All the latest Guild news and updates

Irregular Marriage Habits?

p24

Guild Indexes
Guild of One-Name Studies

Box G, 14 Charterhouse Buildings
Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA
Tel: 0800 011 2182 (UK)
Tel: 1-800 647 4100 (North America)
Tel: 1800 305 184 (Australia)
Email: guild@one-name.org
Website: www.one-name.org
Registered as a charity in England and Wales No. 802048

President
Derek A Palgrave MA MPhil FRHistS FSG MCG

Vice-Presidents
Howard Benbrook MCG
Iain Swinnerton TD. DL. JP MCG
Alec Tritton
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Guild Committee
The Committee consists of the four Officers, plus the following:
Peter Alefounder
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Paul Featherstone

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Seminar: Rodney Brackstone

Email System: Ed Frisken
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CHAIRMAN
Paul Howes
106 Auburndale Dr
Ponte Vedra
Florida 32081
USA
+1 904 342 0881
chairman@one-name.org

VICE-CHAIRMAN
Peter Copsey MCG
86 Scrub Rise
Billericay
Essex
CM12 9PE UK
01277 651800
vice-chairman@one-name.org

SECRETARY
Julie Goucher
Anglers Rest
Grove Crescent
Teignmouth, Devon
TQ14 9HP UK
01626 772735
secretary@one-name.org

TREASURER
Tracy Care
3 Windsor Gardens
Herne Bay
Kent
CT6 8FE UK
01227 906099
treasurer@one-name.org

REGISTRAR
Susan Hundleby
The Old Smithy
1 School Lane
Lea Marston
Sutton Coldfield
B76 0BW UK
registrar@one-name.org

EDITOR
Jean-Marc Bazzoni
43 Peake Avenue
Kirby Cross
Frinton-on-Sea
Essex
C013 OSQ UK
editor@one-name.org

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

Regional Representatives
The Guild has Regional Reps in many areas around the world. If you are interested in becoming one, please contact Regional Rep Coordinator Julie Goucher: rep-coordinator@one-name.org.

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

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

Guild Marriage Index
marriage-index@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.
This is the first Journal since our conference in Birmingham. So, first I want to thank Chris Braund, Janet Few and everyone else who contributed to the organization of what was a very happy event. One difference this year was a lack of post-prandial music. It was gratifying to see Guild members sitting talking to each other long after the dinner service. There was a notable buzz about the place and it was clear that people were enjoying each others’ company in the informal setting. This may be repeated!

Later in this issue you will see that the committee has decided to increase subscription rates from November. We very much regret having to do this but in the seven years since the last increase prices for printing and postage particularly have increased hugely. From November onward, too, we will be offering members an option to opt out of printed Journals altogether. Through this, members will be able to save trees and contribute towards the environment. Overseas members in particular will be able to receive their Journals online the moment they are sent to the printer, rather than having to wait for the mail. More details to follow in a chairman’s newsletter nearer the time.

By the way, I’m aware that not everyone gets to see my newsletters. Thanks to some nifty work by Ken Toll and our web team, they are all now archived here: http://one-name.org/newsletters/.

I want to draw your attention to the fact that we now have a conflict of interest policy for all postholders (http://www.one-name.org/members/conflict_of_interest.pdf). As I said in my most recent newsletter, “If you ever have any concerns about anyone in the Guild acting in anything other than a proper manner, please do get in touch with me or any committee member.”

And, finally, so much of the Guild goes on behind the scenes and people don’t always get due thanks for their work. Over the past few months a small group of people has been moving our wiki from the old members’ room to our new platform. They’ve done really well and most of it has now been moved. Thank you, team.

Do note: it’s a wiki! So, if you think any pages can be improved, by all means get involved and edit!

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**From the Committee...**

by Paul Howes, Guild Chairman

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An appeal from the Chairman of the Seminar Subcommittee

Dear Guild Member,

At the last Guild seminar in Alwalton, I held this exchange with an attendee which I would like to share. I asked him if he was enjoying the day and he replied ‘yes’, enthusiastically. He then asked ‘are they professionals?’ I said who? He said ‘Everyone’. No, I replied, we are all volunteers, and he responded ‘With all this equipment and expertise?’

It transpired that he was a member of his local Rotary Club and Peterborough FHS as well as doing voluntary work with a sailing club and children with disability. He was very impressed with all aspects of our seminar and could not believe the standard achieved by a volunteer organisation.

I pay total tribute to my colleagues on the Seminar Subcommittee, plus local Regional Representatives and others, in order that people recognise the high standards that have been achieved.

Now I come to the request! We are always on the lookout for new ideas and input and wondered if you would be interested in joining the seminar subcommittee on a permanent basis?

The majority of our work is undertaken by exchange of emails and telephone, however, we do meet face to face every three months, just prior to the next seminar. We currently meet in Oxford, this being central for all our existing committee members, however this is flexible and if appropriate could evolve to a different location with a changing subcommittee membership.

Should you find travelling to Oxford for meetings difficult due to transport or other reasons, then maybe you would consider still joining the seminar subcommittee but working from home on various tasks associated with organising and publicising seminars?

I would add that expenses are paid for correspondence, telephone calls and travel to attend any meetings or seminars so you would not be out of pocket. All we require would be your time, knowledge and ideas please.

Rodney Brackstone
I have often stated that it is inappropriate to carry out a Marriage Challenge for a registration district (RD) where commercial providers Ancestry or Findmypast (FMP) have already transcribed and indexed the marriage registers. Clearly a Challenge would not be so useful because those Guild members who subscribe to Ancestry or FMP would already have found the marriage data. And if a Challenger uses the provider’s records for the Challenge, we would probably be breaching the provider’s terms and conditions.

Findmypast is quite clear that their records can be used for personal research and by professional genealogists; but corporate or business users (the Guild would come under this category) need to apply for special permission. Ancestry’s terms and conditions are not so clear. They refer to use of data and images “only for personal or professional family history research” but “professional” is not defined and whether use by the Guild would be classed as professional is unclear. The matter was discussed at Guild Committee some years ago and it was decided, in order to be safe, that we would not carry out a Marriage Challenge using Ancestry data and images.

However it is worth examining exactly what can be found on these websites because a Marriage Challenge is still on the cards for RDs where Ancestry’s and FMP’s indexing and imaging are limited in scope. Which marriages have been indexed? - Which ones have not?

Ancestry have placed a 1921 cut-off on marriages for the registers held by the London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) and by the Dorset Record Office. For Surrey registers, the cut-off is 1937. (I wonder why the difference?) This means that a Marriage Challenge for a London RD with registers at the LMA for a period such as 1922 to 1939 is practical and would be very useful. Another reason for this Challenge is because of rumours that new legislation could prohibit the availability of records showing potential living persons and cut-off dates may be imposed. We should take the opportunity while it exists to pre-empt any such legislation.

Findmypast is more complicated. To get a feel for what FMP has available I have selected a RD where FMP has carried out substantial digitising. I have picked Stone RD in Staffordshire, hoping it is typical. Fifteen civil parishes are listed on GENUKI for Stone. You will find that FMP has marriage records of varying periods for the churches in Stone RD. For five, the registers end at 1837 or earlier. For three the registers end at some time between 1856 and 1875. For five, the registers end at 1900. Coverage seems to be erratic; a lot of the marriages in Stone are not included in FMP’s indexing. For this reason a Challenge could be practicable.

We can determine the holdings of marriage registers in Staffordshire Record Office - see Guide to Sources No 1 on the Staffordshire’s “Gateway to the Past” website. It would appear that two of the places listed by GENUKI for Stone (Cold Norton & Florence) have no Anglican Church and the registers for Chebsey for 1837 to 1950 seem to be lost. All other Anglican churches have deposited their marriage registers up to recent years.

Let’s look at how a Challenge for Stone would pan out. First, the Challenger would need to select a date range. This could be either a period where there are entries on FMP; take 1837 to 1880 as an example. Alternatively, the Challenger could pick a period unaffected by FMP records; 1901 to 1937 would be suitable. For the latter, the Challenge would be no different from a normal Challenge. For the former, the Challenger would ask requesters to help by highlighting all marriages that can be found on FMP. One does not need to subscribe to FMP to do this; a search on FMP by a non-subscriber will show year, church and spouse’s first name but nothing more.

First impressions may suggest that a challenge for a RD, where Ancestry or FMP have digitised and indexed marriage registers, is unsuitable. But this may not be the case on a more detailed consideration. There are periods suitable for a Challenge which are not covered by the indexing. And for FMP, if Stone RD is typical, it leaves scope for a Challenge because the indexing is far from complete.

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.

<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>
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<tr>
<td>Thakeham (Repeat) 1882 - 1911</td>
<td>21 July 2016</td>
<td>Susan Martin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rothenburg@one-name.org">rothenburg@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halstead 1837 - 1939</td>
<td>30 Aug 2016</td>
<td>Peter Copsey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:copsey@one-name.org">copsey@one-name.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ampthill 1837 - 1873</td>
<td>25 Sep 2016</td>
<td>Rose Norton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bierton@one-name.org">bierton@one-name.org</a></td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Type of DNA Tests

The 3 major DNA tests for genealogy are the following:

- mtDNA
- Y-DNA
- Autosomal

mtDNA

A mtDNA test tells you about your direct female line, which is your mother, her mother, and back in time. Both men and women inherit mtDNA, though only women pass it on. mtDNA are organelles contained in each of our cells.

A mtDNA test will provide information about your direct female line. The test result also provides information about the distant origin of your direct female line. mtDNA results were originally reported as compared to a standard called the Cambridge Reference Sequence (CRS). This reference standard is the first mtDNA sequenced. This was later revised to the rCRS. Under this reporting, results are compared with the root of the tree rather than the first result sequenced.

