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Succession-Proofing Your One-Name Study

Book Review: Fanthorpe – People & Place

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Forum
This online discussion forum is open to any member with access to email. You can join the list by sending a message with your membership number to:
forum@one-name.org
To email a message to the forum, send it to: goons@rootsweb.com

Guild Bulletin Board
You can register using your guild membership number and your one-name.org email alias at:
http://bb.one-name.org

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The distribution list for this Journal is based on the information held in the Guild database on the first of the month preceding the issue date.
The aim of the “From the Committee” page is for different members of the Committee to report to the membership about the activities of the Committee and on important issues being faced by the Guild.

As a departing member of the current Committee, after serving on the Committee for over ten years, I have the privilege to write this page for this issue of the Journal of One-Name Studies.

I attended the last Committee meeting on Saturday 31 January 2015 at the “Lamb” in Lamb Conduit Street, London. Draft minutes of this meeting are available on the Guild web http://one-name.org/members/minutes.html. As always, the meeting had a full agenda but I am pleased to say that business was completed efficiently and a few of the Committee joined me afterwards at the Ciao Bella restaurant next door to the Lamb, where we all had a wonderful time and put the world to rights.

The Guild Really Needs You

The nominations for the 2015-16 Committee were announced to the outgoing Committee at this meeting. Whereas we had 20 nominations last year — the highest numbers of volunteers putting their names forward since the Guild was set up — this year the number of volunteers has considerably reduced. In fact, 2015-16 will see the smallest number of Guild members putting their names forward to become a Committee member. Therefore the Guild will not be requiring a ballot this year.

The Chairman’s Newsflash No. 61 requesting more members to volunteer to be on the Guild Committee will hopefully have had an impact and encouraged more Guild members to volunteer and thereby form a strong team for 2014-5. Your Committee works very hard in the background to keep the wheels of the Guild running smoothly and your support, I am sure, will be much appreciated by the incoming volunteers.

More Volunteers Needed

The smooth running of the Guild is dependent on all roles and posts being filled by volunteer members. Whilst the majority of Guild posts have volunteers willing to undertake the roles, there are still a number of unfilled posts. At the time of writing this article, the following are some of the roles seeking volunteers — but see http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/members/sitsvac.cgi for the current position once this journal has been published.

- Mentor Co-ordinator
- Publicity Manager
- Regional Reps: Bedfordshire, Cornwall, Essex and East London, Gloucestershire, London West, Northamptonshire, Surrey North, Surrey South, and South Africa

Please look out for current vacancies if you consider you could help the Guild by volunteering. Go to the “Members” page and click on “Self Service” and then “Situation Vacant.” More volunteers are always welcomed.

36th Guild Conference

The 2015 Guild Conference is being held at Forest Pines Hotel & Golf Resort, Ermine Street, Broughton, Brigg, Lincolnshire DN20 0AQ on Friday 27 March — Sunday 29 March 2015. The theme of this Conference is “Collaboration, Cooperation and Communication.” While some members will be reading this article after the conference has taken place, I am hopeful that the conference is well attended, educational and fun. If you did not attend the conference, either because of the location, the lack of interesting subjects or poor transport connections, the Guild is always interested in hearing suggestions on where to hold future conferences, suitable topics to include or indeed volunteers willing to organise Guild conferences.

The number of people who have already booked for this conference is encouraging and I hope even more members will book for this conference. I am certainly looking forward to this conference and I hope to meet up with as many of the attendees as possible.

Who Do You Think You Are? Show 2015

This year, “Who Do You Think You Are? Live” will be at the NEC in Birmingham from Thursday 16 April — Saturday 18 April. Once again, the Guild will be in attendance. This is a very popular event and last year we very successfully promoted the Guild and surnames in general. This was only possible with the help and support from happy and helpful members and volunteers.

My Future

I am taking a break from serving on the Committee but I hope to be back at some time in the future. Needless to say, I shall be working very hard for the Guild in the background as I seem to have volunteered for a number of posts.

— Cliff Kemball
Marriage Challenge Update:  
How Do I Send Out The Results? 

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

I am often asked by challengers: “What is the best way to send out results?” My usual answer is to send them out in whichever form you find most convenient; but of course, a lot will depend on the way the marriage entries have been recorded in the first place.

When they visit record offices, most challengers use their laptops to record all the register information when they find a marriage on their search list. They will hopefully use the layout specified on the Guild website (the Andrew Millard specification). This facility allows results to be sent out automatically in “faux certificate” form. Others may opt to use their own spreadsheet layout and send out either the full spreadsheet or spreadsheet extracts as email attachments. In either case the results would also be sent to the coordinators of the BMD Vault and the Guild Marriage Index (GMI) so that results can be included in these Guild indexes.

Some challengers go to the record office with marriage certificate pro formas and use paper and pencil; then the available options are limited. They can either scan the completed handwritten certificates and email them, or they can post the certificates to members. Scanning has a double advantage of saving on postage costs and being able to send to the BMD Vault. The BMD Vault Coordinator has a number of helpers who will transcribe the hand-written certificates into the vault. When scanning is not possible, it is hoped that the search list will be supplemented with information on spouse, date, and church so that the results can, at least, be sent to the GMI.

But let us go back some stages and look at the search list. Most challengers expect members to send their marriage requests using the standard given on the website (see below) and some challengers insist requests are sent this way. All members are urged to comply with the challenger’s wishes.

Challengers give their time to do a challenge — often lots of time — and members should help them as much as possible. A request list set out in a standard format makes creating a search list easy — just copy and paste — and the use of the Andrew Millard facility is also easily implemented. And with copy-and-paste, errors are avoided. So please read what each challenger would like and try to help them.

The marriage challenges beginning in the coming months are listed below. All members are encouraged to send their requests to the challengers by email. Send the listing extracted from the GRO marriage index (FreeBMD will give all of them) for the named registration district between the years given (year, quarter, surname, first names, full GRO reference). Challengers will search for and often find your marriages in the deposited church registers and then send you the full particulars.

The key in the last column is:

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration District and Period</th>
<th>Request Deadline</th>
<th>Challenger</th>
<th>Challenger’s Email</th>
<th>Key (see above)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chesterfield 1881-1911</td>
<td>30 April 2015</td>
<td>John Moses</td>
<td><a href="mailto:moses@one-name.org">moses@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool (see Note 1 below)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Peter 1845-1906</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Nicholas 1882-1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannock 1877-1890</td>
<td>30 April 2015</td>
<td>John Ogbourne</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ogbourne@one-name.org">ogbourne@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billericay 1837-1939</td>
<td>15 May 2015</td>
<td>Peter Copsey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:copsey@one-name.org">copsey@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shardlow (see Note 2 below) 1837-1911</td>
<td>31 May 2015</td>
<td>Sue Horsman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:horsman@one-name.org">horsman@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newbury (Repeat) 1837-1911</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>Judith Thomas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gidley@one-name.org">gidley@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Please note that the Liverpool challenge will only look at two churches. In order to find out if the marriages you have took place in the two churches listed, please check Lancashire BMD website and note the church on your spreadsheet.

2. Please note that Shardlow registration district is complicated, as it spans three counties: Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire. If you have a Findmypast subscription, Derbyshire marriages have been indexed for the full period, and Nottinghamshire has been done up to about 1900. Refer to the details for Shardlow RD on GENUKI to see which parishes fall within each county, and use this information to check details on FMP in order to identify and provide the parish on your spreadsheet.
DNA for your ONS: Recruiting Participants

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

The First 10 Participants
Recruiting participants is the most difficult aspect of a DNA Project. The good news is that with each participant you add, it keeps getting easier.

If you are a male with your registered surname, the first participant is you. If this isn’t the case, then you need to find the first participant, ideally from your tree.

It is recommended that you test two distant direct line males from each tree, starting with your tree.

By the time you recruit 10 participants, you will have gained experience, have results and discoveries to share, and have improved your presentation regarding why they should participate. When you achieve 10 participants you have a track record, and it will keep getting easier from this point forward.

Raising Donations
Raising donations is an important component of a DNA project. It is much easier to recruit a participant if you can supply a paid or partially sponsored test kit. This makes finding participants easier. You simply offer them a paid or subsidized test.

One approach is to raise donations from members of a tree to fund testing of two males from their tree. Another approach is to raise donations from anyone, to test anyone. A third approach is to raise donations to fund testing in the ancestral country.

The latter approach can often raise the most donations. Persons in migration-destination countries, such as the USA, are usually very interested in funding testing in the ancestral country. A DNA match is often the only way they will make a connection to the ancestral country if their tree arrived early, where no records were created or survive showing where the immigrant came from.

Any communication with those interested in your registered surname is an opportunity to tell them why donations are important, and to ask for a contribution. If you publish a blog or newsletter, you can repeatedly mention the need for donations to fund participants.

You can use the Family Tree DNA donation system, collect funds yourself, or keep a list of potential sponsors until you have a participant for whom they will fund.

If you use the Family Tree DNA donation system, unfortunately there is not a way to then buy kits from the Guild. You would have to wait for a Family Tree DNA 37 marker sale. If you collect funds yourself, you can run into currency conversion problems. You can eliminate this currency problem by using PayPal.

It is then easy for you to purchase kits from the Guild.

If you can find a person who will sponsor a test kit or pay for their own kit (or collect funds from others, perhaps for their tree) and make the purchase, they can also purchase the test kit through the Guild at the year-round discounted price.

In raising donations, females are often a terrific source to fund the testing for their tree. In addition, they are often very helpful in finding the male participant(s) needed, as well as persuading them to test.

Raising donations is very important to provide paid or partially sponsored test kits, which makes the recruiting process significantly easier.

Keep it Simple
The key to recruiting participants is to keep it simple. They do not usually need a thesis on DNA testing. You are presenting an opportunity to make discoveries: about their family tree, their surname, and their distant origin.

Focus on the discoveries that can be made and provide them with a sample 37-marker result. The sample result will remove a lot of the fear that the word DNA invokes. Seeing 37 numbers is not threatening, and then explaining that they will match or be a close match to those to whom they are related enables you to explain DNA testing in a way that is easy for people to understand.

If your project has already made some discoveries, sharing these discoveries will build credibility. A discovery is anything you’ve learned, even that two trees you thought might be related aren’t.

An Ongoing Process
Recruiting participants is an ongoing process. Most people who are interested in family history research are not knowledgeable about genetic genealogy, so they don’t independently come to the conclusion that they should have a DNA test. Therefore, recruiting participants involves both making people aware of the benefits of DNA testing for genealogy (which are the discoveries they can make) and educating them so they feel comfortable taking this step.

If your focus is on finding people who are interested in the history of your surname or variants, you will develop a large pool of potential participants. Over time you can turn many potential participants into actual participants; potential participants can often help you find other potential participants.

If your focus is only on finding participants, you will miss others who could turn into participants over time.

This difference regarding the focus determines the “message” that you will use in your communications to recruit participants. If your message focuses on family history, you will typically get a larger number of responses. If you focus on DNA testing in your message, you will skim off those ready to be
participants, but leave behind all those who could be turned into participants over time.

Turning a potential participant into a participant is a process of building trust, identifying benefits, and education. These elements are important to incorporate in your message.

Often it will take more than one contact to create a participant. Occasionally, people will read one of your postings or emails and immediately participate. As much as all the project administrators would wish that this would happen all the time, this is not the norm.

Revising your message periodically is important, both to include recent results, as well as to improve the message as you gain experience.

You Have a Participant — Now What?

Getting a participant is quite exciting. They now need a test kit. The Guild provides 37-marker Y-DNA test kits from Family Tree DNA year-round, at £80, including postage. This is a terrific price, even when compared with the Family Tree DNA sales price plus the postage they charge.

This special Guild price of £80 is available to you — as well as to your participants or whoever is paying for the participant’s test kit. The key is that a Guild member must initiate the order. You initiate the order by informing Teresa Pask at dna-kit-order@one-name.org that you need a kit, how payment will be handled, and when payment is sent. If you are using the online system and paying yourself, you do NOT need to write Teresa — the system will inform her.

Kits can be sent direct to the participant or to you. You need to specify this information when you place the order. With the online system, simply type over your address if you want the kit sent to the participant.

Since the Guild purchases the test kits, a test kit must be paid before it is mailed.

There are three ways you or the payee can pay for the test kit at the current time:

1. By bank transfer to Santander, Account number 64819304,
2. By Pound Sterling cheque made payable to Guild of One-Name Studies, and sent to:
   Mrs. Jan Cooper
   Greenways, 8 New Road
   Wonersh, Guildford,
   Surrey GU5 0SE
   Please include on the back of the cheque: “DNA,” your registered surname, and your membership number.
3. By credit card
   For members, there is an online order processing page at: http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/members/dnakits/memsales.cgi?item=dnakit. All other payees need to provide their credit card information. For security purposes, this information can be sent in two separate emails. The information is sent to Teresa Pask at dna-kit-order@one-name.org. In the future, we will have an online credit card system for your payees.

