have e-mail and so we are failing to attract good genealogists who are not on the Internet and must be failing to

get our message across to this part of the potential membership. I am proud of what the committee has achieved in the last five years, but I need a break to regain my energy.

Graham Tuley
Member 437
26 Crown Drive
Inverness IV2 3NL
Scotland

Computer-illiterate members excluded

I WANT to say how much I agree with Michael Gellatly in the October issue about the fact that we computer-illiterate members feel we are excluded from at least half the articles now written for the magazine, and that it is also extremely worrying the number of folk who believe all they see on the small screen, instead of doing actual live, real research with real live documents, although they, too, can be wrong sometimes.

We all know the inaccuracies in the IGI and that each time a "fact" is transcribed from the original there is the danger of human error, and that is then perpetuated on the computer and so on down the line.

There is also the point that people such as myself, with a card index of only about 3,000 Tatlers worldwide, over a period going back to 1492, do not need expensive equipment to keep track of such a small number of people. And the time spent learning to control the machine could be better spent in actual research.

Where the machines do come into their own is when you want to publish material. I did a 120-page book on the Tatler family over 500 years in 1986, and that will have to be updated one day.

Your views on issues in the one-name world

Then mechanical help will be useful, but for a small researcher such as myself the time and expense involved for such a small index is to my mind not justified.

I don't want to be an old fuddy-duddy, but instead of so many articles comparing computers and systems, let's have more on actual research.

Roger Tatler
Member 129
31 Saxon Mead Close
Gillingham
Dorset SP8 4HP

THE Editor comments: I entirely agree with Mr. Tatler about the quality of Internet research and information. He must surely have read my own comments on the subject in successive Journals in my "Just My Opinion" column.

As to having more articles on non-computer research, I am all for this! However, I face the problem faced by all editors – I can only work with the material submitted. If any member wants to write an article about conducting research without a computer, I will be delighted to consider it for publication.

View from a novice

I HAVE just completed my first year in the Guild (yes, I've paid up for next year) and am enjoying the information I receive and feeling my way into this one-name world. I would like to come in on this computer/no computer and 1901 census discussion.

I have been researching several family lines for the last seven years, using the facilities of the LDS films and fiche, and visiting the UK when possible. This year I have branched out by using the computer at our local family history society as a rank beginner.

I really appreciated Michael

Gellatly's letter as I have had comments (from some who I *know* are not going to sources) and my lack of computer knowledge and references to my use of snail mail.

I tried the 1891 census for Norfolk on its trial run, on people I had already found on film/fiche, so I didn't need to spend any money! However, if I had paid money I would have liked to have scrolled through neighbours, especially where a small village is concerned. Could I have done that? Would it have cost a bomb?

Then I see that there will be a fiche copy of the full census at Kew. Now, I may be able to afford one more visit to the UK, but I also want to visit Hampshire, Norwich, Colindale and Cambridge. So, does anyone know if the fiche will be available over here?

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Helped by articles

TWO articles in the October Journal attracted my attention because of the stalemate I had reached with my ONS. I started research into my own family in about 1996. I had a niggle that a family rumour about being Scottish was wrong. I started with a belief that my grandfather was born in Yorkshire, so I visited an LDS Family History Centre and downloaded all the GRAY events in Yorkshire. This was followed by tracking back the certificate trail to 1837, then a visit to the SOG library to look at parish register transcripts. Rummages through census records followed. Soon I had thousands of records, a small percentage of which were based on originals. So, what next?

One thing I've done is started a book. This is basically a record of what I've done and found and so not a true "history", more a research aid. So I was stumped as to how to take it forward. The

first article in the Journal to help was by Michael Dummer, describing how he has structured his book. I was encouraged, believing I was not too far off-track.

The next thing I did was look at the large collection of records I had, most of which were not connected with my family (well - not so far). What do I do with it? Some of the records linked well and I started to build trees of unrelated families. I joined the Guild and registered a one-name study. I knew that GRAY/GREY was a common name (number 14, I think) and so I had a monstrous task on my hands, but I enjoy a challenge.

However, for a year or two I haven't done much. My work has been interrupting my hobby and all I've been able to do is answer all the correspondence, promising to help when I had time. Sometimes I have been able to help but, mostly I haven't. Am I right to strive to continue my ONS? Is the Guild for me? The next article to catch my eye was by John Colloff on the Jones ONS. Relief - someone in the Guild has recognised the problem and has proposed a number of ways forward. Maybe the Guild will support my type of ONS.