Your result is reported as differences. These are substitutions, deletions and/or insertions, which are the mutations as compared to the reference standard.

The test result from a mtDNA test is more anthropological than the results from a Y-DNA test, because mtDNA mutates at a slower rate.

Though there are limited genealogical applications, especially since females typically change their surname upon marriage, there are specific instances where this test will help genealogy.

For those curious about their direct female line, the anthropological information is very interesting. For example, besides matches, the test result provides your haplogroup and information about your haplogroup. Here is an example. H5a is the haplogroup.

Y-DNA

Y-DNA is a perfect companion to a one-name study. DNA data is another source of information about a surname, and provides information not available in the paper records. The information can be invaluable in solving genealogical questions, and will tell you which family trees are related.

The Y-chromosome is found only in men, and is passed from father to son, typically unchanged, which is the same path as the surname in most cultures. By testing locations on the Y chromosome, called markers, you can determine if two men share a common ancestor, and the approximate time frame of the common ancestor.

This test provides information about your direct male line, which is the male who tests, his father, his father’s father, and back in time. You must be a male to take this test, since only males have a Y-chromosome.

Males inherit a Y-chromosome from their father, and an X chromosome from their mother. These are known as the sex chromosomes. Females inherit an X chromosome from their father, and an X chromosome from their mother.

mtDNA can also be useful in adoption situations, as well as when the Y-DNA doesn’t match, such as for 2 brothers, and you want to determine if they had the same mother, to determine why they don’t match on Y-DNA, such as due to infidelity or adoption.

For matches in a genealogical time frame, take the mtDNA Full Sequence test. These matches, due to the slow rate of mutation, can also be anthropological.

In Fig. 1, the inheritance of mtDNA is shown by black circles for females and squares for males.

The result for a Y-DNA test, combined with the surname, provides matches in a genealogical time frame. The result will also supply anthropological information, which is your major population group, known as a haplogroup.
DNA testing will provide additional information, as well as an opportunity to validate the family trees constructed. From a genealogical perspective, DNA testing has many applications, too numerous to list here. These include confirming migrations, and sorting out multiple families in the same location. From the perspective of a one-name study, DNA testing provides the opportunity to:

- Determine which family trees are related.
- Provide clues for further research.
- Confirm surname variants or find previously unknown variants.
- Discover information about the evolution of the surname.
- Discover clues regarding the origin of the surname.
- Combine DNA results with research in early records and surname distribution maps to determine the number of points of origin for the surname.

DNA testing is a very valuable tool for a one-name study. DNA testing is just one component of family history research, though an important component because it provides information not available from the paper records, and can provide information about the origin and evolution of the surname. The question then becomes, do you include DNA testing as a source in your one-name study?

If you are concerned that DNA might be complicated or time consuming, I have found that it isn’t any more complicated than some of the records we deal with. In addition, you can manage the time component easily, by pacing your recruiting efforts.

Y-DNA is the perfect companion to a one-name study, and will result in discoveries you couldn’t make from the paper records alone. One-on-one help and consultation is available each step of the way, from the Guild’s DNA Advisor. Simply email dna@one-name.org.

Autosomal DNA
This DNA test looks at your autosomes, or the 22 pairs of non-sex chromosomes. Some vendors also provide information on the X and Y chromosomes. Vendors typically state that this test has value about 5 generations back. To get the most benefit from this test, your tree should be well researched.

Each of us inherits 23 pairs of chromosomes, and the 23rd pair is the sex chromosomes.

The value of this test is finding matches from any branch of your tree, as a result of segments of DNA passed down to you from your ancestors. Often these matches will help you overcome a brick wall.

You will probably, over time, want to test others in your family, such as siblings, to pick up segments of your parents that you didn’t inherit. If your parents or their siblings are living, you would want to test them also. With each generation, segments of an ancestor’s DNA may be lost. You only get half your father and half your mother. Siblings would have segments in common with you, but they would also have other segments that you didn’t get.

For those researching all branches of their family tree, this DNA test is a mandatory companion to your research. Whether right away, or over time, you will get matches where you can establish a common ancestor, or clues to work out the common ancestor.

You can also manage your time with this test, by determining which level of matches to pursue. As you get more experience with this test, you can start assigning segments of your autosomes to ancestors.

Where to Buy
mtDNA Full Sequence: The only vendor offering this test is Family Tree DNA

Y-DNA: Family Tree DNA offers the largest database, the most markers, the most tools, and a full project management system. 37 markers are recommended for genealogical matches. The Guild provides Y-DNA 37 marker tests from Family Tree DNA at a significant saving. Either you or the participant pays. See this link for more information:

http://one-name.org/dna-kits-available-from-the-guild/.

Autosomal: Family Tree DNA offers an autosomal test called Family Finder. The Guild provides this test at a significant saving, where either you or the participant pays. See the link above. Ancestry.com also offers an autosomal test. See this chart for a comparison between the two tests:

http://one-name.org/autosomal-dna-testing/.

Recommendations
If you order a Family Finder autosomal test, you can put it in your Y-DNA Project for convenience. If you plan on other autosomal tests, perhaps of siblings to pick up more segments of your parents, you might consider a separate autosomal project to keep these kits organized. The DNA Advisor sets up these projects, but they are made invisible. The purpose is to provide you with project management tools and enable you to organize your autosomal participants for easy management and analysis.

Are you ready for DNA?
Simply write to Susan at dna@one-name.org. You will receive a complete setup project, that you can modify, along with an easy to follow 20-step Getting Started email and a sample recruiting email and letter.
Lance Corporal 22/155 James Atkinson Gotts, born Earsdon, Northumberland, enlisted Northumberland Fusiliers at Cramlington, Killed In Action 1 July 1916 France & Flanders. Thiepval Memorial, Son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Gotts, of 43, Middle Row, Bates Cottages, Seaton Delaval, Northumberland.

That’s all CWGC records gave me about my great-uncle, after whom my father was named. The other clues were some lace postcards handed down to my cousin Brian, but more of those later. I was booked on a France & Flanders World War 1 coach tour in 2014, so I wanted to know some more about him and what happened. Who was he and what actually happened? At least we know what he looked like from this one and only family photo.

The starting point was GENUKI, which when I dug around inside it gave me an article from 1873 in the Newcastle Weekly Chronicle which told me the houses were two up, two down, pit village terraces with no privies. The 1901 census also showed ten children aged four to twenty-three living together. My cousin Brian filled in the details that the bedrooms were one for the parents and the big open loft had a curtain down the middle with boys on one side and girls on the other. With Jim a miner in 1914, you can see why he would have jumped at the chance of volunteering.

The other military starting points were the ‘Soldiers who died in the Great War’ and the Medal Roll Card (no luck for a Service record!). Even this doesn’t show much, not even when he went to France. It does confirm his service number and Battalion as 22nd Northumberland Fusiliers. The next step was Graham Stewart and John Sheen’s book ‘Tyneside Scottish’. This showed when the 22nd Battalion was raised in two days in November 1914, and made me realise that Jim was an early joiner on Day 1 with service number 155. It describes their life in 1914 & 1915, training at Alnwick Castle, and eventually Salisbury Plain. They were due to go to Egypt but orders were quickly changed and on 8 January 1916 they embarked for Le Havre. Which gave me a problem.

My cousin Brian had three of these lovely lace postcards, which we understood had been sent from France. One of them is written by Jim (I now know he was called that as he signed it) in pencil, sent to his brother George Willie, asking him to read it to their parents who could not read or write. The problem is it is dated 25 November 1915, before they went to France!

Google and Wikipedia then tell me that there was a roaring tourist gift trade at Salisbury Plain, which included these lace cards, manufactured on a roll and posted into cards by enterprising locals!

The book then goes on to explain the lead up to the Battle of the Somme on 1 July 1916, and the devastating losses.

**Tactical analysis of the battle**

In the British Library, they hold the *Journal of Society for Army Historical Research*. An excellent article in 2007 by Tony Ball uses the Northumberland Fusiliers for a statistical analysis of the success of the tactics. He describes Brigadier-General Kiggel’s Battle Orders, (reiterated by Haig and Rawlinson) based on his antiquated view that ‘Victory is won actually by the bayonet, or by the fear of it, which amounts to the same thing so far as the conduct of the attack is concerned.’ (Just a tad outdated in the face of a machine gun.) He notes that the volunteer battalions were assumed to be incapable of following any order other than just to keep walking forward and not stopping to help casualties, despite fifteen months training. He compares the statistics for casualties using the 'extended' and 'close' order formations used by the Northumberland Fusiliers and comes to the surprising conclusion that even if they had not been walking upright two paces apart the overall casualty rates would probably not have been much different.

He concludes that the reasons for such high losses were that:

- The German Army had had two years to dig in and were there just to occupy until the French sued for peace, so naturally they picked the high ground and sank their bunkers 30-40 feet down. Attacking forces, uphill, statistically always had higher casualty rates.

**Putting the Flesh on the Bones of my Great-uncle**

by Ian Gotts (Member 1398)
• Massively insufficient quantities of high explosive shells meant that the deep bunkers were not destroyed.

• Soldiers carried far too much equipment (60+ pounds), so had no chance of keeping up with the creeping barrage.

• An incompetent Brigade Staff officer disobeyed orders and telephoned the ‘good luck’ message to the front line, alerting the Germans who had tapped the wire (a known fact then), to exactly when the barrage would stop.

Battalion Diary
Next stop was the battalion diary recently digitised by The National Archives. This is brilliant! It starts a few days before the Battle Orders, stating the objective for each battalion in that area, what was going to happen as the barrage was lifted and the mines were blown, where exactly each battalion was mustered, naming the trenches, and that they were going to the South and East of La Boisselle, at the heart of the Somme battlefield.