Once payment is received, the DNA test kit is mailed. The Guild member is supplied with the details — including the kit number and password — and the kit is moved to the Guild member’s project. If anything happens to the kit, a free replacement is available, so the investment is protected.

If you have any questions about an order, please contact Teresa Pask at dna-kit-order@one-name.org.

Want to Get Started?

When you are ready to add DNA to your one-name study, the DNA Advisor is here to help, including setting up your project with proven marketing materials. Simply write to DNA@one-name.org. You will receive a completely set-up project that you can modify, along with an easy to follow 20-step “getting started” email and a sample recruiting email and letter.
I had inherited from my paternal grandfather four sides of manually-typed notes in which he had documented what he knew of his family and also what he knew of the antecedents of Rudyard Kipling, the poet and author. He had not been able to demonstrate any link, and that is what I had always said when conversational enquiries were made.

Then, back in 2009, it struck me that a Google search might tell me more — and to my surprise it revealed a mine of information, including trails leading to several rather more serious researchers into the Kipling family history. It also introduced me to the vast range of free and subscription on-line services and I was soon addicted.

I also made enquiries of relatives, and several proved to have troves of family papers and personal recollections. In particular, one cousin had a 1988 private paper written by late distant relatives entitled “The Kiplings of Teesdale” which was accompanied by a family tree tracing our branch of the family back to the North Riding village of Barningham in the early 17th century.

A little bit of detective work traced the son of this distant relative and to my considerable delight he had preserved all of his parents’ research files in his attic and was happy to let me have access to them. These included the fruits of years of pre-internet research at regional and national archives, combing the parish registers in Barningham, Romaldkirk, Bowes, Barnard Castle and adjoining parishes and acquiring copies of relevant wills and constructing a series of trees, mainly from the 16th to the 18th centuries.

In the meantime, I felt that I should learn about genealogy in a more structured way. So I signed up for an online programme at the University of Strathclyde. After three years of very enjoyable evening and weekend learning and research, I emerged in 2013 with an MSc in Genealogy, Palaeography & Heraldry. I was particularly pleased that I had the opportunity to include Kipling-related elements into the degree programme.

Most significant of these was a y-chromosome DNA study, which formed the main project in my second year. I set four objectives:

- Can y-DNA evidence add to or diminish support for existing but unproven hypotheses about the linkages between these common ancestral groups?
- Is there support for the tentative hypothesis in Hay and Redmond that the Kipling name originates from a single common male ancestor or is there more support for multiple origins?
- What, if anything, can be said about the earlier family history and deeper paternal genetic origins of Rudyard Kipling?

I approached the study from two directions. Firstly by identifying all of the Kipling families in the 1911 England and Wales census (fortunately a very manageable 375, of which 83 consisted solely of females, mainly single young women employed as servants). Of the 1,040 Kiplings in the census, 35 percent lived in Durham, 26 percent in Yorkshire, 8 percent in London, 6 percent in Lancashire, 4 percent each in Nottinghamshire and Northumberland, and the remainder in other counties.

Tracing the origins of the senior male members back as far as possible, I was able to link all but 11 to just 26 “primary” men. Of these, the largest was traceable to an ancestor in Nottinghamshire in the early 18th century and possibly before that to Norwich. This was a surprising result given the previous Teesdale focus of the family and the supposed origins of the name from the village of Kipling or Kiplin in lower Swaledale.

All but five of the 26 primary men were from Yorkshire or Durham, with three from Nottinghamshire (thought to be and since demonstrated to be one group) and one each from Lincolnshire and London.

Next step was to recruit male Kiplings to take DNA tests. Fortunately, one long-time Kipling researcher, Brian Kipling of Morpeth, was not only willing to take a test himself but also to pass my request, successfully, on to several of his own contacts. It was also possible to get some ‘quick wins’ from a small number of other Kiplings who were on-line and interested.

After that, recruiting got rather harder and more laborious. However, inspired by Debbie Kennett’s then just-published book, I threw a range of techniques at the problem. Initially, I targeted candidates by tracing forward from my 1911 population through birth and marriage records (and checking death records) and then trying to find contact details using Google, LinkedIn, Facebook, 192.com or similar. To assist...
recruitment, I established a website (http://www.genealogy.kipling.me.uk) and registered a study with the Guild.

Interestingly, outside the genealogical networks, LinkedIn proved the most successful proactive medium. This may be down to the typical demographic profile of users overlapping more with family history interests than, say, that of Facebook.

An early success was a descendant of Rudyard Kipling’s grandfather. Thereafter being able to offer the prospect of proving a link to the great man was an added incentive to participation.

In the end, 13 tests were completed, with most results falling into one of two closely matching groups in, either haplogroups R-U152 (including the relative of Rudyard and myself, so disproving my expected non-relationship!) or I-M253. Both of the two non-matching results (also haplogroup I) proved to derive from NPEs. One from a documented 18th century emigrant from Yorkshire, possibly associated with the wool trade in which several branches of Kiplings were long involved.

I chose to illustrate the DNA results using diagrams showing the modal haplotype of the samples and the marker differences. For all R-U152 candidates, at least 67 marker tests with FTDNA were completed.

For the six participants, there was relatively little evidence of branching in the data, rather more of separate drifts from the mode (the names of each family group refer to a location or member). I have shown the CDY results for each simply to show the variability seen, rather than with the expectation of being able to infer relationships from this mutation-prone marker.

Not all STRs were tested for all participants because initial tests were carried out at Ancestry and later tests at FTDNA. Most early participants are now retesting at FTDNA. Those tested are evenly divided between values of 26 and 27 at DYS449 which may be indicative of as yet unproven relationships.

Looking back to my original four questions, answers were delivered to the first two, although further research is slowly reducing the minimum number of unrelated ancestors. As to the single-source theory, the study neither proved nor disproved it, as a 16th century NPE cannot be ruled out. It is, however, less likely that there are more than two sources, and both of those from the same geographical area.

Finally, to Rudyard. He has been shown as having the same origins as the Kiplings of Teesdale, even though his own paper trail apparently ran cold in Loftus, inland from Whitby. However, more recent developments may have cast more light on this.

Subsequent Developments

Since completing this work eighteen months ago, I have had relatively little time to progress things, the final year dissertation at Strathclyde putting paid to that. However, I was successful in obtaining a sample from a second relative of Rudyard (shown in the R-U152 chart above).

Also, I have also investigated a number of close non-Kipling matches with the R-U152 group including Clarkson, Parker, Stoddart and Wade, all reasonably common in Teesdale but as yet no possible common ancestors have been identified.

Earlier this year, the new Geno 2.0 tests revealed a SNP so far unique to this group, known as PF4363. As tests get more sophisticated, such SNPs as these may help to bridge the gap between recorded history and the more distant past.

I have also been examining some 17th and 18th century Kipling-related documents at the National Archives, mainly litigation over land or debt and the odd assizes appearance. Particularly interesting was the 1772 case of William Kipling from Dalton, which is in Kirkby Ravensworth, the next parish to Barningham (to where all the other R-U152 Kiplings can be tied by paper records). William was alleged to have stolen a horse and ridden with it to Loftus where an aunt of his lived. Although there is no mention of Rudyard’s great-great-grandfather John Kipling, who I first recorded marrying at Loftus in 1764, there is at least now a documented link between Kiplings in these two parts of Yorkshire. Gaps in the Kirkby Ravensworth and Barningham parish registers may account for the lack of further evidence.

William was subsequently acquitted.

Finally, I have gradually been putting items of written-up research onto my website for all to share and have also been tweeting Kipling-related material for over a year. (Examine a sample at twitter.com/MikeKipling2).
The village of Winlaton is now more or less a suburb of Gateshead in County Durham, but it has a notable history. It was at the heart of the Industrial Revolution, as the site of the ironworks originally established by Ambrose Crowley around 1690, and the associated school, health provision, and pension arrangements for the workers. Historically it was a township in the parish of Ryton, becoming a separate parish in 1832. Winlaton is described in John Marius Wilson’s *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* (1870-1872):

> “WINLATON, a village, a township, a parish, and a sub-district, in Gateshead district, Durham. The village originated in extensive ironworks, removed to it, in 1690, from Sunderland, by Sir A. Crawley; carries on a great manufacture of anchors, anvils, chains, spades, edge-tools, files, and kindred articles.”

By this time the Crowley works had long left Winlaton, taking with them the social benefits for the workers, but smaller manufacturers, especially smiths, chain makers, and nail makers continued to make Winlaton their home and workplace. It was in Winlaton, among these ironworkers, that I was surprised to discover a previously unknown variant of my study name.

**The Bilclough Name**

Bilclough is a rare surname. Parish registers have few examples and there are no Bilcloughs recorded anywhere in Great Britain in the 1841 census. There are none in any United States census. The *Public Profiler World Names* website, using data from 2000 to 2005, gives a UK frequency of 2.5 per million, with a heavy concentration in Newcastle on Tyne and adjoining Blaydon. Overseas, only New Zealand — with a frequency of .71 per million — has sufficient recorded occurrences to be reportable on the website; the highest concentration is in Hamilton City. The 1911 England and Wales census has 105 Bilcloughs, and the 2002 Electoral Roll for the UK has 139. Where did this rare surname come from, and how and why did it emerge? I hope this article will answer these questions.

**Edward Bilcliff**

I first encountered the surname Bilclough while researching the descendants of Edward Bilcliff. He married Elizabeth Robson at Holy Cross, the parish church of Ryton, on 21 February 1736/37. Edward’s origins are unknown, but he may have been drawn to the area by the ironworks, or perhaps he was descended from Robert Bilcliffe, a watchmaker married in Newcastle in 1656. I do know that he was not a smith or an ironworker, as he is described as a yeoman in the 1762 marriage bond relating to his daughter, Ann, for whom he stood surety. Apart from the marriage of Robert Bilcliffe, Edward’s marriage is the first record of the name Bilcliffe or a variant spelling to be found in the counties of Northumberland and Durham. Importantly, Edward must have been literate, as he was able to tell the Ryton clerics how to spell his name, which would have been completely unfamiliar to them.

Expert opinion agrees that the origin of the Bilcliffe name is locative, from a farmstead at Langsett near Penistone in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Most bearers of the name and its variants have always been found in Yorkshire and immediately surrounding counties, but some, like Edward, did move further afield. Extended families can also be found in Kent, in Surrey, and in London in the 18th and 19th centuries, with some spelling variations. In the Ryton parish registers though, and later in those of Winlaton, the name is consistently recorded as Bilcliff or Bilcliffe, with only a half-dozen exceptions in the 150 years from 1736 to 1887.

In contrast, there is much more variability in parish records in Northumberland and the rest of County Durham, in civil registrations of births, deaths, and marriages, and in census records. The graphic above illustrates all surname variations found among the descendants of Edward Bilcliff and Elizabeth Robson up to 1911. The relative size of each surname indicates the frequency of occurrence, although it is not exactly proportionate for the lower frequency names.

Some of these variations are familiar from records in the Yorkshire heartlands and elsewhere, but those ending in “cluff,” “clough,” “cleeugh,” or “cloff” are new, and have not been found in other places. I had not originally extracted core records of births, deaths, and marriages for the surname Bilclough and its variants, but needed to do this when I realised that this name was increasingly common among Edward’s descendants. Parish baptisms, marriages, and burials — and
any other references to the name — were therefore added to my main SQLite database, cross referenced where relevant with GRO references. Civil registrations of births, deaths, and marriages were stored in spreadsheets.

I keep my data in an SQLite database using the Firefox SQLite manager plug-in as an interface, and store all records except civil registrations in one large table. I prefer the flexibility of this to Custodian with its pre-set fields. I find the table easy to query, and it is useful to be able to include as much searchable text as I wish in any text field.

Parish Records
In my Bilcliffe database I have 142 parish baptisms, marriages, and burials in County Durham, and 50 in Northumberland, now including Bilclough and variants surnames. County Durham records are mainly from the full transcriptions provided by Durham Records Online, which are complete in coverage for Ryton and Winlaton but not yet for all parishes, especially for early records. Northumberland records are from the same source, supplemented by FamilySearch and records from Northumberland and Durham FHS online at Findmypast. All may be subject to transcription error, especially Bilcliff/Bilcliff. There is a possibility that other registers not yet available online may contain Bilcliffe or Bilclough entries, but I believe these will be few in number if they exist.

In attempting to discover where and how the name Bilclough arose, I first explored the geographical distribution of both names combined in the parish records of County Durham and Northumberland, and then looked at the relative proportions of each main name.

There is a concentration of both forms of the name in Ryton and Winlaton and adjoining parishes. I also concluded that Bilcliffe remained the primary form of the surname in the parish registers of Ryton, Winlaton, and neighbouring parishes in County Durham, where it had long been familiar; while in Northumberland the two forms appear more evenly balanced.