So, I sit here typing away, re-invigorated to carry on my one-man study, even if I mainly concentrate on the UK (there is a thriving GRAY group in the USA) and especially Yorkshire.

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Widely spread surnames

GOOD to read that John Colloff, Guild Librarian, realises there is a problem regarding widely spread names such as Morgan [Vol 7 Issue 8, October 2001].

But the practicalities involve affiliation to the genealogical societies of England and Wales, Ireland and Scotland, an impossible task for any other than a

one-name society, and even then it involves genealogy, history and emigration.

Scottish clans have even greater problems. The names Eochaidh, Dhubhthaigh, Duffy, Haughey, Macduffie, Machaffie, McFee, McFie, McPhee and Macfie all belong to the same group!

Still, some thought may now be given to our problems, but don't rely on the Internet. I have never seen such genealogical rubbish, especially from overseas.

Now that Ireland is also to set up a one-name society, our problems could be insurmountable.

David Morgan
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(England & Wales) and of Ui
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Where did Carbis name come from?

I ENJOYED the article by John Carbis, Member 2772 (October Journal), but I wonder if his name really reached the Lebanon from Cornwall? [John Carbis suggested it was the other way around! - Editor].

There were at least two attacks by Muslim pirates from North Africa, seizing slaves from the Cornish coast. One such incident occurred circa 1618 when Fowey was attacked. A nursemaid walking her young charge, a daughter of John Carew - one-handed Carew, second surviving son of Richard Carew who wrote the *Survey of Cornwall* were snatched.

In 1625, 60 Cornish folk were seized: this from *Islam in Britain 1558-1685*, by Nabil Natar.

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A tanner, his unfaithful wife, a guinea and a strange pair of trousers!

THERE is surely no more glorious and bountiful source of weird and wonderful tales than old newspapers, especially local ones. Truly, in the words of the famous former slogan of a well-known present-day Sunday newspaper, in the columns of local papers one can genuinely find gems that reveal: "All Human Life Is Here!"

Just imagine what a laugh our ancestors would have had at this entertaining account of an incident of marital infidelity, which appeared in Creswell's Nottingham and Newark Journal in May 1775...

"Extract of a letter from Ball-dock, Hertfordshire..."

"Saturday May 20th, a Tanner of Hitchen Back-Street, returning late from his work, found his wife had gone to bed, but had forgot to lock the door. The husband blundering in, in the dark, just gave time to another, who had supplied his place, to get under the bed. The husband had put off his clothes, and was getting into bed, when his wife complained she was very ill, and should be glad of some anniseed water, but feared the public houses were all shut up, except the Sun inn, which was at the greatest distance.

"The honest man put on his clothes, and went to the Sun, where, putting his hand into his pocket for a shilling to pay for the water, the waiter returned it to him, telling him he could not change his guinea. The man, amazed to hear mention of a guinea, (as knowing he had but a

It's a funny old genealogical world

A celebration of the
comic and curious



few shillings) hastily put his hand again into his pocket, and pulled out nine more, with a ten pound bank note, and on further examination found he had got on a new pair of breeches and a fine watch.

"Comprehending the whole in an instant, he observed, with the coolness of a philosopher, that the affair was over before this, and what was done could not be undone; as his wife therefore, had been so industrious in putting him into so much ready money, he would have a bottle of wine first, and then carry her Anniseed Water. The Tanner had the breeches cried on Tuesday in the open market, but has not at present found an owner."

Well, he wouldn't, would he!

A shopkeeper is revealed...

THE same newspaper, Creswell's Nottingham and Newark Journal, clearly enjoyed publishing tales of an unusual and spicy nature, for in May 1772 it printed the following item...

"Salisbury, May 25. Last Saturday sevendnight as two Gentlemen were walking for an airing near Bristol, they observed a supposed Lady coming from a cow-house; who, attempting to cross a stile, exposed a silver knee-buckle to a pair of breeches, under a blue silk petticoat, and linen jesuit. Some suspicion arising, they determined to strip her; when, after taking off a high tete, they discovered the face of Mr. H—y, a shopkeeper of Shepton-Mallet. This was the second time of his appearing in that character in public."

Roy Stockdill
Member 2534

Peter Prismall
Member 1401

Tragic tales

I CAME across the following items in an old book called "Annals of Wakefield House of Correction"...