Webmatters.net provides lots of detail about the battle, but I found the map at Wikipedia easier to understand. The 22nd Battalion were part of the 102nd Brigade, and the Battalion diary told me they were on the right hand edge of the line marked as 102 Brigade. Their role was to go to the South of La Boisselle, almost due East towards Contalmaison, over a mile away. At the end of the day they made less than 500 yards.

Marking these on the trench map I bought shows where they mustered and set off at 7:30 am at walking pace after seeing the mine under the German trench go up, creating the Lochnagar crater.

The Diary then has some chilling entries:

12:45pm: Strength 7 officers, 200 Other Ranks, a mixture of the remnants of 21st & 22nd Battalions (so originally c 1600 soldiers!)

Midnight 2/3 July: Strength 7 officers and 155 NCOs and Other Ranks

During this period they had been constantly shelled, short of water since midday on 1st, and the enfilading machine gun fire from the wood on their left at the top of the hill had caused massive casualties. This photo was taken from the German position, near the machine gun post by the wood at the right of the photo. From here I could see down the slope to the British trenches behind the two small trees, and it was easy to see that they had no chance as they came from right to left up the slope, overlooked by the machine guns.

At least I had found my great-uncle Jim, still there somewhere under the wheat, not just a one-liner about KIA in France & Flanders, and if there were any presence left then he might take some comfort knowing he wasn’t forgotten.

From the Editor’s Desk...

Having been a member of the Guild of One-Name Studies for many years (member 450) I thought that as I was approaching retirement I would like to volunteer for a minor role. Becoming the editor wasn’t exactly what I had in mind at the time and is indeed a leap of faith, not only on my part but also that of the Committee. However, we can always do with a new challenge and a bit of stress in our lives so let’s see what happens! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous editor, David Dexter for his help and guidance over the past couple of months and for indeed continuing in the role for so long to help the Guild. So, what do you expect from me? Well, as Roy Stockdill, a previous editor, said when he took over in 1999 “I see my role as the Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies as being one which covers a number of areas, by far the most important of which is keeping you, the members, informed about what is going on in the Guild, as well as in the wider world of genealogy”. So please email me (editor@one-name.org) if you have any queries, ideas, articles as I know that not every member looks at the website, Webforum and/or Facebook BUT every member does get a copy of this Journal.
At the recent Guild conference in Birmingham there was a discussion about the irregular marriage habits of some members of our one-name studies. The theme of the conference was world-wide one-name studies and I also spoke about Braund emigrants. I thought that this story pulled together all these threads. John Thomas Braund was not one of the case studies I chose to use at my conference presentation because it would have taken up the whole session, so here is his story now.

In the 1900 U.S. census, John T Braund claimed to have been born in 1845; he was born in 1841. His birthplace was given as New York; he was born in Budock, Cornwall. He said he’d been married for nineteen years when in fact he’d been married for just two. His son Charles, who may not actually have been his son, was listed as having been born in New York, when he was born in Dunville, Canada. Why would one person want to tell so many lies? What follows is an account of how John’s web of deceit was uncovered and suggests some reasons why he may have wished to cover his tracks.

The story began with an enquiry from a new member on The Braund Family History Facebook group. Her husband was son of Robert Edwin Braund, grandson of Thomas and great-grandson of Charles. At this point I had no dates and didn’t even know which continent we were on but I did have the slightly less common christian names, Robert and Charles, so I was up for a challenge. A search at <<www.familysearch.org>> for the birth of a Robert Edwin, son of Thomas Braund, brought up an entry in the US Social Security Death Indexes for Robert, showing his birth date as 22 January 1929. There was also an entry in the 1940 US census for Thomas and Robert, living in Washington. Thomas had been born about 1904 in Idaho, his wife was called Nellie and there was another son called Charles. This was going to be so easy. The image of this census was freely available online, so I was able to discover that Thomas was working as a carpenter, helping to construct a dam and had earned $2900 dollars the previous year. This was rather more than most of his neighbours so he was doing well.

Now all I needed was to find Thomas son of Charles and I was on the right track. Fortunately, in 1930, the household was a three generational one. Robert, his brother and parents, were with Charles W and Jessie M Braund in Rockwood, Multnomah, Oregon. Charles W Braund had been born about 1882 in New York. Charles and Jessie could also be located in 1940, in Alameda, California, when Charles described himself as a Benzine Man. They were at different addresses in Washington in the censuses of 1920 and 1910. In each case Charles gave his birthplace as New York. In 1920 his parents’ birthplaces were also allegedly New York.

Images of US second world war draft cards are available via Family Search and that for Charles W Braund showed him to be a cleaner working for Associated Cleaners in Oakland. His date of birth was given as 10 March 1882 and his more precise place of birth was given as Buffalo, New York.

The only other record that I could find for Charles was from the index to Californian Deaths. This confirmed his date and place of birth and recorded his death as taking place on 22 October 1958 in Shasta, California. An additional piece of information was his mother’s maiden name: Shirton.

Try as I might, I could not trace Charles any further back. I then looked for a Braund-Shirton marriage 1870-1885, without using any christian names. None was found but this search did reveal a brother for Charles. An index to Washington death certificates, listed John Joseph Braund, who died in Tacoma, in 1948. This index was more informative than that for Charles so I now had both parents’ names. John Joseph Braund and Mary Ann Shirton. John Joseph junior had been born in 1890, so it seemed likely that there may have been other children apart from him and Charles.

Nothing I tried brought up a marriage for John Joseph Braund and Mary Ann Shirton. So I searched for them in the census. Finally, the image came up for the family in 1900, in Portland, Oregon. Charles was there as Charlie and John Joseph junior as J J Samuel, which is why they hadn’t been immediately obvious. As described at the beginning, John senior was listed as John T Braund, he stated that he had been married for nineteen years and that both his parents were born in England. John T himself claimed to have been born in January 1845 in New York. John’s descendants were keen to trace their origins back to the U.K. and it seemed that I was nearly there. All I needed was a John Joseph, or John T Braund born about 1845 in New York.

The census said that John’s wife Mary had had seven children, of whom five were now living and all five were present in the household. Their birthplaces included New York, Michigan, Montana and Washington. I therefore looked for the births or baptisms of children of John and Mary to no avail. Being well aware that Braund can be mangled in a number of ways, I searched instead for marriage for a Mary Shirton about 1881, without specifying a groom’s name. The only one I found was in Dunville, Halimund, Canada on 1 October 1881, to a Robert Wait. Mary Ann M Shirton was eighteen years old and born in Dunville, the daughter of Joseph and Caroline Shirton. Although I was aware of a Braund family in Dunville, this seemed likely to be a red herring. I next considered that the eldest child, Charles, may have been born before his parents’ marriage, so I searched for the birth of a Charles Shirton. This located the birth of Charles B Waite, son of Robert Edward and Mary Maude Waite née Shirton on 10 March 1882 in Dunville. This no longer seemed like a red herring.

By this time, I had revisited what I knew about the Braunds of
Dunnville. In 1844, Samuel and Mary Ann Braund née Newcombe had left Budock, Cornwall, in Falmouth registration district, with their five surviving children. The family, including a John Thomas Braund, born in 1841, settled in Dunnville, Ontario. In Dunnville, in the census of 1881, I found Mary Shirton aged eighteen, with her parents. Robert Wait was also there and next door to him, ‘Thomas’ Braund, a forty year old carpenter and what appeared to be Thomas’ wife, Mary Ann Braund aged forty two, born in Ireland. Further searches located Thomas and Mary Braund, aged thirty-six, living in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1870. Thomas was working in a sack and blind factory. Although Mary was recorded with the surname Braund no relationships are given in this census. In the same household were Canadian born brothers Robert and Charles Waite. Strangely it was Mary, not Thomas who was in possession of real estate, valued at $800. Thomas had only personal estate worth $300.

When eighteen year old Mary Shirton married twenty-eight year old Robert Wait, in 1881 in Dunnville, she was four months pregnant with the child who was born as Charles B Wait; was the B as a middle initial of significance? Was Mary pregnant by a forty year old married neighbour and married off to a compliant, or ignorant, Robert? Or did Mary’s connection with John Thomas Braund come later, after her marriage to Robert had broken down? The birth of Charles B Wait in 1882 was followed by a daughter, Agnew Wait, in July 1884. Presumably she was one of the two children of Mary’s that was no longer living by 1900. There is no trace of a death for Agnew or of the other child who was said to have died.

What happened next is still unclear. In 1885, John Thomas is recorded as working on a house in Dunnville for Dr McCallum. Annie C Braund, who may or may not have been John Thomas’ biological daughter, was born in July 1885, allegedly in New York. What we do know is that, in 1891, Robert Wait was living with his brother Charles in Dunnville describing himself as married. Also in Dunnville was Mary Braund from Ireland, now recorded as aged fifty seven, living alone but this time listed as married. Of their errant spouses there was no sign.

The next sighting of John Thomas Braund and Mary Shirton is in 1900; when they appear to be married (to each other!) with five surviving children. John is described as a wheelwright. A marriage between John F Braund, a millwright and Mary A Shirton was finally located in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington but not until 1898 (Fig. 1).

Did this mean that they had recently heard of the deaths of their respective spouses, or had they decided they had been absent long enough for them to be presumed dead? The certificate confirms that this was indeed John, son of Samuel and Mary Ann Braund née Newcombe. He claimed that this was his first marriage although, as no marriage has been traced to the Irish Mary, maybe he was actually telling the truth this time. Mary Shirton admitted to having been married before but gave both her current and maiden surname as Shirton. John had knocked ten years off his age and was still claiming to have been born in Buffalo, New York, as was Mary. Mary too had reduced her age, from thirty-seven to thirty-one.