Civil Registrations
Collection of civil registrations for the Bilclough name is now complete. Only 64 birth, death, and marriage registrations out of a total of 784 are outside the counties of Northumberland and Durham, with the earliest a marriage in Biggleswade in 1910, and the majority being after 1940.

The heaviest concentration of Bilclough events is, as expected, in the Gateshead registration district, which includes Winlaton.

Civil registrars seem to have struggled to interpret and write down such an unfamiliar surname, when the person reporting the birth or death could not say how it should be spelled. Some of these surname versions appear to be short-lived, a phenomenon similar to that described by Tucker in his comparison of surnames from the 1881 UK census with those of the 1997 Electoral Roll for Great Britain, and by George Redmonds in his discussion of Tucker’s paper. Tucker tends to attribute the “disappeared” names to typographical errors, while George Redmonds maintains they are likely to be temporary spelling variations. My Bilclough data supports the latter view, and the spellings which have disappeared may be thought of as transitional forms.

Bob Hilborne, in his discussion of Hilborne surname variants, concludes that surname spellings did not become standardised until a family became literate towards the end of the 19th century or the beginning of the 20th. It is difficult to estimate the level of literacy of the inhabitants of Winlaton in the early civil registration period, although there was certainly a school there in the time of the Crowley works.
This school closed when the Crowley works left Winlaton in 1816. Although shortly afterwards the Blacksmiths Friendly Society was established to provide some of the social support which had been lost, schooling was probably then dependent on night schools, Sunday schools, and home teaching until the 1870 Education Act. The date of closure of the Crowley school would suggest that people born before about 1805 would have benefited from it, meaning that many heads of households in 1841 might have been literate. Literacy may have been higher among men than among their wives, the people most likely to have registered births and deaths.

At least in theory, civil marriage registrations should reflect parish registers, although clearly there may be copying errors, so it is not surprising that there is very much less variability in marriage registrations than in births and deaths, especially in Gateshead Registration District, where Bilclough was a rarity in parish records until towards the end of the 19th century.

Census Records
The 1851 and 1861 censuses both have only one Bilcliffe recorded, although there are 14 Bilcliffe marriages and baptisms from 1841 to 1851. The families involved have been recorded as Bilcleugh in 1851 and Bilclough in 1861. There is a steady advance of Bilclough through the period.

Elsewhere in County Durham and Northumberland there is a slightly different picture. In Durham parishes other than Winlaton, and in Newcastle, Bilcliffe predominates, whereas in the rest of Northumberland, as in Winlaton itself, Bilclough becomes the more numerous form. The rather slow movement of both names out from Winlaton is apparent.

Bilcliffe to Bilclough — An Explanation
How and why did the suffix pronounced [clif] become an ending pronounced [cluf], when this change has not been found in any other part of the country? Spelling variations for the core name Bilcliffe are common, usually involving single or double [l] and/or [f], and the presence or absence of a final [e]. In early records [l] is frequently written as [y]. Sometimes the initial [bil] becomes [bel], and changes in the consonant cluster [lcl] in the middle of the word are often found. These variations, alone or in combination, give rise to such surnames as Bentlif, Binccliffe, Billiffe, Billcliffe, Bintliff and my own birth surname of Bintcliffe. The [l] which is inserted in some variants represents a glottal stop pronounced either before the next sound or co-articulated with it. The [lif] ending is almost always preserved, although it does not carry the stress when spoken. George Redmonds discusses the vulnerability to change of an unstressed final syllable in a surname, giving as one example the -(c)liffe and -ley confusion which certainly resulted in some Bintliffs becoming Bintley in the Huddersfield area, and Bentley elsewhere.

I believe the local Tyneside pronunciation holds the key. The British Library website has a section on Geordie pronunciation, which among other interesting information states that the vowel [i] in an unstressed final syllable in words like biscuit, office, cricket (and Bilcliffe), in the Geordie dialect becomes the neutral vowel [ə], as in “the.” So we have Bilcl[ə]f, for which a reasonable spelling is Bilcluff.

So why did Biltcluff or Bilcluff come to be written as Bilclough? I suggest this was by analogy with other surnames which were more familiar in the Gateshead registration district, such as Brough, Clough, Fairclough, and McGough, which would be pronounced in a similar way. Other surnames ending in “uff” are relatively much less frequent among Gateshead civil registrations, and are single syllable with the exception of Woodruff. Increasing literacy, greater familiarity with the surname on the part of civil authorities, and a push towards conformity would all have played their part in standardising the spelling of the name.

Bilclough Lineage
Searching the 1911 census for Bilclough on Findmypast returns 105 records, with the majority in Winlaton. Only one is outside the counties of Northumberland and Durham, namely John Bilclough, a 36-year-old gunner in the Royal Artillery, found in barracks at Devonport. He is recorded as born in Winlaton, Durham. Twenty-one of the 105 individuals recorded as Bilclough are wives and widows, leaving 84 born with the name.

Family reconstruction has shown that all of these individuals are descendants of Edward Bilcliffe and his wife, Elizabeth Robson, through their oldest son, John. The family tree coming forwards from 1911 has not yet been fully completed, but I am confident that every Bilclough will prove to belong to this tree, as no other possible origin of the name has been found. New Zealand Bilcloughs have the same family origin, as does William Bilclough, transported to Tasmania in 1850 for larceny, “native place Win Leighton.” Although he married there, there appear to be no Australian descendants.

Conclusion
Bilclough is a surname which arose as a new variant of Bilcliffe in the Gateshead registration district, more specifically in the village of Winlaton, in the second half of the 19th century. A version of it first appeared in the civil registrations of births and deaths in the 1840s, and from the 1851 census onwards, while Winlaton parish registers retained the original Bilcliffe until much later in the century. Bilclough spread slowly into Northumberland and the rest of Durham, co-existing with Bilcliffe, and only into other areas of England from the middle of the 20th century. It remains overwhelmingly a Tyneside name. Additionally, family reconstruction complete up until 1911 has shown that all Bilcloughs are descended from Edward Bilcliffe and his wife, Elizabeth, who are therefore a true “portal couple.”

This article is abridged from an essay written as part of the Pharos Teaching & Tutoring Advanced ONS Course. The complete article — including all illustrations and footnotes — can be found on the Guild website at http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/ vol12-2_hoptonpharos.pdf.
Internet Resources: Historic Photographic Sources for Genealogical Research

by Rennison Vayro (Member 4374)

There are many occasions when it would be an advantage to locate a photograph of one's ancestors, or a place where they lived and worked, but except for those that have been collected by family members and passed down from generation to generation we have to rely on websites that may contain something of interest.

In my own case I was fortunate to have several photographs of my grandfather in a soldier's uniform so knew that he had served in the Great War of 1914-1918. You may find your ancestor among the soldiers on http://tinyurl.com/n4ud916 but you may appreciate some of the images from the First World War on http://tinyurl.com/qj9gjyx or http://tinyurl.com/nzhq38b.

If your relative happened to be Australian and fought in the First World War, then a recently opened site on Flickr gives superb portraits of South Australian soldiers, sailors, and nurses at http://tinyurl.com/ki2qq8y.

Apart from these first two, there are numerous websites that now provide a wide range of images of people, places, and times in Great Britain. I have made a selection of those I feel are most useful, and others just because of the professional quality of the photographs they contain - a bit of light entertainment really, and I hope you enjoy them.

http://tinyurl.com/p61pv2m and http://www.dales-photos.co.uk both contain a wide variety of landscapes from the Yorkshire Dales, mainly taken recently, but for historical images of Yorkshire you could also try http://www.thedales.org.uk/old-photographs.

http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/310789 is a website that will provide you with recent photos of individual farms, houses, and historic buildings, together with small maps of their exact locations in the Yorkshire Dales. For old films about Yorkshire from 1890 to 2010, members should visit http://www.yorkshirefilmarchive.com/.

http://tinyurl.com/o98428d has a range of old photographic images of Durham and its environs. Another website that holds a collection of historic images of Durham City is http://www.oldukphotos.com/durham.htm. If members try removing the "durham.htm" from this particular URL they can then search for other parts of the UK.

In comparison, http://www.newcastlephotos.blogspot.co.uk contains a personal collection of old and more recent photographs of Newcastle, Northumberland, North and South Tyneside, Gateshead, and Durham. By the same author, http://www.flickr.com/photos/23467568@N00/ is one of the “Flickr” pages entitled “I Luv NUFC,” but it is much more than simple images of Newcastle United Football Club. It contains some superb panoramic images of the Northeast and its people.

The author found his grandfather, Thomas, in this First World War photo. Thomas is on the left with the butcher knife.

The Coventry History Centre and its Photographic Record of Coventry City, managed by the Coventry City Council House of Images, is found at http://tinyurl.com/p36kcs. The site aims to conserve and make publicly accessible the photographic heritage of Coventry. http://www.picturethepast.org.uk gives a journey into the past in Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire, whilst for photos of Liverpool, see either http://tinyurl.com/pa3sha9 or http://www.liverpoolpicturebook.com which has a descriptive text and old newspaper clippings.

Search over 1 million catalogue entries for images showing photographs, plans, and drawings of England’s buildings and historic sites held in the English Heritage Archive at http://www.englishheritagearchives.org.uk. A specialist picture library devoted to all things British on http://www.collectionspicturelibrary.co.uk/ shows the geography, history, architecture, crafts, and customs of the UK and Ireland.

http://www.pbase.com/world/united_kingdom contains a fascinating collection of professional photographic images of life in the UK. http://www.historypin.com gives a wide variety of images from the United States, London, and even the Bombardment of Hartlepool in the First World War. The site is difficult to negotiate but worth persevering to explore the collection of digital images. Also see Britain from Above historical aerial photography, with over 54,000 high resolution images to explore from the collection of British Heritage at http://www.britainfromabov.org.uk. The British Film Archives holds a good collection of films and television from the birth of cinema to today on http://www.bfi.org.uk/archive-collections. For incredible images, artwork, and engravings of children at work in the Victorian era try http://goo.gl/RvcnN.

And finally, something to literally take you around the world: photographs from a variety of locations at http://www.panoramio.com, with images contributed by the public.

I hope members will find some of these useful.
I have been studying the name Almey since my mother passed away in November 2011. Eva Beryl Seaton (nee Almey) would be amazed and delighted at what has been unearthed so far. The most amazing discovery involves the Almeys of Earl Shilton and Waterloo, an incredible story lost through the passage of time but now brought to light through a considerable amount of research at The National Archives at Kew.

From Earl Shilton to Waterloo

I had never looked at my mother’s side of the family. She had mentioned to me that the Almeys were originally from Earl Shilton; that was pretty much all I had to go on. In this modern computer age and with a large slice of help from Findmypast, it took at least an hour to trace my Almey line back to the 18th century! My 3x great-grandfather, Nathaniel Almey, was found on a couple of census records with his wife and children, living in Earl Shilton.

A few days later I purchased access to the British Newspaper Archive and I was busy downloading anything connected with the surnames Almey or Seaton. I typed in “Nathaniel Almey” and quite a few hits appeared on the screen, several around the same date: September 1863. I had found a very informative obituary in both the *Leicestershire Chronicle* and *The Leicester Journal* for Nathaniel Almey, “the last surviving Waterloo veteran in the parish of Earl Shilton.”

So he was at The Battle of Waterloo! Around the same time I had stumbled across another article on the Internet that had appeared in the *Leicester Mercury* in 2004 regarding one Samuel Almey who “had been severely wounded at Waterloo.”

Once we had sorted the readers’ tickets, we ordered the muster rolls and pay lists for the Royal Horse Artillery for 1815. My daughter opened the pay list for G Troop Royal Horse Artillery July 1815 (one month after Waterloo) and there before us appeared what surely must be the answer to our question. Listed next to each other were two bombardiers named Samuel Omey and Nathaniel Omey. Surely these were our men. On closer inspection, next to Samuel’s name was the note “sick absent,” clearly backing up the previous evidence we had that he “had been severely wounded at Waterloo.”

I contacted David Woolerton, who had written in to the *Mercury* with the article. He was amazed that after eight years somebody had at last contacted him with regard to Samuel. So now we had two Almeys, who both appeared to have been at Waterloo; BUT there appeared to be no record of them ever having been there. They do not appear on the Waterloo medal roll, but George Almey does — he is Samuel’s brother and Nathaniel’s cousin, so that makes three.

As they do not appear on the Waterloo medal roll of honour, it would appear that they may have been bluffing to gain a few free pints down the pub! But I was convinced that there was something not right. Both Samuel and Nathaniel had not married until their late 30s, very late given life expectancy in the early 19th century. Samuel had married in 1816, and Nathaniel in 1821 — both after the Battle of Waterloo.