"William Shaw born 1805 an ignorant coal miner who had joined the Ranters murdered Rachel Crossley aged 22 at Kirkburton. She had had a child to him and was near the time of the birth of a second when he threw her into a coalpit near Emley. He was hung at York in Spring of 1830 and his body given to York County Hospital."

(The Ranters were a religious sect in the 17th century that defied the authority of scripture and clergy. Later, the description was applied to other Nonconformists, especially Methodists).

"Mary Waring born about 1787 married to Edward Waring, Walmfield in 1807. They agreed to separate and he told her to marry again if she wished. In 1815 she married Samuel Sheard of Mirfield and was then prosecuted by former husband who was well known to Sheard. 6 months imprisonment at the assizes."

Patricia Lord
Member 2930

A proud father?

ON the 1871 census for Baughurst Hill, Baughurst, Hampshire, the head of the household, Charles Hunt, was so proud of his daughter, Mary M. Hunt, that in the occupation column he inserted "illegitimate" against his two grandchildren, who were listed below his daughter. I suppose she should have been grateful he did not give her an occupation!

Regional Representatives as at December 1 2001

E-mail contact

To contact a Regional Representative by e-mail, use the alias in the following format:- **rep-scotland-north@one-name.org**, with the name of the region replacing "scotland-north" as appropriate (put "-" instead of a space).

Where there is no e-mail contact, the message will go to **rep-coordinator@one-name.org**

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Regional Representatives in
the following areas:**

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DEVON

HAMPSHIRE

LONDON

MIDDLESEX

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

SHROPSHIRE

SUFFOLK

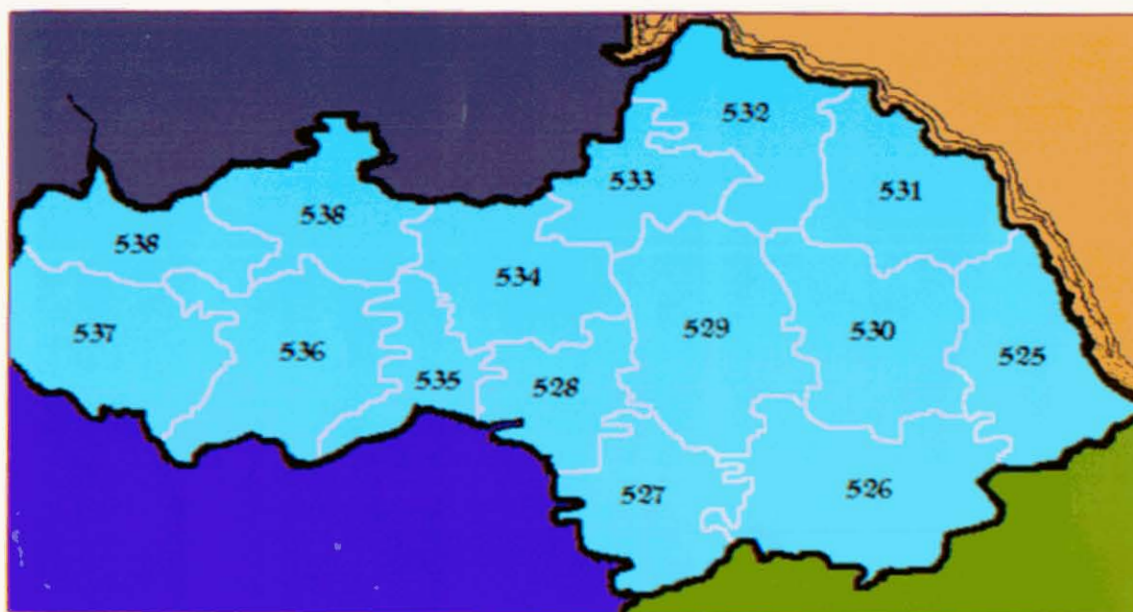
SUSSEX

CANADA EAST

USA NORTH EAST

USA NORTH WEST

Yorkshire Ridings in 1851 census indexing project



AN Internet project to index the 1851 census for the whole of Yorkshire has been launched. Whilst large sections of the county have been indexed individually by Yorkshire family history societies, there is no overall index. The Yorkshire 1851 Census Union Index project aims to produce a complete surname index for the entire county and software with which to search it. Above is a map of the registration districts of the North Riding from the project website. See report on Page 13.

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