There was clearly an attempt to confuse and to erase all connections with Canada. The birthplaces of their children, given in the 1900 census, suggest that they were in New York in 1882. We know this is untrue as Charles was actually born in Dunnville. Their daughter, Annie, too was supposedly born in New York, in 1885, followed by Sarah born 1887 in Michigan, John Joseph Samuel born 1890 in Montana and finally Georgie H born 1891 in Washington. Apart from Charles’ no births have been found for the children either in any of these places or elsewhere, using the surnames Braund, Shirton or Wait(e). John Thomas and Mary have not been found in the 1890 US or 1891 Canadian censuses. A possible explanation for this is that they left Canada before the 1891 census was taken and arrived in America after their census was taken in 1890. Alternatively, this could just be another example of them trying to cover their tracks.

Historic Oregon newspapers are available online at << http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu>> and John’s death is reported in The Morning Oregonian of 21 February 1902:

‘In this city, at the family residence, 109 Whitaker Street, 20 February 1902, John T Braund aged 56 years, 1 month, 9 days’. Sadly this was a tragic death, as a more lengthy account of John’s demise appears elsewhere in the same issue. Braund Commits Suicide—Aged Man Cuts his Wrists and Hangs Himself — John T Braund, 56 years old, committed suicide yesterday morning by cutting one of his wrists with a knife and then hanging himself with a towel tied to a post, at his home, 109 Whittaker Street. He had suffered from despondency, brought on by paralysis and an attack of paresis.

For the past two years he has suffered and two months ago he was examined by a physician, who stated that Braund had paresis, and recommended that he be carefully watched, to prevent his harming himself. Early yesterday morning, shortly before 6 o’clock. Braund cut one of his wrists with a knife, but did not sever a vital part, and then he hanged himself. The Coroner’s jury inquired into the case yesterday, and decided that Braund had taken his life while suffering from temporary aberration of the mind, due to paresis. Braund, who was a member of the Knights of Pythias, leaves a widow and four children.’

The report of his funeral adds that John was employed by Hogue Saw Mill on East Water Street. It is unclear which of the five children of the 1900 census was not included in the ‘four children’ of the newspaper report. Only Annie had not been traced after 1900, so perhaps she died between then and 1902; or does this suggest that only four of the five were John’s children?

What is strange is that, despite all this subterfuge, John Thomas seems to have maintained contact with his family in Dunnville. The Dunnville newspaper carried a, somewhat sanitised, report.
of his death:

‘Intelligence of the death of Mr. Thomas Braund, a former resident of this town, was received here last week. He was a brother of William N Braund and Samuel Braund and the youngest son of Samuel Braund Sr., who had lived many years in Dunnville and was well known to most of our older townsfolk.

He passed away at Portland, Oregon, in the 61st year of his age [so in Dunnville they had a better idea of his correct age. He was 61, so in his 62nd year] and we believe that, although he had not been in his usual robust health for the past year or two, death came to him not unexpectedly.

Mr Braund spent much of his early life in Dunnville and being of a social and joyous disposition he was a general favourite. He was a member of the Masonic body and also of the Oddfellows and we believe that while he was in the United States he joined the Knights of Pythias. He was a carpenter by trade and a skilful mechanic. At the World’s Fair in London some 28 or 30 years ago, he represented some large American firms of machinists and had charge of a department.’

No suggestion here that he had been married and no mention of any children. Someone back home was certainly aware of some of the children however. In 1911, when John Thomas’ elder brother Samuel died intestate, three children of John Thomas were mentioned in Samuel’s letters of administration. These were the three youngest, Sarah, Joseph (John Joseph Samuel) and Hannah Georgina, the Georgie H of the census. They were described as ‘the only lawful children of John Thomas Braund’. It is not clear in what sense these were lawful children as their parents weren’t married at the time of their birth. This may suggest that Charles and Annie were not the biological children of John Thomas Braund, although they seem to have been brought up as such and are certainly Braunds in every other sense. Communications between Dunnville and John Thomas’ family seem to have ceased with his death as when the administration was taken out in 1911, there was no awareness that Sarah was married. She had married Nicholes Ferra in 1906 and they moved to Ohio. Her death is recorded there in 1930 as Sadie E Ferra. This links with annotations on family photos that describe Sarah as Sadie.

There are several mentions, in the Oregon newspapers, of Sadie, Anna (who seems to be Hannah Georgina rather than Annie) and their mother, staying in Portland hotels in 1904 and 1905. In 1910, Mary Ann was living as the wife of Harry M Smith in Tacoma; John Joseph Samuel and Hannah Georgina Braund were with her. The Oregon newspapers give us additional information about the family, not all of which presents them in a favourable light. Charles Braund enlisted in the militia in 1900. In 1901 a warrant was issued for militiamen whose fines for ‘delinquency at drill’ were unpaid. Amongst them was Charles Braund. Charles later followed his step father into the police and he appears in the papers in his role as a detective. In 1921, Harry Smith a former Chief of Police, was accused of trying to cover-up for his stepson ‘Joe Braund’ who had been arrested for being drunk.

Mary Ann died on 27 December 1929. According to her gravestone, she was born in 1870. As she was nine in the 1871 census, she had managed to maintain the fiction that she was considerably younger than she actually was.

At this stage in the research came another revelation. A descendant of John Thomas’ brother, sent a cutting from the Dunnville newspaper reporting the death of John Thomas’ first ‘wife’, Mary from Ireland.

‘In Dunnville on the 13th of October, 1893, Mrs. Thomas Braund, mother of Charles B. and Robert Waite, aged 64 years. Her remains were interred in St. Catharine’s cemetery, on Sunday last.’ Further investigation showed that Irish Mary was the mother of the same Robert Waite who married Mary Shirton. Robert and Mary’s son Charles B Waite (later called Charles Braund) was named for his uncle. It also shows that Mary habitually adjusted her age to make it closer to Thomas Braund’s. This means that, not only did John Thomas run off with a much younger married woman but that she was the wife of his step-son! No wonder they were keen to cover their tracks. It is strange that the Dunnville newspapers seemed blissfully unaware of the situation. Or were they just economical with their reporting to avoid revealing a scandal? Did perhaps John’s membership of the masonic order help in this respect?

Finally Robert Waite’s death was traced just a few weeks before John Thomas and Mary ‘Shirton’ married in 1898. So it does look as if, despite all their subterfuge, they were not confident enough to marry until both their existing spouses had died.

This story is far from complete and leaves many questions unanswered. Did John Thomas and the Irish Mary Waite marry? Did they meet in Ohio? Who was Mary Shirton’s seventh child? Where were the younger children born and more to the point, whose children were they? It may be that none of this will ever be solved but not for the want of trying! ■
The Briese Surname: A Tale of Two Sources?

by David Briese (Member 7012)

The Briese surname is not a common one. According to the Forebears website, in 2014 it ranked 99,728th in the world, with an estimated 4,200 people worldwide with the surname (see Appendix). Just under half of these live in Germany, the main country of origin, followed by USA, Australia, Brazil, and Canada, where Briese families emigrated in the nineteenth century. The remainder are scattered in other European and South American countries, some apparent places of origin and some places of migration.

Some years ago I wrote a paper on the meaning of the Briese surname, which focused on families of German origin. This pointed out that Briese is a toponymic name, i.e. one taken by people living in a particular geographic location. Moreover, as the earliest Brieses (based on old church records) lived in an area of Prussia where there are over twenty towns or villages which include “Briese” in their name, the surname could have had multiple origins. However, this is only part of the picture, for the surname also appears in Britain and north-western continental Europe (Fig.1), and at an earlier date than it appears in Prussia. This paper uses data collected by the Briese Surname Project to re-examine the origins of the Briese surname in the context of its broader distribution and the changes in this distribution over time.

Some types of evidence could help refine the source of the Briese surname; the overlap or not between people and locations bearing the name, the locations of the earliest records of people bearing the surname and the occurrence of high densities of the name that might suggest a long historical association with a particular region. The recently set-up Briese Surname Project website, which includes a database of over 1,600 birth, marriage, death, and residence records for Brieses up to the end of the nineteenth century, provides these data.

Three types of evidence could help refine the source of the Briese surname; the overlap or not between people and locations bearing the name, the locations of the earliest records of people bearing the surname and the occurrence of high densities of the name that might suggest a long historical association with a particular region. The recently set-up Briese Surname Project website, which includes a database of over 1,600 birth, marriage, death, and residence records for Brieses up to the end of the nineteenth century, provides these data.

Firstly, the distribution of these records (Fig.4) excludes Silesia as a source of the name; the name is rare in this region and does not appear before the 1800s. Saarland is excluded for the opposite reason; there is a higher density of the Briese surname but there is no Briese(n) locality anywhere nearby. East Prussia has early records, large numbers, and a long...
This eastwards movement from the putative centre of origin would have formed the new Briese clusters in the Meseritz/Schwerin areas of Posen and in the Deutsch Krone region of West Prussia. The eastward spread of Briese families continued into the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, following the Warthe and Netze Rivers into Poland and on as far as Ukraine and Romania (Fig.5). A map produced by Breyer indicates that most of the eighteenth century German settlements in the Upper Warthe region of Poland were established by people from Pomerania, i.e. it is more likely the Briese surname here would derive from Deutsch Krone and neighbouring regions. Genetic evidence from Y-DNA studies of several Briese family members supports this eastward spread of the surname. It is postulated that the dense, but isolated cluster of Briese families in East Prussia (Fig.5) was due to a very early one-step migration of individual(s) from the Brandenburg centre of origin. From this point there was subsequent spread northwards along the Baltic coast. Following the end of The Second World War, German populations east of the Oder River were expelled or killed, which would have resulted in a massive displacement of surviving eastern Briese families back into the modern-day borders of Germany.