At this point in our research the only obvious connection with the Almeys and Waterloo was George, who had served in the Royal Horse Artillery. So, with this little bit of “known information” we (with my daughter Sarah) headed to The National Archives in November 2012. Once we had sorted the readers’ tickets, we ordered the muster rolls and pay lists for the Royal Horse Artillery for 1815. My daughter opened the pay list for G Troop Royal Horse Artillery July 1815 (one month after Waterloo) and there before us appeared what surely must be the answer to our question. Listed next to each other were two bombardiers named Samuel Omey and Nathaniel Omey. Surely these were our men. On closer inspection, next to Samuel’s name was the note “sick absent,” clearly backing up the previous evidence we had that he “had been severely wounded at Waterloo.”

We did not realise at the time, but the local pronunciation of Almey is said phonetically “Or-me,” not “Al-me,” which probably explains the spelling. Add to this that all three of the Almeys were illiterate and would not have known how to spell their own names. After all this excitement we almost forgot George, but he was there listed as a gunner, also in the RHA G Troop. So all three of them fought together in the same troop. A tremendously exciting find for any family historian, and on our first ever visit to Kew! Surely it couldn’t get any better than this, but it did.
When we arrived home we began researching the RHA G Troop of 1815. We soon realised that this was no ordinary troop. It became clear that this was one of the most written about troops from the Battle of Waterloo, and for very good reason. They had taken part in one of the most pivotal moments in the battle, and all three of the Almeys — particularly Nathaniel and Samuel, who would have been employed on one of the nine-pounder cannons — would have played a major part. At Waterloo, G Troop was initially stationed on the extreme right flank of Wellington’s line, but as the battle became more intense they were ordered into the centre of the line where the fighting was much heavier.

G Troop was commanded by Captain Alexander Cavalie Mercer, who during the heat of the battle disobeyed the Duke of Wellington’s orders. He ordered his men not to retire back into the infantry squares which were stationed behind G Troop. Mercer had taken a look at the Brunswick infantry and saw many young inexperienced men who had already been pounded by the French artillery. Mercer thought it likely that they would panic if G troop ran back to take refuge among them. So if the French cavalry looked as though they were going to overrun them, they were ordered to take refuge as best they could where they stood. In any event, G Troop was never overrun despite three heavy cavalry charges by the French. They held their discipline and bravely carried on firing, causing huge numbers of casualties to both the men and horses of the French army.

After the battle, one French cavalryman wrote: “...through the smoke I saw the English gunners abandon their pieces, all but six guns stationed under the road... now, I thought, those gunners will be cut to pieces, but no, the devils kept firing with grapeshot which mowed us down like grass.” The six guns stationed under the road were Captain Mercer’s five nine-pounders and one 5.5-inch howitzer.

Sir Augustus Frazer, commander of the Royal Horse Artillery, said “I could plainly distinguish the position of G Troop from the opposite height by the dark mass of dead French cavalry, which even at that distance formed a remarkable feature on the field.”

As well as the excellent records at Kew, we are very fortunate that Captain Mercer kept a journal/diary throughout the Waterloo campaign. We know from this journal exactly where G Troop travelled from the time they left England until they reached Paris in July 1815. So we have in great detail what the Almeys experienced throughout the Waterloo campaign, a great source of information that most historians could only dream of.

After Waterloo
As part of the Treaty of Paris, France was ordered to maintain at its own expense a coalition army of occupation of 150,000 soldiers in the border territories of France, from the English Channel to the border with Switzerland, for a maximum of five years. G Troop was part of this allied occupying force, which was still commanded by the Duke of Wellington. Nathaniel Almey and George Almey remained with the troop during this period. Samuel Almey we know was “severely wounded in the battle at Waterloo.” Despite searching the records it is unclear as to the nature of his injuries. As he was charged £3 19s 2d for his hospital bill, which was deducted from his final payment upon his discharge to pension in July 1816 (that being more than one month’s pay), is it likely that he spent over a month in hospital. Samuel Almey never returned to active service.

Upon returning to England, Nathaniel Almey was discharged to pension in January 1819, receiving 1s 2½d per day for the rest of his life. George Almey was transferred to James Webber Smith’s Troop of the RHA, and continued to serve in the RHA until his premature death in 1826 whilst serving in Athlone, Ireland. His cause of death is not noted in the records, but it is most likely to have been TB or consumption, which appeared to have killed off many soldiers around this time. All George Almey’s worldly goods were sold to his mates in the troop, the best sellers being a pair of blue/grey overalls for ten shillings, and four shillings for his boots! George’s funeral expenses amounted to two pounds. The documents also tell us that George Almey was in hospital for two days before he died. We know this because in the RHA accounts, two pence beer money is deducted. Fantastic! In hospital and dying, and no beer!

Heritage Lottery Funding
I am delighted to have found this remarkable story of courage by three local men from Earl Shilton. I would dearly love to have met and talked to these very brave men. After making this wonderful discovery, a few like-minded people got together to form the Earl Shilton to Waterloo Historical Group.

We applied for Heritage Lottery funding, which was successful. We received a grant of £7,400 under the Sharing Heritage Scheme. The six men from Earl Shilton will now be remembered for their part in the Battle of Waterloo when a commemorative stone, with their names upon it, will be unveiled in June 2015, in time for the 200th anniversary of the battle. The commemorative stone will be placed in the Hall Field, Earl Shilton, just a few hundred yards from the parish church which is the final resting place for Nathaniel Almey and Samuel Almey. In addition to this, a blue plaque will be placed on the corner of Almeys Lane (subject to permission). A book will be produced, an oral history recording made, and displays and presentations given.
Succession-Proofing
Your One-Name Study

by Jim Benedict (Member 4794)

Your friends and family are always amused with your passion of searching for dead relatives. You talk to them about old grandfather Elmo and his farmstead in southern Saskatchewan. Their eyes start to glaze over as you recount the latest graveyard crawl in Estevan. The spouse is just not as enthused over another genealogy conference trip, yet again in Salt Lake City.

So it is back to the man cave in the basement, where all the dusty old books, newspaper clippings, family photo albums, and computer disks are hiding. In your sanctuary, at least your e-mail buddies understand this craving for more hits on Ancestry.

And we call it a hobby?

So what happens next? It is great that you have amassed a remarkable collection of memorabilia, remnants of the family’s past. When you do go (of course I mean go to that retirement community in Phoenix), will you — can you — pass it forward? Can you ensure that your history hoarding will also become your legacy? Which of the “Seven Stages of Succession Proofing” are you stuck in today?

1. This is a personal hobby of mine, and except for my Guild obligations of responding to questions on the name, I have no plans to archive it or pass it along to anyone else. It’s going to be buried with me.

This is quite acceptable, if that is what you want. It is your collection, after all. No one else did it. “It’s mine, all mine. So I am going to have it incinerated and mixed in with my cremation ashes.”

Yes, you can take it with you.

2. This is a personal hobby of mine, but some day I might drop it off at my local library or my nephew’s house. They can sort it out.

This is quite acceptable, if that is what you want. It is your collection, after all. No one else did it. “It’s mine, all mine. So I am going to have it incinerated and mixed in with my cremation ashes.”

Yes, you can take it with you.

3. It’s all in paper form. Don’t need a computer to store it. The cardboard boxes work just fine.

Yes, I have it all organized, cross indexed, tagged with library recipe-sized index cards. The family charts are filled out, the family description pages are now complete. Everything is sorted, colour-coded, shelved in three-ring binders.

Congratulations. You are ahead of the pack. At least half of us other amateur sleuths cannot claim to be that far along. If this is all you have done or can do, it is a major accomplishment. But you are not done yet.

What happens in the event of a flood, a house fire, or a water pipe break? Or you are attacked by rodents (pet mice perhaps?), paper-loving insects, mould, sunlight, excess heat, excess moisture, lack of moisture, ravages of time? Paper does not last forever.

Who inherits your research? Please check over your latest will and make sure someone, whether a family member or the local society, is named as a beneficiary. Once you go, only your last testament will control.

Oh, by the way, get that book published that you promised to Aunt Mabel.

4. It’s all on floppy discs. Substitute: external hard drive, zip drive, floppy disc, punched cards. The local society will figure it out.

We are all astounded by the speed of technology advances, everywhere. And no less by the improvements of computers. You can have your entire family research in the palm of your hand. Yes, your smart phone can house the entire digital vault of all your family research. Which is a bit unnerving (don’t drop it); what happens as new technology overtakes the slightly older version?

I’ll bet that your bottom desk drawer still has an old floppy disk tucked away storing an even older backup copy of the family files. My own room has a shelf with antique 5¼ inch floppies, burnable CD and DVD blanks, all gathering dust. Instead, these days I use external USB hard drives and pocket-sized USB memory sticks. They are handy, fully compatible across many machines, and reusable.

What’s not to love with the new stuff? Except that each time they become obsolete, which is about every two years, you have to move all the information across to the new tool. Even the software applications cry to us every few years to have the next update installed. So now your 10-year-old data files become unreadable with the latest version. Ouch.
Do you have a regular schedule of refreshing your backups and being prepared to replace gear as (and not if) it becomes obsolete? Don’t expect your heirs or the local history society to sort out genealogy files that are totally unreadable or inaccessible.

5. I’ve got it carefully stored on my home computer, all neatly indexed and entered into my favourite family tree application. Now, hopefully, my relatives can remember my login password to get into the files someday.

Okay, now we’re into the digital age. You have the family line at your fingertips. The paper pile can become a bonfire. Freedom at last from paper cuts and staple jabs. But pause for a moment: you have the key to the information vault... does your family?

Be aware: if you pass away without leaving password access, the first thing that goes into the rubbish bin will be that out-of-date clunky old computer that no one wants and can’t even get into because of your login password blockage.

What to do? Talk to your estate planner or wills lawyer. Add a memorandum, or codicil to your will regarding “digital assets.” This will cover who gets the computer and backup devices, the login information, where your most precious files are stored, and your dispersal wishes for each line item. And do it soon.

6. I have it all online. No problem. There are chunks of it on Ancestry, MyHeritage, Findmypast, FamilySearch; golly, I’m also on Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, and Twitter. You can find bits of my family all over the Internet.

So relax, there is not much you can do with it now except try not to have too much duplication in multiple areas, such as dates and events. Somehow you should have one master repository that is the correct one — your reference, the one you point to for family reference. And make sure that your executor can find it in the will.

7. It’s up in the Internet cloud somewhere. I must remember to tell my cousin in Torrington how to access my Dropbox account.

This is the final frontier. Your family research has gone virtual. No more paper piles. Perhaps not even a computer in sight. You can do all research online, store online, see it anywhere in the world online. Not bad. But all of the above cautionary notes will still apply.

So have fun in the hobby, but please keep in mind that you want to do onto the next generation what you wished those darned ancestors of yours could have done for you.

Jim Benedict will be exploring this subject further in a presentation at the Guild Conference and AGM, 27-29 March.

Letter to the Editor

To Publish or Not to Publish: That is the Question

The current proliferation of online family trees — especially those on the well known subscription websites — and the poor level of accuracy sometimes displayed on them has now given me cause for serious doubt about the wisdom of publishing my data on my website. Over the last few months I have found myself really stressing the point about requiring evidence to beginners groups at my society, the Shoalhaven Family History Society (a really beautiful part of the world about 160 kilometres south of Sydney on the coast of New South Wales). I also made this point in an article I wrote for the society’s journal, the Time Traveller. So find myself in the embarrassing situation of “do what I say and not what I do.”

The very nature of a one-name study means that we collect data on a significant number of unrelated people. I have over 12,000 people in my database and I realise that is not a particularly large number in comparison to many of our members. Obviously, I am not going to spend the money or even the time to get primary BMD certificates for every event that I find. I will just settle for recording the index reference. Also, when I receive information from another researcher I do not have the time or money to verify every event they send me but just do a sanity and arithmetic check and have a look at their sources before including it amongst my data.

You really have it covered. And everywhere. How will your heirs ever piece it together? This is a new challenge that we are just entering, but this is now what the next generation is totally comfortable with — living in that virtual space. To them, this is how you do family connections, birthdays, marriages, careers, and yes, death. Although we might hate it, this may very well be the future of genealogy. Technology is just starting to probe into how all of this can be connected together, retrieved, and archived.

So I am regularly faced with a situation of having several entries for one person; birth, marriage, the birth of each of his children, death, and so on. When I can prove that the entries refer to the same person, I record the data that way. However, in cases where I have a high degree of confidence (but lack any primary evidence) that the entries refer to the one person, I also record the information this way when reconstructing the family trees. I do this to reduce the number of duplicate people I have recorded in my database. However, I am aware that this will mean that there will be a small (I hope a very small) number of errors within my data. I stress this point on my web site and advise that my data should be treated as a guide only and users should verify the information themselves. I also encourage viewers to provide me with any corrections and updates.

I believe in making my data freely available for others to see, as I feel that doing this provides a purpose for my study beyond the simple pursuit of knowledge for its own sake. This view was also expressed by Mike Spathaky in the January edition of the Journal. I also derive great satisfaction in being able to help others with their research enquiries. But now, I am not quite so certain of the validity of this. Is the small risk of supplying incorrect data that others will take as fact and incorporate into their own tree outweighed by providing information that I have found in sources that they may not have checked themselves? I would love to know what other members think. In the meantime I will leave my site online, (www.brayfamilies.id.au) and continue as I have been doing.