Not all migration was to the east, however. Berlin, slightly to the west of the area of origin, has also attracted people with the Briese surname and there also appears to have been some northwards movement into Mecklenburg. There are some locations in western Germany with scatterings of Briese families and a dense cluster in Saarland. Genealogical evidence indicates that at least some of the people bearing the Briese surname in the Rhineland and Hanover regions are descended from a person who was born in West Prussia and lived for some time in Pomerania, before moving west in the early nineteenth century.

Some of the records for Briese in Saarland date back to the early eighteenth century, which suggests the possibility of a surname origin distinct from that of the Brandenburg Briese families in the east. This will be discussed in more detail below.

**Flemish/Dutch/Frisian Brieses**

The surname Briese appears to have always been very rare in Dutch-speaking regions. There is no official published definition of its meaning here, but a Belgian surnames website does list it as a variant of Brixius, which can be traced to the Celtic patronym, Brice. Brice (latinised as Bricius) and its variants, which include Brixius, Briese and Bries, were present as far back as the thirteenth century in Flemish-speaking areas. One of the early Dutch families to emigrate to North America (arriving in New York in the seventeenth century) is alternatively referred to as Briese or Bries in different records. The name also appears in early eighteenth century records from coastal regions of northern France (e.g. Dunkerque) that were originally settled by Flemish-speaking people. Thus, the Briese surname in this area seems to be of Flemish/Dutch origin.

A small concentration of the Briese surname has existed in East Frisia, the German region bordering The Netherlands, since at least the eighteenth century. However, the first names used by these families are very different from those

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**Fig.4.** Towns and villages named Briese or Briesen that existed before 1500 (red dots) and earliest locations where the Briese surname was recorded in 1599 (white markers) superimposed on the distribution of the Briese surname prior to the mid-19th century.
used by the Briese families of Brandenburg and further east; they follow instead the Dutch patronymic naming system (the middle name is derived from the father’s surname). This clearly identifies the Briese surname here as of Flemish/Dutch, rather than German origin.

The Briese name also appears in Bas-Rhin and Alsace (the north-east of modern France) in the eighteenth century and, as mentioned above, has developed into a small surname cluster in the Saarland region of Germany. While the first names are Germanic, not Dutch, which would suggest a Brandenburg origin, several first names common in eastern Briese families are rare or do not occur here, and vice versa. As there is a strong continuation of first names within family lines, this may suggest different origins. Because of the geographic proximity to the Flemish Briese clusters, these western German ones may have originated from them. Alternatively, they may have an independent origin based on the same patronymic source of Brice/Brixius. Genetic studies based on Y-DNA (which like surnames is patrilineal) may be the only way to refine this.

**British Brieses**

If you google “Briese surname,” probably the first sites that you will come across are those that want to sell you products bearing a coat-of-arms. They claim that Briese is a Scottish patronymic name derived from the Gaulish saint, Bricius, who lived in the fifth century. This is a case of gilding the lily since, as mentioned earlier, Bricius is the latinized form of the Celtic name Brice and St Bricius was most likely only one of many who bore this name. People who derived their surnames from this patronym several hundred years later could have had any one of these as their ancestor. The heraldic websites also point out that Briese is one of several spelling variations of the name, together with other more common surnames such as Bryce and Brice. If true, the name is a very rare variant, as the Scotland’s People website records only one instance of the Briese surname (a marriage) from 1531 to the present.

By contrast, there are Briese records from England that date back to the sixteenth century. While still very rare (only six records from the 1891 UK census), it would suggest that the surname is more likely to be of English than Scottish origin. That said, the distribution of Briese surnames in England during the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries gives rise to alternate possibilities.

These records (Fig.5) show an eastern cluster of Brieses centred on East Anglia and Kent and a western cluster centred on counties bordering Wales. It is possible that Briese could be a variant spelling of the Welsh patronymic surname Breeze (from ab’Rhys — the son of Rhys). Breeze is more common and more widespread than Briese, but also has clusters in Wales and the neighbouring English counties. Another possibility is that, while the name is a patronym of the Celtic name Brice, its origins are Dutch/Frisian and not British. As mentioned, the name Briese/Bries occurred in Dutch-speaking regions of Holland, Belgium and France from quite early on and the concentration of the Briese surname, in East Anglia, lies just across the North Sea from this region. In his 1894 book on the origin of British family names, Barber observed that East Anglia had a high frequency of Dutch, Flemish, and Frisian names because of movements from the continent to Britain.

**Possible Briese Migration Patterns**

Surname data collected to date suggest that there are two

![Fig.5](image1.png)

**Fig.5. Hypothesised migration routes of people bearing the Briese surname (numbers indicate the centuries when people reached different regions). These are inferred movement patterns based on birth, death and marriage records and should not be considered as actual routes.**

distinct origins to the Briese surname: a toponymic name that originated in Brandenburg and a patronymic name that originated in the Flemish region. From the database of the Briese Surname Project, the Brandenburg Briese lineages form by far the larger group, comprising 94 percent of the birth, death, marriage, and residence records. Can the changes in distribution patterns of the surname over time tell us more? It is always tempting to hypothesise on the migration routes of our ancestors and, using the birth, death and marriage dates in the Briese Surname Project database, it is possible to make an initial attempt at to do this.

Clearly, one cannot be certain that there were not multiple sources of the name within a broader area of origin, but for the purposes of this exercise a parsimonious approach is being taken and a single origin for each region is assumed: Brandenburg and Flanders. The hypothesised spread of the surname from these centres is shown in Fig.5. The patronymic name Briese, seems to have originated earlier and is considered to have spread from Flanders north through the current Netherlands into Frisia, and west across the North Sea to England.

Evidence indicates that the toponymic name Briese has primarily spread eastwards from its Brandenburg origins; in a single jump to East Prussia and more gradually into the old Prussian Provinces of Posen, West Prussia and Pomerania. These regions were the primary source of further expansion eastwards into Poland.

![Fig.6](image2.png)

**Fig.6. Emigration patterns of people bearing the Briese surname from the areas of origin to North America, South America and Australia during the 19th century. Records in the newly settled regions include only the emigrants and the first generation of descendants.**
Volynia (now part of Ukraine) and Romania. Some northwards spread into Schwerin-Mecklenburg and westwards spread into Rhineland and Hanover, respectively, is also indicated.

The earliest records of Briese emigration outside of Europe were from The Netherlands to New York (North America) in the seventeenth century. Further spread of the Briese name into the New World — North America, South America, and Australia — occurred during the wave of emigration from northern Europe in the nineteenth century (Fig. 6). Over 200 Brieses emigrated at this time and the great majority came from the region that is now north-western Poland, though there were some Briese emigrants of Dutch, Frisian and French origin, i.e. the Flemish grouping. Emigration continued up to the mid-twentieth century, but on a greatly reduced scale, leading to the presence of the Briese surname in Argentina, Chile and Venezuela. Currently, more than half of the people bearing the Briese surname live outside of their regions of origin.

What is not shown is the contraction of the eastern distribution of the surname into the modern borders of Germany, following the expulsions of German people from these areas after World War II. Only a very small number of people bearing the name Briese remain in Poland and Romania today. This contraction and resettlement, with subsequent local movements, has also blurred the geographic distinction of the two different sources of the Briese name — genealogical and genetic studies would be needed to distinguish them.

Further Studies
To date, research on the Briese surname shows that, both from an onomastic and from a geographic perspective, it has two separate sources. In north-western Europe it is a patronym, being a variant of the Celtic name Brice, and in eastern Germany it is a toponym, formed from locations of the same name. This does not preclude multiple origins within these two distinct groupings, with unrelated individuals initially adopting the same patronymic name in the west or the same toponymic name in the east. For example, Y-DNA studies have identified three genetic families within the eastern toponymic Briese surname family.

Paper records of births, deaths, marriages and residence (or more correctly, the digitised versions of these from different internet sources) have enabled some degree of refinement of relationships within this surname web, but are limited as far as any further disentanglement is concerned, as many lineages have now been traced back as far as such records go. There is some scope to find additional Briese lineages in the old Prussian provinces, as many of the church books from these areas have not yet been digitised. Microfilms of some of these records do exist and need to be identified and searched.

Genetic studies based on Y-DNA, which mimics the patrilineal inheritance of a surname, have become the best option for understanding the history and distribution of the Briese surname. The project mentioned above, which is currently focussed on the Brandenburg Briese lineages could be extended to verify its separation from the Flemish lineages and examine the genetic structure within the latter. Such studies would shed light on the hypothesised patterns of surname spread. Unfortunately, this is not a simple task, as DNA-testing requires active participation of family members and it is relatively expensive to have a meaningful number of markers tested. Like other rare surname projects with a small potential sample pool, finding sufficient testers will be a challenge.

Appendix: Frequency and Incidence of the Briese Surname
The data in the table below were compiled from several on-line surname sources, including Forebears, Public Profiler, and Verwandt. These sites primarily use on-line telephone books, and occasionally electoral rolls to calculate surname frequencies and hence should be considered estimates only. The relative frequencies given in this table are averaged from the different sources and in some cases, corrected by cross-checking other available records (e.g. Forebears gives the number of Brieses in England as two, whereas a check of the UK electoral roll for London alone lists six).

To avoid a false indication of accuracy, the numbers of people bearing the Briese surname are given as a broad range rather than a single figure.

Table 1. Frequencies of the Briese surname in different countries (asterisks indicate countries of origin)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Relative frequency (No. / million)</th>
<th>Absolute number (est. range)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany *</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>2000-2300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>400-500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>1000-1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>100-120</td>
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<td>Chile</td>
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<td>20-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>&lt;10</td>
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<td>Poland *</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>20-30</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td>&lt;10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td>&lt;10</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10-20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>&lt;10</td>
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(This article has been abridged. The complete article, with full references, can be found on the Guild website at:

http://one-name.org/members/journal/articles/vol12-7_briese.pdf)
Surnames, Place Names, and Origin Theories — Onomastics Gone Wild!

by Clinton Slayton (Member 6995)

Readers of Guild publications will know that many family members have lived and died believing in an origin theory that someone read in Burke’s Landed Gentry, or received from a “professional” researcher. Within any family, respect for the dearly departed family story-tellers sometimes makes any questioning of their inherited stories seem insulting to their memory. And yet, linguistic studies have revealed that just as previous theories of “invasions” and “migrations” are constantly subject to revision, we have both right and reason to question any such origin stories. Despite armigerous studies, DeBretts, Burke’s, “clan histories”, or the long scrolls that we see rolled out on television presentations, many of us simply cannot accept a “single-source” explanation for our surname. Especially if it rarely or never appears in such “exalted” company.

The desire to provide a single definitive answer is in the nature of some students of word/surname origins, but that attitude can close doors to further inquiry. Perhaps the most destructive phrase to the investigation of word/surname origins is “obvious meaning”. Because the study of place-names shows evidence of various languages with affixes, back-formations, and compounds, and not all from the same language roots, there is every reason to continue investigating surnames as word formations. My premise is that there are so many formation possibilities that applying just one to any particular family line may not be accurate, and could misdirect future research, if not quash it entirely.

The study of surname origins can be rewarding on many levels, leading to geographical and cultural clues for the origins of the people bearing the name and its variants. One does not have to carry the name, or have any relationship to it, as a prerequisite to serious study.

This brief treatment applies to the formation of words that have been elevated to “proper nouns”, regardless of sources. It is expedient to draw some of my examples from the One Name Study of my own surname, Slayton, especially since the root of my surname could fall into every category below in this treatment. (Historically, the case can be made that my ancestors went mainly by Slatton, but let us leave that can of worms firmly sealed.)

In the history of all names, written notations are our sources, and the history of the ear and mouth is inextricably part of the history of written notations. We recognize that written notations are approximations of sounds where the path from mouth to ear to writing hand is fraught with peril. We all know how divergent the “obvious” pronunciations and spellings are from usage in speech. Where I grew up, I would have been laughed to scorn by pronouncing nearby Belvoir Drive to rhyme with “beaver”, whereas a British schoolboy would have been equally abused for “bell vwah”.

Can we infer from the lack of treatment of any particular name in such references as Reaney and Wilson’s Dictionary of English Surnames, (1995) that the name is therefore not “English” at all? The eventual publication of the forthcoming Dictionary of Family Names in Great Britain will certainly expand the boundaries, but a name that may be based on some of the sources mentioned below may not fit into an origin that is purely based on Old English or Gaelic. Regional dictionaries cannot account for every variation, when the post 1600 presence of a surname may vary from the pre-1600 “versions” found in the same region. Does this indicate pre 1600 names being abandoned by some, the arrival of a different family, or both?

Did all single syllable surnames begin as single syllables? Did a surname begin as more than two syllables and become truncated? Does the property of a voiced consonant versus an unvoiced consonant in the same position impose a barrier between two surnames? Consider that in Colonial Virginia between 1710 and 1730, processioning records of Sladden/Sladding were later recorded for descendants of the same family as Sladyen, Slayden and Slayton. At that time, Virginia was British North America, and the clerks recording these records in the service of Anglican parishes, and their ministers, were mainly educated in England or Scotland.

Making hard-and-fast rules is defeated by the application of “Grimm’s Law” (the shift of consonants over time) and Jespersen’s theories of vowel-shifting (the “Great Vowel Shift”). As an example, a name with only two syllables, three consonants, and two vowel sounds, can lead to about thirty or so variant spellings and pronunciations, including some that defy the modern “rules”. Non-standardized spelling in the development of English is obvious from the constant dickering over how Shakespeare’s language should be pronounced: as interpreted by modern “rules”, or from the most likely rhyme-sounds in regional dialects?

In Michael Wood’s The Story of England, the hamlets and the residents of Kibworth show variances in both the village name and in the simple resident names like Polle and Hanes as they march through time. As late as the post 1899 United States censuses, inconsistent recordings for the same person over several decades can be found. Are they based on sound, or on suggested cues from the subjects of the enumeration? Both ideas introduce the varying levels of literacy of all involved. As an example, no culturally literate enumerator would record my pronunciation of SLAY tun (IPA vowel = /æ/), as Slat tun (IPA vowel = /e/). But any clerk from the Domesday until the 1900s might have done so.
But we cannot begin any such treatment without the major caveat: the distinction between the origin of the wordforms, and the temporal “sociopolitical” effects of usage over time. The “unhooking” of one lineage of surname for another, by inclination of a family member to “associate” to another name by “disassociating” from another, or by a clerk for convenience, can create the branch of a “new” surname line from the “grafting” of a single written record. We know this has happened from the beginning of surnames to today, and we must not lose sight of that fact.

Place-name theory
As mentioned, how many have lived and died believing that they were proven to be of, say, German ancestry, because it says so in Burke’s Landed Gentry? This is one of several easily impeachable sources, but convenient for the easily convinced. With the suggestion that anyone with a name like Sladen is derived from “de Schleidan” from a sixteenth century emissary, does this close the book on the case? How can it, when a version of this name can be constructed with known morphemic elements from any number of source languages? How can it, when variants of Sladen appear in 13th century Lancashire records?

It is certainly a likely theory for some families, especially if we can time-warp the concept of being German to embrace the coast from old Saxony to Denmark, but does “de Schleidan”, or any geographic addition suggest actual blood-ties among others using that addition? Of course not.

If your focus of research is on a surname that matches or closely matches a place-name, by all means investigate that location, but consider that there might be other possibilities. So let us look at some origins of the formation of names.

Morpheme and affix theory
Just as -son and -döttir are fixed in our minds as Scandinavian affixes showing ancestors and not places, the most common assertion in British place-name formation is that a morpheme or morphemes were either applied to a habitation (commonly -tun) or to a valley (-denu). Hybrids of various languages describing already-existing names of people, animals, deities, geophysical features, and other cultural indications are all grist for the mill of place-name formation, and these can easily be theorized as surname sources.

But can they always provide the “obvious meaning”? What if, in the case of Slaton/Sladen, the previous elements ended with the unvoiced sound “t” or the voiced one as “d”, and then received the affixed morpheme “-en”, a common indication of plural and/or tense? What if a previous version ended as “-ings”, such as in Worthings, where the final sounds “wore off” over time to become Worthen? The possibilities for morpheme theory are so vast that it might be forgiven that, while indispensable for the study of place-names, it is often overlooked in favor of other theories for surnames. By the assumption that the place-names have primacy and surnames came much later, examining surnames for this connection may seem hopelessly optimistic. But finding a place-name that is made up of morphemes that suggest a surname always quickens the blood, because we are certain that some place-names were named for (or by) a prominent person or family. Which came first?

As alluded to earlier, a quantitative approach of simply counting a compiled list of surnames found in regional records may be misleading, in that the presence of a name in one region, and a similar but slight variance in another region, could be interpreted in two ways: one is to suggest separate “origins” for surname variants, such as Sloden and Slodden, another is to suggest a migration of people bearing one surname version to another region, where local pronunciations or spelling “styles” may render spellings differently.

Compound truncation theory
A combination of sounds that may be shortened through usage is common, and British speakers are familiar with a long list of heterophonics, such as Cholmondeley=Chumley, and Mainwaring=Mannering. Some of this can be attributed to the invasion of Norman words into the mixture of tribal languages that made up early and middle English. Wilfully ignoring “proper” (but difficult) pronunciations, or simple ignorance of them, may be at the root, but another rationale for this is simply oral laziness: a desire to smooth out multiple syllables in ways that are sometimes accepted only regionally. Example: an ancestral home is recorded in The Victoria History of the County of Hertford, 1908, as Slackdeacon. Such a place name could well deteriorate by elision into Slad’don/Slad’den over time, regardless of the antiquity of records for Sladden in another region.

A much more common truncation is found when we consider the name Johnson. How many carrying that name were originally from a “John’s son”, and how many from a “John’s town”? The name Johnston is commonly truncated in speech (and thence to records) to sound like Johns’on. This is similar to Distortion as shown below.

Distortion theory
Perhaps the most overlooked theory of all is that of intentional or unintentional distortion. Consider the names Thomas Leighton or Charles Snotten. A clerk might make such notations as Thomas Slayton or Charles Notton based on hearing the name spoken, and in the case of a child orphaned or “imported” without parents, such a record could determine the future usage for all time for any of his descendants. It is not pleasant to dwell on this, but the possibilities cannot be ignored: think of the instances in which it might suit someone’s purpose to distort their own name, or in which someone else finds it expedient to distort someone else’s name. These are cases where DNA might provide the best answers where documentary evidence is thin on the ground.

Geographic feature or occupation theory
The names Slatten/Slattin appear in American census records in profusion in Wisconsin, the Dakotas, and Minnesota, with notated origins in Norway and Sweden. In Norse languages, the word slättten means “the plains”, as in where the rain in Spain mainly falls. Since the Norse languages use an extended alphabet, and I am not a Norse scholar, I cannot determine if vowel variations in this formation yields different definitions.

We also have to consider occupations in languages other than English, even if this does not seem to lead to an obvious genetic tie. Several place-names and surnames found in England may trace to occupational terms that look like morpheme combinations (small bits strung together), but may contain a larger occupational indication instead.
ambiguity appears in the noun/name version Slaughter, which is not always related to the “obvious” evolved meaning of “butcher”.

**Common words theory**

This is a very specific example but shows that common words might also form the basis of a name from a different culture, and also illustrates that adding certain elements to an otherwise “common” name might be an attempt to confer “nobility” upon one’s self.