— Neville Bray (Member 5328)
For most of its existence, Y-DNA has been a central activity in the Coad-Coode one-name study and surname reconstruction. Early in the project we discovered 13 main clans of Coad and Coode, all dating back to a single known ancestor in the 1600s or earlier, plus several old stray lines. With the aid of strategic Y-DNA tests, we were able to reduce these clans down to three big kinship groups — one from Devon, one from Cornwall, and a likely illegitimate line of the latter from the 1500s. Within these three groups, the 13 clans (and some sub-clans) have their own DNA signature because they parted company so long ago, giving them time to have a few unique mutations in their DNA.

In the recently published book of the study, Unravelling the Code, a major issue was how to present the structure of a surname used by 5,000 individuals in a manageable and comprehensible way. DNA guided this: at the top of the taxonomy sit the three kinship groups, then the 13 clans which each get their own book chapter, then various senior and junior branches following a tree structure particular to each clan.

After the initial family reconstruction, much of the effort of the project has gone into eliminating brick walls in the main and stray lines, to simplify the structure. This paper is about a straightforward use of Y-DNA in which three old stray lines, two of them sizeable, were brought back into the taxonomy with a single Y-DNA test.

One of the largest of the 13 clans is the farming North Hill Coads, who descend from the founder, William Coad 1630-1713. William was a small yeoman farmer living in a farming parish where many of his descendants resided for the next 200 years. The village of Coad’s green in Linkinhorne is named after William or his son, William Jr. William lived into his 80s and had many children — we know of 12 but it seems that he may have had 13, of which eight survived him. His 1714 will mentions his sons William, Henry, Walter, and John; daughters Eleanor, Ann, and Jane; and executrix, a daughter Rebecca.

The main line of North Hill Coads is descended from William’s eldest son, William Coad Jr 1658-1751. Three separate lines descend from three of William Jr’s sons to the present. His descendants are the second-largest family of Coads and the complete waterfall tree takes up 10 pages of text.

Very few land transfer or other documents refer to the clan, indicating they only leased very small plots which did not require lease documents. After generations of farming, most of the descendants eventually lost their holdings, probably due to enclosure, and turned to other lines of work or emigrated. By 1860, only one Coad was still farming in the area, and the line died out in Cornwall by 1950.

The North Hill main line has been very well mapped out by descendants. However, near to North Hill lived two other old stray families of Coad. It was not clear at all they were William’s descendants until DNA revealed this. These two lines start from Isaac Coad who had a family in Lamerton, Devon between 1704-12; and James Coad, who married Catherine Condy in 1718 in Lezant, right on the Devon border. James had a family in Stoke Climsland and Lezant over the next 12 years, and was buried in Lezant in 1737.

There were three reasons why we were reluctant to consider the Lamerton and the Lezant Coads as part of the North Hill family:

- It was very unusual for Cornish Coads to move into Devon, though the reverse sometimes occurred. From about 1770 a number of men found work in Plymouth, but we had no records of the Cornish moving to other parts of Devon before 1830, especially not farmers;
- The forenames James and Isaac were not known among the Cornish Coads up to that time. The two men had no baptism records — although the North Hill Coads apparently reliably recorded all their baptisms — and they did not appear in the will of William Coad;
- For over a century until at least 1725, an unrelated family of Coads descended from Rev. Arthur Coode 1547 lived around Tavistock, in an area which included Lamerton. It seemed entirely possible that Isaac and James were members of this Devon family.

The biggest danger to seeing the obvious in genealogy as in other forms of forensics is preconceived ideas, and it took DNA evidence to overturn these opinions.

Lezant Coads - descendants of James Coad
Lezant is about six miles from North Hill, right on the Devon border. The records of the line descending from James Coad were rather patchy, as all were illiterate and they owned no land, working mostly as agricultural labourers. One branch later took up mining, and there were a few shoemakers and carpenters in the family. They continued to live in these border parishes until the Great Emigration began in the 1850s. In 1900 there were about 60 Coad descendants worldwide, mostly in Australia where three separate lines settled.

It was only in 2012 that we finally obtained a DNA sample from a descendant of James — and it turned out he was very much a North Hill Coad! This gave us a completely different focus on the family.
Because we already thought Isaac and James were relatives, the DNA result suggested that this family was prepared to move into Devon, and were the first Cornish Coads to do so. Second, the North Hill clan was not as good at recording baptisms as we thought, as we apparently now had two sons without baptisms. Once these assumptions were swept away by the DNA test, suddenly a number of areas of commonality between James, Isaac, and the North Hill Coad main line sprang into relief.

James must be either an unrecorded son of the North Hill founder William 1630, or his son William Jr 1658, and there is circumstantial evidence for either possibility. For the former possibility he must have married late, for the latter, married (1718) and died (1738) early. Like Isaac, he is the first of this forename in the family; he is probably named for King James II who ruled 1685-1688, and he might have been born in that period. (There is some evidence other early members of this family were Jacobites.) This was too late for him to be fathered by the elder William unless he married twice, and too early for the younger William who married in 1692. He is not mentioned in the will of William senior in 1713, indicating he may be a son of William Jr, probably a third son born around 1698. Like Isaac, he called his eldest son William after his father; two younger children are named Honor and John after his aunt and uncle (or brother and sister), and his youngest son in 1730 was named after King George II.

The reason for James’ move to the border parishes also becomes apparent once this ancestry is assumed. His aunt (or elder sister) Jane married in Lezant in 1701. His uncle Isaac was just across the river. His elder brother, William Coad III, also had a family in Stoke Climsland from 1714.

**Lamerton Coads - descendants of Isaac Coad**

Parish records in Devon are much less available than in Cornwall, so we had quite poor records of the Lamerton/ Marytavy family, who were mostly stonemasons. Lamerton is about 14 miles from North Hill — a long way in those days — but it is just across the Tamar from Stoke Climsland in Cornwall where James had his first two children. Residents of the two parishes “flit backwards and forwards between the two places as if the Tamar just wasn’t there.”

In 1841 there were 19 Lamerton Coads in Devon, but by 1901 there were none in the whole of Britain, except for several elderly spinsters in London; the line is believed to survive today only in Sydney and perhaps in Ontario. We have not yet found a descendant to obtain DNA confirmation, nevertheless the evidence is compelling as to their ancestry.

The forename ties of this family with the North Hill Coads are even stronger than in the previous case, and it is almost certain that Isaac was the youngest, unrecorded son of William the founder. He was the first Coad of that name, but subsequently there were 11 Isaacs among his own descendants and in the North Hill family — and these are almost the only Isaac Coads on record. Isaac named his first son William and his third son Robert, after his father and only uncle, making a fairly tight case for his ancestry.

**St Budeaux Coads — descendants of Walter Coad**

As well as these two lines, we found occasional references in apprenticeship records to Walter and William Coad in St Budeaux, which today is a northern suburb of Plymouth. Because of the distance, which is about 20 miles away and bypassing two or three other early Coad families, we were reluctant to associate this family with Walter of North Hill. A partial listing of the baptisms of St Budeaux appeared on RootsWeb several years ago, showing eight Coad(e) baptisms in the period 1700-1720. We were able to confirm that these included Walter and William, and that their father was a yeoman, Walter Coad. Unfortunately, because of the death of the Online Parish Clerk, we have been unable to obtain more details. The only real candidate for this father is Walter Coad 1674, fifth son of William of North Hill. Because we know the younger sons of William Coad were prepared to move into Devon, we can reasonably propose that this family is also a North Hill branch.

**Summary**

At this stage, Y-DNA is a fairly blunt tool for establishing lines of descent within families, though improved methods are emerging. However, in distinguishing between families, DNA is an unparalleled tool. DNA takes precedence over any other form of evidence when it comes to determining whether two individuals are related or not. If the DNA result contradicts what is currently thought, then any pre-existing conjectures have to be dropped and new evidence sought — completely changing the focus of investigation. Quite often in this situation, an apparently intractable situation is rapidly resolved, and several brick walls can be solved at once.

In the present case, unjustified beliefs that “North Hill Coads baptised all their children” and “Coads never crossed the Cornwall-Devon border before 1775,” while Cornish farmers “never went farming elsewhere in Britain,” prevented us finding the antecedents of three stray lines: those of Walter, Isaac, and James Coad. A single Y-DNA test overturned these assumptions and we were able to assign these families with reasonable likelihood to the North Hill clan.

Like most new tools, Y-DNA is only slowly revealing its practical uses in one-name studies, which are, at present, establishing taxonomies and broad kinship lines, thereby giving direction to conventional research. However we are heading towards the stage where DNA can be used to determine actual lines of descent, as a subsequent article will show.

The unabridged article — including footnotes and references — can be found on the Guild website at [http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-2_floodcomplete.pdf](http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-2_floodcomplete.pdf).
As a child, I loved the well-known book by Alison Uttley, *Traveller in Time*, where a girl is transported back from her current life to the sixteenth century and becomes involved in the Babington plot to free Mary Queen of Scots. Maybe that has something to do with why I get so much pleasure from my one-name study on the surname Foulds and its variants. It is my own personal experience of time-travelling, visiting the most diverse places and periods in a short space of time: one day I can be scouring the parish records in Tudor Derbyshire, whilst on the next I can be looking at land lottery records in Georgia, USA.

**Background to the Study**

The Foulds One-Name Study started at the beginning of 2013, so it is relatively new and is classified as a medium-sized study by the Guild. Foulds is my maiden surname. The number of holders of the name today in the UK is estimated at just over 2,400, with a smaller number of variants such as Folds, Fold, and Fowlds. However, in the United States, the predominant spelling is Folds.

Having registered with the Guild, I spent some time deciding exactly what I wanted the study to address, establishing a project plan, and setting out the core records and methods of data collection I would use. I was determined to try to give the study a worldwide element from the start, which is probably due to my original background as a geographer. However, I also knew I had to be realistic about what was manageable. I consequently set a target to concentrate initially on the United Kingdom and the United States. Having travelled in the States a number of times, I felt that I would have some understanding of the history and geography of the areas.

A working objective for the study was drafted: “To explore the historical migrations of the Foulds/Folds families (and variants) within the prevailing economic, social and political context of the time.” I have a particularly keen interest in migration, both within the UK and externally, so the objective I have chosen should help to keep me passionate about a study, which is likely to take up a considerable amount of time over many years!

**Core Data Collection**

My core records to date for the UK have included the normal census records, BMD records, parish registers, wills and inventories, monumental inscriptions, Commonwealth War Graves Commission records, plus older records such as hearth tax, subsidies, etc. I find newspapers from all countries fascinating and they will undoubtedly become a core resource as the study progresses. Given the inclusion of an American focus — and the particular objectives around migration — emigration/immigration records such as passenger lists, Castle Garden, and Ellis Island records have become core areas for research. This has also meant understanding unfamiliar USA documents: censuses, vital records, land lottery records, Civil War records, and so on. I am enjoying this, but it is challenging.

I have found that many of the Legacy Family Tree webinars (free until archived) and the FamilySearch wiki have been essential in learning about the particular records of certain states, and that there are some great biographies and historical reference books about colonisation and development of the different US states online, which are vital for providing the all-important contextual background. The saying that “a good genealogist is a good historian” rings very true with me. The FamilySearch wiki also led me to a superb free resource of US historical maps and atlases which I could not be without. The website [www.mapofus.org](http://www.mapofus.org) provides animated maps of all the county boundary changes over time. Hence for Georgia, I can look at the boundaries from 1758 — when the land was held between two American Indian tribes — right up to the 1930s.

**Variants**

The jury is still out over exactly which variants to include as part of the study, as one or two variants, such as Fooles, could be crossovers from the surname Fowles. Some of the older spellings of Foulds — such as Foldys/Foldys — are still in existence in very small numbers, but can also be of eastern European origin. Similarly, the surname Fould occasionally appears as an alternative spelling of Foulds, but is a surname in its own right, probably deriving from the city of Fulda in Germany and becoming established in a dynasty of prominent French Jewish bankers. However, I have generally worked on the basis of being inclusive, rather than exclusive.

The only exception to this rule is that I am not studying the surname Faulds at this stage, which is linked far more closely to Scottish counties. The origin of the name could be similar to Foulds, but could also take its origin from a piece of plate armour. I have used Deborah Kennett’s advice that if two variants occur in opposite parts of the country, with very different distribution patterns, then it is probably safe to say they are not related and concentrate research on the primary surname of interest. At some point in the future there may be a parallel study on Faulds and variants.

Parishes and Peach Trees: The Foulds One-Name Study  

by Anne Leonard (Member 6204)
Data recording has been based on Excel spreadsheets, which I have generally found work well, using Guild templates and adapting them to include additional columns which enable me to link data to particular individuals in particular family trees. I also use colour coding for linking families visually, and a research log page for every spreadsheet I create. I use Family Tree Maker for developing family trees for my one-name study. I download data from FamilySearch and Free BMD, and supplement this with parish data from a wide range of sources, including Online Parish Clerks, CDs, original documents, and so on. The Foulds ancestors appear to originate in Lancashire, so I am delighted that the Online Parish Clerk system for Lancashire is so well developed. I have also taken advantage of the excellent Guild Marriage Challenge.

I have been transcribing the UK and US censuses into the spreadsheets, checking the original documents against the transcriptions on the main genealogy websites. In a number of cases this has enabled me to identify a possible variant as a deviant, as I know that the census enumerator has recorded the name differently from the spelling used by the family in other records. It has also helped me to get to “know” the families more closely so that I can recognise individuals and families in earlier records quickly, rather than just relying on data linkage.

Once an individual is placed in a family tree (UK-only to date), I record their personal data against any BMD or parish record held in my databases so that I can be aware of possible incorrect or double usage of records; it also provides a sense of ongoing achievement as linkages begin to develop.

Origins of the Surname

So where did the Foulds or Folds name originate? The generally accepted view from surname researchers such as Hanks and Hodges is that the name comes from the Old English “fald,” meaning someone who lived near or worked at an enclosure used for animals. There was another meaning of fold, which is an area of land taken from the wastes and fenced to produce corn until the land was exhausted. Personally, I believe that there may have been a distinction between a person who lived near an enclosure, such as Adam le Fold (1327 Subsidy Roll, Derbyshire), and one who worked at it, such as John the Folder, who was the earliest tenant recorded on land attached to Bank Hall, Colne in a deed of 1274-77.

Bardsley suggests that the surname could derive from a place called Folds, a village in Sharples township, Bolton parish, Lancashire. Bennett, on the contrary, talks about Burnley tenants — such as Laurence of the Folds in 1443 — predating the development of field names which included Fold in the 16th century. I believe at the moment that the surname developed prior to the use of Folds for a place name.

An analysis of the 1837 to 1851 death data for England and Wales (see graph at the right) is very useful in showing the place of residence of people who were born in the 18th century, although burials could occur at some distance from the normal place of residence. When I analysed the surname Foulds in this way (total: 381 occurrences) it showed a strong concentration in Lancashire.

Fowlds, Fouldes, Fould and Fouldes (small numbers) showed a similar northern focus. Over half of all the occurrences of Folds, Fold and Foldes were in Lancashire, although there was some slight dispersal to the southern counties. A similar review for deaths in Scotland 1855-1865 showed that there were 58 for Foulds (predominantly Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and Ayrshire), one for Fold, and 14 for Fowlds (predominantly Ayrshire), so the pattern was skewed to the western counties.

I then analysed the registration districts for deaths in Lancashire for 1837 to 1851 and the pattern revealed that 65 percent of the registrations were in Burnley, followed by Blackburn (12.1 percent) and Leigh (6.4 percent).

This pattern ties in very well with an analysis of early baptismal records in Lancashire. The earliest record relates to 1562 for Marie Ffoulds, daughter of John Foulds at St. Peter, Burnley. In the period 1562 to 1618, there were a total of 69 baptismal records, with 43 occurring in Burnley, 23 in Colne, two in Padiham, and one in Blackburn. Foulds families start to be linked to particular named locations, such as Trawden (1601). Spellings in the St. Peters Burnley parish register are generally reasonably standardised, with Ffoulds predominating. The Colne parish registers show a marked variety of spellings, including Folds, Folde, Foldes, Foulde and Fouldes.

This linkage to a possible homeland for the surname also correlates with early histories of name-holders. In 1425 Richard of the Folds, a forester, enclosed land around a house called Dansey Erse near Burnley, whilst John Folds of Sand Hall enclosed land at nearby Ridge Common in 1443. A farm called Folds in Brierciffe was tenanted in 1443 by a family of the same name. There are strong Foulds connections to the Trawden area (possibly a branch of the Burnley families) in the 1500s, and one of the victims in the famous Pendle witch trials in 1612 was Ann Folds, near Colne. The data seems to point to a possible point of origin around Burnley and Colne.

Today the Foulds name is more widely spread, although the higher numbers are still clearly seen in Lancashire, West and South Yorkshire, and the East Midlands in the 2013 electoral roll. In Scotland, the major presence is around the Glasgow area. Interestingly, Folds is now more concentrated around the southern counties, particularly Hertfordshire. I am looking at whether this is purely due to migration or a complicating factor, in that “fould” apparently means hill in Hertfordshire dialect; could the name have arisen separately there?

The 1880 census of the US shows a noticeable prevalence of the spelling Folds over

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

A portion of Lancashire showing the locations of Burnley, Colne, Padiham, and Pendle Hill.
Story such as the headright and bounty land grants, and the eight families of Georgia into their historical context, using records. The second project is to put the extensive number of Folds between generations and locations as possible. The first area of work is to collect as much information as I can about the early Foulds/Folds around the Burnley, Colne and Trawden areas, using a range of manorial, taxation, and local history records; and seek to make as many linkages from original slaveholders.

Priorities for Analysis/Synthesis:
Although I will probably never have the time to do a one-place study as well, the methodologies involved in this interest me greatly, and I find Janet Few’s writing on putting families into their proper historical and sociological context very illuminating.

Given the size of this study, I have decided to prioritise very strictly in order to achieve some useful outputs in terms of analysis and synthesis over the next 12 months. I will continue to collect data on all areas, but have set myself three key projects.

The first area of work is to collect as much information as I can about the early Foulds/Folds around the Burnley, Colne and Trawden areas, using a range of manorial, taxation, and local history records; and seek to make as many linkages between generations and locations as possible.

The second project is to put the extensive number of Folds families of Georgia into their historical context, using records such as the headright and bounty land grants, and the eight land lotteries between 1805 and 1833. Books like the Story of Georgia and the Georgia People 1832 - 1860 on archive.org help to provide names of the very earliest settlers, such as J Foulds who signed a petition in 1740 complaining about the state of the colony. I am also interested in the slavery context, the Civil War 1861-1865, and the effect of the cotton embargo and blockade in Georgia on the Foulds families in Lancashire (approximately one-third of whom were involved in the cotton trade, according to the 1861 census).

In the 1860 US census slave schedules there were six main Folds slaveholders. By 1870 the slaves had been freed: to what extent can I try to estimate the number of slaves who stayed in their own areas, recognising that it is difficult with the 1860 schedules only providing numbers, owners and locations? Equally, to what extent were Folds families actively engaged in the Civil War, using muster rolls and war records, such as James J. Fold who deserted and was transported to Cincinnati in 1864? And back in Lancashire, to what extent were Foulds families affected by the cotton famine: did they apply for poor relief, move to woollen mills in Yorkshire, work for other employers, or migrate to other countries? I am keen to undertake analysis and synthesis which looks at changes in occupation or location on a longitudinal basis, and crosses the Atlantic, too.

Finally, my third project is a pilot study on Derbyshire, which analyses the socio-economic structure of the families. I am using this very much as a “trial and error” process, so that I can roll out some of the work to other counties in due course. Areas I am working on include age analysis, kinship networks, residential persistence, fertility rates, occupational structure, and in-migration/out-migration. Trying to find the best possible way to present data is an incredibly good learning process for me!

As the study progresses I want to ensure that the contextual history and an understanding of population demographics are given as much emphasis and weight as the genealogical findings. How do the Foulds/Folds compare to the wider population in their particular areas, at specific points in time? And how can the history add real richness to their stories?

Next Steps
It is still very early, but I think that some useful findings are emerging about the possible area of the surname’s origin. I am beginning to analyse and synthesise the data I have obtained so far regarding migration patterns and the impact on family structure. I have just set up a Facebook page and have received some interesting contacts. My aim is to publish a series of migration stories about the Foulds families and the historical times they lived through, both within the UK, and from the Old to the New World; I plan to do this primarily in book form, and in more abbreviated form on a dedicated web site. I am finding the research requirements of the study to be wide ranging and utterly absorbing — and that’s before I even start on Australasia, South Africa, India, or South America!

This article is abridged from an essay written as part of the Pharos Teaching & Tutoring Advanced ONS Course. The complete article — including all illustrations and footnotes — can be found on the Guild website at http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-2_leonardpharos.pdf.
I came across some news items which are very interesting, but raised the question of whether I should make them more widely available.

The first was a photograph in the London Metropolitan Archive of a boy associated with Whitechapel Methodist Mission. Looking at the small packet of photos, I realised that many of the photos had a life story written on the back. One described a boy as “useless” twice and showed where he had been sent to work. Another referred to a boy stealing from his employer, which then led to seeing his juvenile court records in the 1920s. Thinking about it, this could have been my father. Would I want the information to be given more publicity, seeing that he may have died in the last 20 to 30 years and his children would still be alive? Whilst some children may be fascinated by the revelations, others may be very hurt.

The second news item was about an inquest in 1847, where a daughter killed herself. It is a very graphic account, but the father also stated that her mother had been unstable and at times had been “confined” in a hospital. 1847 can take us back to a great-great-aunt, but should I publish such a distressing account?

A third item arose recently: I track items with my surname coming up for sale on eBay, and one day a search showed a lovely picture of a presentation cannon given to a person on their retirement from a position in 1986. (Don’t worry, only a desktop ornament!) It had a small plaque on the side which identified them, so I could easily spot them in one of my trees. This lovely photo would be ideal for my newsblog, and in itself is innocuous, but, this person would be 68 and they or a relative may be clearing out their house, as this item was found in a car boot sale. Would they be offended seeing this given a wider audience, possibly indicating that this person may be moving into a care home? It’s quite a minefield!

Some situations to consider

Here are twenty situations that you may come across, many that I already have. Not all are difficult, but many could have consequences for the relatives. Across the top are different types of sharing, from very private or kept within the family circle at the left, and becoming more open towards the right, reaching very open disclosure on Ancestry or Genes Reunited family trees. At the very right are two columns for completeness, ‘would you quietly file the information?’ and ‘would you dispose of it?’

Almost all the situations are information in the public domain, but your choice in sharing that information may make that much more public than others might like. For instance, in the past I have shared GEDCOMs with researchers who have then loaded the whole file onto Genes Reunited despite my requests when sharing it.

As one-name researchers, do we not have a duty to record this information, good and bad? But what should we do with the bad? And how bad is bad: does time always sanitise them, and how long should that time be?

So what would you do in each of these situations, and what might the consequences be? Here’s your chance to work out your own policies. As you do it, think about what key aspects of the data are causing you to think in this way? Also, think about where you should store the information, as you may share a file which contains it without realising it.

What Information Would You Share? (...and Who Would You Share it With?)

by Ian Gotts (Member 1398)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of death of your grandfather</th>
<th>News item about a grandparent being given a medal for bravery posthumously</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of marriage of your parents</td>
<td>Details of children given away for adoption by any relative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your parent’s birth certificate</td>
<td>Details about a relative who was transported to Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth certificate for a great-grandfather which shows he was illegitimate</td>
<td>News item about a grandparent being the cause of someone else dying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The fact that someone in the last 100 years was adopted which wasn’t generally known</td>
<td>Birth certificate for an uncle or great-aunt from an earlier marriage not known about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News item painting a close relative as an awful person, true or not</td>
<td>Suicide details 1847 showing mental problems within family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile court record for 1926</td>
<td>Tale handed down from your great-grandmother about who the real father was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News item on the value of your grandparent’s will</td>
<td>Bankruptcy petition for your grandfather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorce papers for relatives in 1930’s, e.g. from The National Archives with adultery declarations</td>
<td>Conviction of a great-uncle for being homosexual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death certificate showing a close relative died in a lunatic asylum</td>
<td>Details of trial for attempted murder (but not convicted) by 4th cousin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Would you share this information with your parents or siblings? Their relatives or descendants? A non-family researcher? Would you post the information on your website? Or would you quietly file it away, or dispose of it?

This is a great discussion topic for a family history group!

I have now used this list with four family history groups with 31 responses overall. What has been fascinating is that for almost all the questions someone has come up with an example of a similar situation or dilemma, both in the past and with living people they know about.

I hadn’t realised just how different people react, with some radically different views about how to treat the data.

Some people have appreciated the hurt which could ensue by making this information widely available, and would err on the side of not sharing much data. Others felt that publicly available data is public, and felt no qualms about passing it on. Both views are valid, so I’m not trying to make any judgement on either, just trying to work out what my personal views are.

“People should be remembered for the good and the bad they have done,” was one statement made, whilst others felt that if they did nothing with the information it did not compromise others from finding it in 20-30 years time and deciding their actions for themselves.

Another angle is that some people have a strong feeling about equality and diversity, where legislation and views have changed significantly over the last thirty years. Consequently they were very keen to expose the wrongs done to ancestors, and would publicise the historical treatment of a homosexual, as well as the bad use of asylums, e.g. commitment of unmarried mothers by their own fathers, to help society better understand mental health.