The zloty is the currency of modern Poland, the word means “golden”. The diminutive “-kin” forms the idiomatic “little” gold coin, zlotykin, which has been posited by some linguistic analysts as the basis for the name Slatkin. This may simplify to Slatin over time. The most famous use of the name Slatin is the Austrian adventurer, Rudolf Carl “von” Slatin, aka “Slatin Pasha”. Research into the roots of this name suggest a Polish/Yiddish origin: Slatin Pasha was from a Jewish family, his father was Michael Slatin. It is unclear when Rudolph added the “von” to his name, probably when he began receiving honors from Queen Victoria in 1896, but this is now considered a pretension. Sadly, Beethoven tried the same trick with his name, which was originally the “non-noble” Dutch “van” instead of “von”, but he did not get away with it, regardless of the true nobility of his soul.

Any or all of these could represent an original formation of a surname, and perhaps you can think of more.

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**How do you Deal with Name Changes?**

by Wayne Shepheard (Member 6744)

As an Online Parish Clerk for four parishes in Devon (http://www.cornwood-opc.com/), I have had a lot of requests for lookups of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials. Every once in a while I have been asked about an individual or family who, over time, was known by different surnames. With a little diligence and further research we can usually sort out who is who. But that obviously poses a problem for a One-Name Study.

Under which name do you choose to include the individuals? Can you keep track of people who changed their name? This is not the same problem as a different spelling of a last name, such as a variant. It concerns cases where individuals and members of their families actually went by and were recorded with totally different surnames.

I have published a couple of articles in The Devon Family Historian and have written a few blog posts about some people who went by different names during their lives. Unravelling their stories provided some interesting twists and certainly led me to think about different ways we could look for them in older records. More details about all of the individuals in this article can be found in the 2013 and 2014 articles as well as in my blog posts of 21 January 2014, 4 February 2014 and 11 February 2014, on Discover Genealogy (http://discovergenealogy.blogspot.ca/). Some of the material here is taken from those sources.

One family I reviewed was known as Williams for many years and Lewis for many other years (Shepheard, 2013). Sometimes they used both names, with or without a hyphen. For a few individuals, baptism, marriage and death records had different surnames. Readers may refer to my 2013 and 2014 papers for details, but here are some of the salient points that might concern someone doing a One-Name Study.

Samuel Williams was a miner by trade and lived in a number of different locations during his working life. I first came across the family in Plympton St. Mary parish, Devon, when I was Fig. 1. 1841 to 1871 England Census records for the family of Samuel and Catherine Williams-Lewis showing the different surnames under which the family was listed (information from the national Archives).
asked by a family researcher for information about him and his family.

The first odd things I noticed were on the census records. In 1841 the family of Samuel and Catherine, with five children, were shown as Williams (Fig.1). They used the same last name in 1851. Living with the parents at that time were a married daughter and her husband - last name Willcock. The striking thing about these records was that all of the children of Samuel and Catherine shown on these two censuses had been baptized with the surname Lewis (Fig.2). I did find the daughter’s 1851 marriage record which also showed both her and her father’s names as Lewis.

On the 1861 census, the family was recorded as Williams Lewis (no hyphen). The same married daughter was living with her parents then as well, but by then she had a different last name, Pitt. I am not sure what happened to the first husband but she was married a second time under the name Lewis Williams (again no hyphen). On the marriage record her father, Samuel, is shown with the same double surname.

In 1871 Samuel is shown on the census as just Lewis. Catherine died in 1870; her death and burial records name her as Lewis. Samuel died in 1874 and his death and burial records show him as Williams Lewis.

I found six children baptized in Plympton St. Mary parish, between 1823 and 1837, with the surname of Lewis; parents were Samuel Williams and Catherine (Fig.2). One other child was baptized there in 1835 with the double surname of Williams Lewis; at least both names were written in the box labelled as surname. The forenames of the child born in 1837 were shown as Martha Williams in the baptism register, further complicating the situation.

I later found three additional children born in three different parishes in Cornwall, the first two baptized as Williams, in 1817 and 1819, and the third as Lewis, in 1822 (Fig.2). With further research, one more child was found, baptized in Ugborough parish, Devon, in 1839 with the surname of Williams, father shown as Samuel Lewis. This last child was recorded as Samuel Lewis as well, but on the 1841 census he - I am quite sure it is the same person - was named George. George might be right as Samuel and Catherine appear to already have had a living son named Samuel, their first child. The eldest son was married in Ugborough in 1839 as Samuel Lewis Williams - father a miner having the same name.

The children of Samuel and Catherine also seemed to have their own way of doing things. On different records they are shown as Williams, Lewis and Williams-Lewis. Quite often both apparent last names were used, but not necessarily always in the same order.

The end of Samuel’s story, which may actually be his beginning, concerns a couple of marriages I found in Devon records. On the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses his birth place was indicated as Merton, or Martin (one said the parish was in Cornwall, the other said Devon, which is accurate). His age in all censuses indicated a birth year of 1791.
A marriage was recorded in 1791, in Merton, Devon, between Willmotte Williams, aged twenty-two, and George Lewis, a widower, aged seventy-two. George died in 1799 and Wilmotte Lewis married William Bartlett later the same year. The location and coincidence of the surnames suggest she could have been Samuel's mother. It seems likely - to me at least - that he was born to Willmotte Williams prior to her first marriage and he later used both his mother's and stepfather's surnames, finally settling on the latter. It is certainly possible that George Lewis was his natural father and he was baptized before the marriage with the name of Williams. Unfortunately no baptism record has been found for Samuel, so none of these assumptions can be demonstrated.

A second example, also from Devon records, concerns a man named George Chapple, alias George Chapple Standard, according to his military service record (Fig. 3; Shepheard, 2014). A descendant asked me if I could find his birth or baptism record in Cornwood, Devon. The service record said he was born in Denbury, Devon, on 2 August 1824. Census and other information indicated Cornwood was his place of birth.

I found that George was, in fact, baptized in Cornwood Parish on 21 August 1825 (Fig. 4), the base-born child of Margaret Standard. Chapple was shown as part of his forename and may have been the name of his biological father. It also appears he claimed to be older than he was to get into the army. Subsequent searches of census and other records showed his mother and her family were from Denbury. She apparently went back there shortly after his birth and married there in 1830.

Over a number of censuses where George has been found, there is different information about his place of birth. All entries, however, show his surname as Chapple. The record of his first marriage, in 1849, shows his name as George Chapple Standard. At the time of his second marriage, in 1879, he was George Standard Chapple.

The records of his children are not clear with respect to surnames either. His first three children were baptized George Herbert Standard in 1856, William Angel Standard in 1859 and Henry Standard in 1861. The birth records for George Herbert and William Angel, in Newton Abbott Registration District, show their surname as Standard but a birth record for Henry, in the same registration district, shows his surname as Chapple.

On the 1861 census (Fig. 5) and from then on, they are all shown with the surname of Chapple. George’s fourth son, James, born in 1867, was also registered with the surname Chapple.

Irrespective of Samuel’s or George’s origins, in the case of a One-Name Study, a question that needs to be answered is: Which surname would be the appropriate one to use for these men and their children? Further, is it necessary to try to show blood relationships in a One-Name Study?

(Note: Baptism images reproduced here are used with the kind permission of the Plymouth and West Devon Record Office. Census and military service records are the property of The National Archives and published under their Open Government License. Images were obtained from descendants, downloaded from Ancestry or FindMyPast or copied from my own microfiche.)

Could you be a Challenger?

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

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

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

by Dorothy Walker (Member 2260)

* The history of the following family is too long for an article so the following is a summary and the full documentation has been archived.

—Dorothy Walker

England

The first appearance we have of this particular family is in Spalding, on 26 June 1803 when Samuel BRAKES and Sarah SACKETT marry at the church of St. Mary & St. Nicholas.

We know from Samuel's children's baptisms he was a waterman, which is a common occupation for this area. However some watermen were also 'ticketed' mariners and travelled further afield, sailing out of the Wash and along the English coast and beyond.

Spalding had been an early trading point and the waterways lead to the Wash and hence to the coast. However as early as the 1700s the improvement in drainage saw the area becoming more dependent on agriculture and later with the building of more roads and the introduction of trains the use of the water transport declined. This perhaps led to hardships for these families.

Samuel and Sarah had five children between 1808 (possibly more before that are not recorded) but only two survived to adulthood. Their surviving sons were William baptised on 2 July 1809 and Samuel baptised on 20 (or 30) November 1816.

The other children who died were: - a) John baptised 30 November 1807 buried 29 June 1808, b) Ann baptised 20 April 1812 buried 17 October 1824 and c) Samuel baptised 19 December 1814 buried 17 March 1815.

We see very little information pertaining to Samuel and Sarah until their deaths, although there is a strong possibility that Sarah appears in the 1841 census in what may have been the old alms houses. She was buried on 4 October 1847. Samuel was buried on 12 April 1837.

William born 1809 died 1832-1834.

William followed in his father's footsteps and was also a waterman. On 26 October 1828 he married Mary née RICHARDSON at Spalding. Mary's birth year does vary between 1808-1817 but records show she was William's only wife.

They had two children: - William who was baptised on 16 January 1830 and Elizabeth who was baptised on 3 August 1831 both at Spalding.

Sadly William Snr. died between 1831 when Elizabeth was born and 1 December 1833 when his wife Mary re-married. It is necessary to briefly discuss Mary's second and third marriages at this point.

Mary married James BROUGHTON (a sailor) in 1833 and had two children to him: - a) Mary Ann BROUGHTON baptised 5 December 1834 and b) James born in December 1837. Mary Ann married a John CHAPMAN and they had two children. James appears on the census returns up to 1881 but then seems to disappear and I have no record of a marriage or death for him.