Surprisingly, quite a number took a while to realise that some of the information disclosed about parents or grandparents can be used for identity theft. Whilst it is publicly available, why make it easier for a criminal?

Here are the results of all 31, normalised to show the score out of 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR FAMILY</th>
<th>THEIR RELATIVE</th>
<th>RESEARCHER KNOWN TO YOU</th>
<th>NEW RESEARCHER</th>
<th>GEDCOM</th>
<th>WEB TREE</th>
<th>OWN WEBSITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dod gf</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>6.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dom parent</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent parent</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illeg birth cert</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopted</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bravery</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child given up</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aus transport</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown mar</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awful news item</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juv court</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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<td>Value of will</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorce papers</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death in asylum</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tale handed down</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankruptcy</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homo conviction</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted murder</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observations From the Results

As expected, people are more conservative the wider the publication of the information. 7 out of 10 would store it in their GEDCOM, and discuss it within their own family, 5 out of 10 would pass it on to other researchers, and 2.6 out of 10 would put it on the web. The age of the information appeared to be less important, with a difference of only one point: a slight surprise given the 100-year rule that many apply.

I wondered how different the views were between Guild members and U3A members. The U3A members were much more likely to pass on information about adoption and divorce; I wonder whether this might be partly due to the higher proportion of women in those groups.

Some Guidelines That Emerged

I’m sure many have written up their own view of what is good practice, but here’s what has come out of my use of the questionnaire.
The primary aspects of sharing data were seen as:

- Any impact on personal security against identity theft
- The sensitivity to living descendants
- How far back in our tree the data relates to, as time often sanitises it
- Whether it is good or bad news, e.g. bravery is good news and much less of an issue to publicise
- The possibility of malicious use of the information, e.g. publishing it for extra news sales at the expense of the person involved
- The level of trust in the people you are giving the data to, to make the same call as yourself.

Some approaches people identified include:

- Using a hundred-year rule for publication on a website (On my website I do not describe people born after 1910, neither do I publish any ‘bad’ information later than 1900).
- If you are aware of a family member, check with them whether they are happy for it to be published. They will have their own views, which may surprise you.
- Being careful about who you share GEDCOMs with, and privatise any living people. (I usually start by sending PDFs instead of GEDCOMs as it is a bit more difficult to extract the information which stops the immediate upload of your tree onto a public website.)

My folder on unpublishable material is not included in my GEDCOMs, and at some point I will pass on to whoever takes over my study.

This exercise has sharpened my own views on what to share and with whom, and I am now more conservative with sharing large-scale electronic trees. I am sure many readers have their own views and policies on what should happen to these sorts of information. Feel free to add your comments to my GOONS Bulletin Board entry or the Forum.

Looking at the Guild Wiki, all I could find on guidance was this reference: US National Genealogical Society’s Genealogical Standards & Guidelines: Standards For Sharing Information With Others are particularly relevant (and they have been endorsed by the Society of Genealogists). The site is: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/Ref_Researching/gssharing.pdf.

If you wish to use this questionnaire with your own family history group it is available on the GOONS Bulletin Board. You’ll find it a very lively discussion and will certainly make people think about their own approach!

Serendipity at the Border

by David Dexter (Member 4101)

After spending a long day looking through British Isles records at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City a few years ago, I decided to take a break and do something different. I ventured to another area to explore records of United States-Canada border crossings.

The US-Canadian border is an often-overlooked though important US immigration channel, as the border typically offered easier entrance to the United States than more common immigration stations such as Ellis Island and Castle Garden.

My father had moved to Canada from England some time in the late 1930s, but after the outbreak of the Second World War he ended up in Washington DC working for the British Admiralty. I didn’t know exactly when he had gone to Canada, what he had done there, and when and why he came to the US. I thought the border crossing records might provide some clues.

The border crossing records are indexed by surname, and I quickly found a listing for my father in 1940. But I also noticed a listing for a Henry Dexter in 1910. My father had an uncle named Henry — but to my knowledge Henry had spent most of his adult life in Nuremberg, Germany, where he was a businessman and also served as honorary British consul. I believed he had lived continuously in Germany until he was interned at the start of the First World War. I doubted this Henry Dexter was related... but as I was already in the area, it would only take a few extra minutes to look up this Henry’s card as well as my father’s.

I quickly found Henry Dexter’s record on microfilm. Henry indicated his next-of-kin was his brother, Thomas, in London. Thomas was my grandfather’s oldest brother, and I knew the address to be Thomas’ residence. He was my Henry!

Henry was transiting the US on his way back to Germany from Canada. A note attached to the card indicated he was travelling with a group of English and German school teachers. That was strange, as he was a businessman, not a teacher — but that is a subject for further research. One question solved, but a new mystery added!

The border-crossing record proved that the unknown Henry was my grandfather’s brother.
Finding Proof for That Elusive Arrival

by Neville Bray (Member 5328)

We Australians do not have to go back many generations to come to our first arrival and it soon becomes a key part of our family history research to answer the question: “How did they migrate here, or did they swim?”

There are basically four ways that people migrated to Australia during the 19th century:

- As a convict. Numbers vary depending on which source you check, but if you have one of these you are lucky, as there are very good records about them and you can even find physical descriptions and transcripts of their trial.

- As an assisted immigrant under one of the many different schemes that operated during that century. Again, good records exist, which provide information about the arrival and their origins.

- As a colonial official or member of a military unit. Again, records will have been kept and it should be possible to find your person.

- As a free, unassisted immigrant. The bureaucracy of the day was not particularly interested in these people, and very poor records were kept. In fact, during the gold rush years which began in 1851, many thousands of people arrived on ships where just the number of steerage passengers was recorded for quarantine purposes, and no names were taken.

We all seem to have at least one family that proves to be difficult, don’t we? One of mine has been my great-great-grandparents, Cornelius and Mary Ann (Hayles) Bray. I had searched for the immigration of this family over many years without success, and had accepted that they were among the large numbers of unnamed people who arrived as steerage passengers during the gold rush years mentioned above. Other researchers and I knew that a brother, George and Amelia (Greentree) Bray and family, also arrived about the same time and it is the obvious assumption that the two families travelled together. The arrival of this family had not been found. Both families are in the 1851 census for Portsea, Hampshire, and we knew that both were in Sydney by 2 May 1855, when Amelia was present at the birth of Mary Ann’s son, Alfred Bray. The information we had narrowed their immigration down to circa 1852-54.

One of the questions asked on NSW death certificates is “Where born and how long in the Australian Colonies?” We all hope for a full answer to this question when purchasing the certificate for our first arrival. As expected, the closer the relationship of the informant, the more accurate the information is likely to be. Typically, the one that should have been the best for me did not help. Cornelius supplied the information for his brother George’s death, but he did not answer this question. The death of Cornelius was registered by his son-in-law, Alexander Bragg, who just gave England as place of birth (not a lot of help), and took a rough guess at an arrival date. He also gave the wrong name for Cornelius’ father, something that put me on a fruitless search for some time.

New South Wales, as the first colony, has the most comprehensive records in its archives, and even includes some information about the early years of the other colonies. Much of their material dealing with convicts and immigrants is now online and is free to search. This excellent site is an absolute must-visit for any NSW research. Go to www.records.nsw.gov.au. Some years ago I had found an entry in their “unassisted passengers” index for a Mr & Mrs C. Bray and family arriving in Sydney in 1853 on the St George. The reference given was the newspaper the Sydney Morning Herald. This entry is typical of the unassisted passenger records of that time (where they exist), and which usually only give a family name with an occasional initial. As the Herald entry would not have the full names of this family or more information, I had not bothered to pursue this any further. Then, while visiting a friend, he mentioned the digitisation of the Australian Newspapers in Trove at the Australian National Library www.nla.gov.au, which is a really great resource. We looked up the shipping notice for the St George, and the names just leapt off the page at me.

The Herald of 29 July 1853 reported:

“July 28 - St. George, barque, 222 tons, Captain Paterson, from London March 12th. Passengers, - Mr. and Mrs. Hayles, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bray and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bray and family, Mrs. Foster and son, Mr. Hull, and Mr. Rawley.”

On this small ship (small even for that time), carrying cargo and just 16 passengers, were two Bray families and an added bonus: a Mr and Mrs Hayles (Mary Ann was a Hayles). These families just have to be mine, despite the initial “R” instead of “G.” It would not be the first time a newspaper gave a wrong name! Now the hard part, actually proving it.

Back to the NSW archives site to check the index again; this time I searched for the ship and year instead of a person. The list of names showed something odd. The index compilers gave the reference, S.M.H. (Sydney Morning Herald) for “Bray, C. Mr. Mrs. Fam,” but reel 1280 for “Bray, R. Mr. Mrs. 2 Sons, 2 Dau.” It also quoted reel 1280 for all the other passengers. The shipping entries on reel 1280 for unassisted passengers at this time are very brief, and the St George was
no exception. But there was a problem: the list of names
given was Mr and Mrs Hayles; Mr and Mrs Bray, two sons and
two daughters; Mr T. Hull; Mr G. Rawley; Mrs Foster, one
son. Only one Bray family was recorded by name, with no
identifying initial. Note that this adds up to 12 people yet
the attached health officer’s report clearly states that there
were 16 passengers on board. The four missing names must
be the other Mr. and Mrs. Bray and family mentioned in the
*Herald* report (two adults and two children). Thus the oddity
in the archives index is because the compilers chose to give
the Bray family in the shipping list the “R” initial, leaving the
only reference to C Bray and family being the Herald report.
However, as no initial was given in the original shipping list,
the numbers of children specified could belong equally well
to either family.

We knew from certificates that George and Amelia (Green-
tree) Bray arrived with two children, a son Edward and a
daughter Kate, which fits one of the two families. We also
knew from various certificates that Cornelius and Mary Ann
(Hayles) Bray migrated with two daughters, Mary Ann and
Fanny, and at least one son, Harry Cornelius. By the time
their son, Alfred, was born in May 1855 in Sydney, they had
sadly lost three other sons. So for the C. Bray on the ship
to be mine, I needed to find one of these three sons that made
the trip but died before 1855.

In the 1851 census for the family in Portsea, there is a son
Robert, age 1, who seemed a likely candidate. A check in
the NSW BDM index [www.bdm.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/) gave a death of
a Robert William Charles Bray in 1853. The parish register
film entry gave the burial in the parish of Camperdown in
Sydney of Robert William Charles Bray of Bourke St, who died
26 September 1853, age 9. No parents or birthplace is given.

Now this gave me another problem: if this Robert was mine
and the age 9 is correct, this does not match with the age of 1
in the 1851 census. Which age is wrong? I leaned towards the
census entry being wrong. After all, the other son mentioned,
Harry Cornelius Bray (my great-grandfather), is missing from
the family’s entry in the 1851 census. I have checked the
households of every relative I can think of in case he is with
them but unfortunately, poor Harry, age 3, must have been
sleeping in a park somewhere on census night.

I searched the free British BMD online for the period 1843 to
1853 (to cover all possible ages) for a birth of a Robert Bray.
There were no suitable births to match either the age of 1
in 1851 or 9 in 1853. However, there was a birth of a Robert
William Charles Bray in the first quarter 1853, and it was in
Portsea, the right place for me. I was able to do this search
at the push of a button; in the past this would have taken me
40 films (one per quarter), to have finally found it. I just love
computer databases!

This raised a number of new questions, because it did not seem
to match either the census or the burial. Of course, it could
also be a completely unrelated person. There was only one
way to find out, so I purchased the certificate. This confirmed
that Robert William Charles Bray was indeed the son of my
Cornelius and Mary Ann. He was born on 21 December 1852
in Portsea, and doing the arithmetic shows that the recorded
age of 9 for the burial in Sydney in September 1853 was
actually 9 months not 9 years. This certificate also indicates
that the “Robert age 1” in the census must have died, and
that the parents reused the name, something that was not
uncommon for that period. These two Roberts now account
for two of the three deceased sons stated in 1855.

I am now quite satisfied that the Mr & Mrs C. Bray with two
sons and two daughters on the *St George* are mine. They were
still in England on 26 January 1853 when Cornelius registered
Robert’s birth, and the ship sailed on 12 March. They were
in Sydney by 26 September 1853, when Robert died, and the
ship had arrived on 28 July. I have now also proved that they
did indeed travel with two sons and two daughters.

I checked in the NSW BDM index for a death of a Hayles with
the same parents as Mary Ann. I found a Robert who died
in 1902 in Wollongong. I purchased this certificate, which
proved that he was the brother of my Mary Ann and that he
had been in the colonies for about the same length of time.
There were no children of his marriage. There was also a
death in Wollongong which was a match for the details of
his wife, Elizabeth Boulton. I found this couple in the 1851
census. No children were listed. Therefore, we can assume
that these probably are the Mr and Mrs Hayles who travelled
on the *St George*, because of their close relationship to Mary
Ann and Cornelius.

The situation for the descendants of the other Bray family is
different, because the *Herald* quoted an initial of “R” and not
“G,” which could easily be a mistake. However, the family
unit was two adults and two children, and they did arrive
in Sydney about the same time. While I was researching this
article, Robin Bray, a descendant of George, sent me a report
from the British legal journal *The Jurist* of 29 Jan 1853,
which shows bankruptcy proceedings against a George Bray of
Portsea, who is very likely to be ours. If so, this would narrow
down the possible travel dates for George and family and
provide a very good reason for their migration. This greatly
increases the probability of them being on the *St George*.
There is also the extremely unlikely coincidence that there
would be two unrelated Bray families and an unrelated Hayles
family on such a small ship, so I am very confident that these
are George and Amelia Bray and their children. This means
that 12 out of the 16 passengers are related to each other
and to me.

Cornelius Bray listed his occupation as Mariner when he
married Mary Ann Hayles. He also gave this as his occupation
in the 1851 census. The merchant seamen records haveecome available on Findmypast, so here is his record:

```
No of Register Ticket 467557.

*Cornelius Bray*, born at Portsea on the 17th Day of November 1813, Capacity Steward

Height 5' 5", Hair Lt Brown, Complexion Fair, Eyes Blue, Marks, Scar on upper lip

Has served in the Royal Navy 11 years. When unemployed, resides at Portsea, Can Write Yes. Issued at Cowes 27th May 1850.
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Interesting that he was in the Navy as well, but unfortunately
the available naval records only start after he came here. I
would love to know if he had been to Australia before the
migration, however. Because of his involvement with other
seamen he would have been much better informed about
Australia than the majority of immigrants at that time. One
also wonders: Did he work his way out or pay full price for
the passage? It is also interesting that both families did not
go to the gold fields, but remained in Sydney.
Book Review:

Fanthorpe – People & Place

reviewed by Anne Shankland MCG (Member 1554)

Fanthorpe - People and Place
by Rod and Jean Fanthorpe
Quarto, c.560 pages
ISBN 978-0-9927243-0-6

This is a most impressive book! Approximately A4 format, and nearly two inches thick, beautifully presented and printed, with a wealth of illustrations and charts to back up the text, it demands attention and richly rewards it.

The book is well-named, as the “People and Place” of Fanthorpe are the central subjects throughout. The subtitle — How a worldwide family developed from its Lincolnshire locative roots in its social and economic context — gives some idea of the scope of the book. But far from being a dry and tedious account of how a family name spreads over time and distance, this book is full of lively stories of Fanthorpe name-bearers, bringing them richly to life.

In the introduction, Rod and Jean Fanthorpe explain their approach to their one-name study (in which both have an interest since both have Fanthorpe ancestry):

“We are not of the modern trend of genealogists who are ‘name collectors’... The people you read about in this book have had lives, as we are living now, but in different times, with different circumstances prevailing and affecting their lives. They were always people – never names and dates. So here you get the good and the bad of life as it is known to have happened to them, with the hardships, sadness and what must have also been the joyful times too.”

The book is in four main sections, of which the first two are entitled Genesis and Exodus. Genesis starts with what is in effect a one-place study of Fanthorpe (Louth) in Lincolnshire, from Ice Age prehistory through to the Dark Ages and Medieval times, and thence to more plentifully documented periods to almost the Victorian age. The two earliest known name-bearers are discussed, both in the early 14th century, both taking the name “de Fanthorpe” from the location. Later chapters then study a succession of Fanthorpe families, from early Tudor times to the early 18th century.

Exodus, as its name suggests, deals with the various emigrations of Fanthorpes from their Lincolnshire roots to other areas in the county, the country, and beyond, including France, Holland, USA, Hong Kong, and Australia — again told in the context of the individuals concerned.

The third section of the book, The Walesby Fanthorpe, continues the story of a different branch of the Fanthorpes as they spread out around the country and around the globe.

The final section, perhaps appropriately after the account of the spread of the Fanthorpe name, is about Bringing the Family Together, and includes not only a Fanthorpe roll of honour, but also accounts of the Fanthorpe millennium gathering and the 2003 Fanthorpe gathering.

Throughout the book are pages of family-relationship charts and many photographs, mostly of people but also of places, buildings, documents, and so on. Oddly, although the pages of text are numbered, those containing charts and photographs are not — page numbering continues on to the next text page. There are some 250 pages of illustrations in addition to the 322 pages of text.

The format and statistics of this book do not do justice to its extraordinary appeal. Throughout, when discussing the various name-bearers through the ages, the authors paint a vivid picture of these people as individuals: “The big-game hunter, the man who walked sideways, the politician who made the National Health Service Bill into law, the daughter of a miller who became the Mother Superior of a convent... the Texas settler who build a dog-trot inn and kept slaves, and the bigamous lady who kept her rings in orderly array on her hand much as she kept her husbands.” These are particularly colourful characters highlighted in the book’s “blurb,” but the many individuals of rather less outlandish personalities are still lovingly brought to flesh-and-blood vividness by the details provided in the well-written text.

Some of these details are drawn from documents such as wills and inventories, church records, court records, newspapers, etc., whereas others are perceptive and intelligent conjectures based on a good knowledge of domestic manners of the time and of contemporary events and their effect on the people living through them. The authors clearly have a natural empathy with the characters in their story, and enjoy an excellent knowledge of social, domestic, and local history which they have used to good effect. There is a bibliography at the back taking up over six closely-printed pages giving primary and secondary sources, websites, etc.

This book shows not only how informative a one-name study can be, but also how entertaining, even to those with no Fanthorpe connections. Rich in human detail but by no means lacking in genealogical rigour, the book is a model for one-name study publishing.
Although I have been a Guild member for a good few years, this was only my second Guild seminar. I decided to attend this seminar, not because I have a lot of “medical” ancestors, but because I have an interest in the history of medicine and healthcare. This seminar was held at the Wellcome Collection, situated on Euston Road, almost opposite Euston Station, a most appropriate venue for the subject of the seminar.

Apart from conference facilities, the Wellcome Collection contains a café, restaurant, bookshop, and vast library on the history of medicine. The library was created by founder Henry Wellcome, an American pharmacist. His collection does not just contain resources on the history of medicine but is also effectively a history of life, with documents on demography, war, and recipes, amongst others. Wellcome set up a trust in his will which established the facility upon his death in 1936. The trust was to be funded 100 percent by his pharmaceutical company.

The seminar was fully booked and well attended. Richard Heaton welcomed us all to the seminar and introduced us to the speakers.

The first speaker of the day was Dr Christopher Hilton, who is Senior Archivist at the Wellcome. The first part of his talk was on hunting for the medical ancestor: the development of the medical professions and their records. He outlined the formation of the Royal Colleges, from when they were formed and how they came about in London, Scotland, Ireland (including the Republic), and Northern Ireland. Then he described the records where our medical ancestors appear, starting in the 19th century and working backwards through the 18th and 17th centuries. Dr Hilton also told us about some online resources that — as long as you have a Wellcome Library readers ticket — you can access from home. These are:

- The Times Digital Archive
- The British Newspaper Archive

The library also has access to The Lancet, but this can only be accessed from computers in the library. You can obtain a readers’ card in person or online at http://wellcomelibrary.org/using-the-library/joining-the-library/.

At lunchtime, quite a few of the attendees, including myself, did join the library.

After the comfort break, Dr Hilton continued his talk with the development of the medical professions and their...
records, with a brief look at nurses and their development to becoming a professional body. He also briefly talked about dentists, and that they also have registers on opticians, physiotherapists, and medical students. Dr Hilton next went through the Hospital Records Database, which is found at [http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/). The Wellcome Trust works in conjunction with The National Archives to document where surviving hospital records are kept. He also told us of their current project to digitise mental health records. These records can be found at [http://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/browse/collections/digasylum](http://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/browse/collections/digasylum). Finally, Dr Hilton told us about some of the other records that they hold, including some veterinary material.

Our next talk came after lunch. It was “Asylum Records” by Elizabeth Finn, the Collections Development Officer at Kent County Council. Elizabeth’s talk contained information on what information can be found in asylum records — if they survive — for patients and staff. She explained that a good place to start searching for where a person was admitted to is the UK Lunacy Patients Admission Registers 1846-1912 on Ancestry. For patients, available records can consist of:

- Reception orders
- Admission and discharge registers
- Case notes
- Registers of deaths and burials

Patient case notes have very detailed information, and some may include photographs. Elizabeth then went on to describe the staff records that may survive, including staff registers and wage books.

Our next speaker was Carmen M Mangion PhD from Birkbeck University of London, on “Catholic Medical Care Records and Records Held by Private Archives.” Carmen started by explaining what private archives are and that the public has no legal right to access these records unless the archive has received public funding, or has been deposited somewhere that does, in which case access to the records is subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

She then went on to explain how to find hospital records by using the Hospital Records Database, and the problems in finding records of some of the now-closed hospitals. Next, Carmen showed us some digitised patient registers available online from King’s College Hospital and the Historic Hospital Admission Records Project (HHARP). Finally, she briefly spoke about available nursing records that were online, including the new British Red Cross site relating to First World War volunteers.

Our final talk was “Find the Midwife — Midwife Records” and was given by Penny Hutchins, Archivist and Organisation Records Manager from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Penny explained that midwifery was probably the oldest profession, but it was not until 1902 that the profession was regulated with the creation of the Central Midwives Board for England & Wales. She gave us a brief background on the history of midwives pre-1902, and sources where you might be able to find your midwife ancestors, including parish registers, census records, and the journal Nursing Notes and Midwives from 1887.

In conclusion, the Medical and Healthcare Seminar was a thoroughly enjoyable day. All the speakers were excellent, especially Dr Christopher Hilton, who was knowledgeable and entertaining. The venue was comfortable, if a little too warm at times! The Seminar Sub-Committee has done another excellent job in organising and running a seminar. As always, it is good to meet up and interact with fellow one-namers. If you haven’t been to a seminar yet, find one that interests you and go. They are really worthwhile.

See additional seminar photos on the back page.
Forthcoming Seminars

15 August 2015
Cornucopia Seminar
Returning south, this seminar will include older records at Hampshire Record Office as a subject for visitors from outside the area. For those who have missed our computer seminars, we are adding a couple of lectures on computer programmes suitable for a one-name study, and then aim to answer software queries in breakout groups.

Venue: Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall, The Hall Way, Littleton, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 6QL

24 October 2015
Manorial and Older Records Seminar
We’ve once again booked this convenient venue close to Taunton and the M5 motorway and selected an earlier date in the hope that travel there will be easier. The programme will include manorial documents, church courts and a specialist from the National Archives.

Venue: Ruishton Village Hall, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 5JD

13 February 2016
The 20th Century is Now History
We will be looking at the records of the 20th century that may be utilised in a one-name study; voters’ lists, land records, and newspapers are among the topics we are seeking specialist speakers on.

Venue: Colonel Dane Memorial Hall, Church Street, Alwalton, Cambridgeshire PE7 3UU

Hatches, Matches, and Despatches

St. Leonard’s Church Hall, Marshalls Brow, Penwortham, Preston, Lancashire PR1 9JA

09:30 am for 10:00 am, Saturday 16 May 2015

A visit to Lancashire and this seminar will be based on new ways to tackle our favourite topics of birth, marriage, death, and burial. The Guild has many contacts in this field and we have secured a number of specialist speakers who will provide a new twist.

This seminar is open to Guild members, family historians, or anyone with an interest in the topic.

Programme

09:30 - 10:00 Registration and Coffee
10:00 - 10:15 Welcome to the Seminar — Rodney Brackstone
10:15 - 11:15 BMDs on the Internet — Ian Hartas (UKBMD)
11:15 - 11:30 Comfort Break
11:30 - 12:30 Where Did They Marry? — Identifying Marriage Locations Using Free BMD and Other Sources — Dr Andrew Millard
12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break
13:30 - 14:30 Morbidity and Mortality, A One-Family Study — Elizabeth Green
14:30 - 15:00 Tea Break
15:00 - 16:00 It’s Written in Stone — Alan Moorhouse
16:00 - 16:30 Question + Answer Session
16:30 Close of Seminar

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, is £16.00. Bookings close on 3 May 2015. All bookings will be confirmed by email, with full joining instructions, on or before this date. To book and pay online see http://one-name.org/bmd.

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

For more information look under the Events tab at www.one-name.org or from the Guild Help Desk Tel: 0800 011 2182.
Pictures from  
Medical and Healthcare Seminar  
at Wellcome Trust, London  
Saturday 7 February 2015

TOP: Attendees at the 7 February Medical and Healthcare Seminar. LOWER LEFT: Rodney Brackstone (left), Seminar Subcommittee chairman; and Rod Clayburn, Seminar Subcommittee member. LOWER RIGHT: Seminar attendees (from left to right) Carole Steers, Maggie Gaffney, and Jackie Depelle.