James BROUGHTON Snr. was buried on 18 April 1837 once more leaving Mary a widow. However on the 1 February 1844 she marries for a third time to Thomas CRAMPTON who was an agricultural labourer and she has two more children to him: - a) Ann baptised 27 October 1844 and who goes on to marry a George John WADE a labourer/gardener and they have twelve children, eventually moving to Nottinghamshire. b) Thomas baptised 9 January 1853 buried 25 February 1853.

Mary RICHARDSON/BRAKES/BROUGHTON/CRAMPTON dies in the third quarter of 1876 in Spalding and Thomas CRAMPTON dies in the first quarter of 1882 also in Spalding.

As discussed above William who was born in 1809 had died between 1831 and 1833 but I cannot find any record of his death or burial. It is possible he died whilst at sea but once more no record shows in the GRO for that event, although it is the more likely seeing there is no record of a burial.

This then brings us to his son William who was only about 2-3 years old when his father died. It would seem that his uncle Samuel took an interest in his nephew and we will look at more of that later when discussing Samuel.

William Jnr. was also a waterman and a ‘ticketed’ seaman (although it gives his year of birth as 1828?) and in 1848 he was working for the same man as his uncle. On 7 April 1850 he married Mary SIMPSON at Spalding and in 1851 we find him on the census return with his siblings, although Ann is listed as BROUGHTON when in fact she is a CRAMPTON. I have not been able to find Mary with her current husband Thomas CRAMPTON on that census?

We need to note here that the census in 1850 was taken on the 30 March and in fact plans must have been underway for William and Mary to emigrate to America. Mary’s parents and some of her siblings had arrived in New York only the day before on 29 March 1851.

I have not been able to find any record of William and Mary arriving in America.
William was mustered on 22 September 1861 into the 134th Volunteers to serve as a private in the Civil War.

By 1865 William has changed his occupation to that of brewer but it does not seem he was independent and I think he may have worked for one of the older brewing companies in Troy. He continues with this occupation until 1901 when no occupation is shown against the directory entry for him and by 1905 he is living with his son James at Dannemora, Clinton, New York. The strange thing here is that in 1910 he is still living with his son James but his mother is living with her nephew in Schenectady - it seems they were split?

William was buried on 20 September 1911 at Schenectady, New York and his wife Mary on 8 February 1916 both at Vale Cemetery, Schenectady.

They had six children as follows:

William I. born 15 May 1851 married Mary Jane LOCKROW and was buried 10 May 1919 at Buskirk, Rensselaer, New York (alongside his wife). Mary Jane was born 24 July 1842 in Saratoga, New York and was buried in 1909. They had three sons - Welcome A. 1878-1879, Spencer E. 1880-1881, Irving S. 1886-1886 and one daughter Pamela F. (also known as Millie) born 1872 who married a HUYCK and had two children.

Samuel born 1853 - died 17 September 1903 married Minnie H. DUFRESNE born 1859 died 1911 and they had three children - Jessie 1874 - possibly died in 1880, Lillian (Lilly) born 1876 married a Joseph JONES no issue that I can find, and William Samuel who married Marion B. Haight and they had one daughter Bernice Marion who married but I do not know her married name. Her mother Marion died 20 November 1941 but I cannot find a death for William Samuel.

Mary Ann born 27 September 1856 died November 1857

James born 1859-1929 married Anna BABB 1857-1924 and they had two sons. Clyde b 1888 died sometime after 1910 - we have a photo of his headstone but no date of death. James Nelson born 1893-1962 married Eliza Regina DAY and they had two children Earle D. 1916 and he was taken a prisoner of war by the Japanese in the Philippines and died there in 1943. Their daughter was an adopted daughter Dorothy R. And I am in touch with descendants of hers.

Samuel was buried in 1909. They had three sons – Welcome A. 1878-1879, Spencer E. 1880-1881, Irving S. 1886-1886 and one daughter Pamela F. (also known as Millie) born 1872 who married a HUYCK and had two children.

Mary A. born 4 Feb 1869 buried 4 May 1955 married twice first to a LOEBLE and had a son Albert William born 1888-1911 and the second time to Charles F. MEMIKE 1867-1957 no issue.

So in fact the BRAKES name on this line stopped with Earle D. who died in 1943.

Mary Ann in 1852 took advantage of a government scheme to reunite the wives of convicts and she and her daughters arrived in Freemantle on board the ‘Travancore’ and joined Samuel. This ship mainly carried Irish women who hoped to gain work or to marry out there.

The convicts in Freemantle even had to build their own gaol! Along with roads, bridges and other public buildings.

Mary Ann in 1852 took advantage of a government scheme to reunite the wives of convicts and she and her daughters arrived in Freemantle on board the ‘Travancore’ and joined Samuel. This ship mainly carried Irish women who hoped to gain work or to marry out there.

It must have been a joyous reunion for Samuel and Mary. Their son James was born there in 1854.

We know from newspaper accounts that Samuel had interests in more than one vessel but also had trouble with the police there being convicted of receiving stolen goods and was sentenced to two years imprisonment. However by 1864 he had served his original sentence and was able to leave the Western Australia area.

His daughter Mary Ann had married a Thomas Bevan FOX also a mariner and in 1864 Samuel, his wife, their two younger children along with Mary Ann and their son in law and grandchildren sailed first to Melbourne and then onto Sydney.
When in Sydney Samuel carried on his mariner work whilst Mary Ann ran a lodging house. Sadly their son-in-law Thomas Bevan FOX died and Mary Ann remarried in 1867 to a Frederick William MAXWORTHY and we can trace their descendants nearly to the present day.

Samuel seems to have undertaken several passages as we have him arriving back in Sydney from places as far apart as Mauritius and Queensland. In fact he must have been on a trip in Queensland when he died on 8 April 1878 and is in fact buried in Rockhampton Cemetery, Queensland.

Mary, Samuel’s widow, died on 16 March 1880 and is buried at Belmain Pioneers Memorial Park, NSW.

Of their children:-

Mary Ann FOX/MAXWORTHY died 18 April 1899 in Pyrmont, Sydney - she had three children to Thomas Bevan FOX and eight to Frederick William MAXWORTHY.

Eliza married a William GEDDES 14 January 1879 but there does not appear to be any issues and she then married a COSTER but I have not been able to find that marriage and I only know this because she appears as Eliza COSTER on her death.

James born in 1854 in Freemantle died and was buried 1 September 1910, which was the same burial date as his sister, Eliza.

Thus once more the name BRAKES is not carried on, although there are descendants through the MAXWORTHY line.

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**Guild Indexes**

Significant progress has been made with the Guild Indexes, but more data needs to be uploaded to increase the data available to members and to improve the effectiveness of the Guild Marriage Index GRO Place search [http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/GMI/place_search.cgi](http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/GMI/place_search.cgi) and the Marriage Locator [http://www.marriage-locator.co.uk/](http://www.marriage-locator.co.uk/).

**Progress**

There has been very good progress with the three Guild Indexes for which I am Coordinator. In 2015 I set a target of 1 million for these indexes which I subsequently increased to 2 million by the end of 2016. Currently the data held is as follows:

- The Guild BMD Vault currently contains 2,021 birth records, 289,108 marriage records, and 18,054 death records, a total of 309,183 records comprising 1,098,251 names.
- Guild Marriage Index contains entries for 1,060,239 marriages.
- The Marriage-Locator currently contains 613,844 marriage-locator points (of which 327,679 are ‘cardinal points’) in 1,336 Registration Districts.

You can help achieve these revised targets by:

- Submitting either certificates (in pdf or word format) or transcribed details on spreadsheets to the BMD Coordinator.
- Submitting (or updating) your marriages to the GMI Coordinator.
- Submitting cardinal points (first and last marriage entry for a specified registration district) in a spreadsheet to the GMI Coordinator.
- Providing examples of Inferred Marriage Partners (IMP) entries to the GMI Coordinator. The information for IMPs can be identified by Guild members who can work out the other marriages on the same GRO pages as their one-name marriages. These will be predominantly from the period 1852 to 1911 where each GRO page will have up to four names - two will be known by the member whilst the other two will be the IMPs.
- Copying Marriage Challenge spreadsheets to the GMI Coordinator.

**Formats to upload data**

Proforma examples of the appropriate spreadsheets that can be used to submit data to the BMD Vault and the GMI are available within the members’ room on the Guild website.

**GMI data input extended to 1945**

Please also note that the GMI can now take data up to 1945. If marriages after 1945 are included in the input file they will be retained for future uploading once the GMI is extended to accept later years. Please also note that the “member” column is used to indicate the member submitting the data and as a result their name will be associated with that upload. More generic codes can be included in this field where the data is being uploaded from a Marriage Challenge file (MC), a Cardinal Points file (CP), an Inferred Marriage Partners file (IMP) or a generic input not related to a member (GEN).

Read more at [http://one-name.org/forums/topic/guild-indexes/#ZAd5K374lEBcAlZ7.99](http://one-name.org/forums/topic/guild-indexes/#ZAd5K374lEBcAlZ7.99)

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Closing date for articles for next Journal: 5th August
Book Review:
Wood: A Family of Kent

Reviewed by Dr Ian G MacDonald (Member 5933)


Happenstance has much to do with this review. I happen to correspond with Charles Wood because he has links to the Mewburns I obsess about; I happened to spot the book advertised in the Genealogists’ Magazine; he happened to say that the SoG does not normally review books on family histories; I happened to find that bizarre and offered to write a review. This is a work of love of origins and a book that shows a deep love of Kent. The author is a City man, a distinguished figure in the world of investment, but one with a degree in history who has retained a passion for the Kentish past. Here he is returning to a first love but he makes clear it has run through the family. He has built on others’ interests.

Books about one family are not easy to love unless you belong to it or have strong links to the name. Lacking either, I look to such a book to either entertain or educate. I particularly value a book I can learn from and this is one that stands out in that respect. The research has been carried out immaculately and it is instructive to observe the range of sources used in piecing together the family story and weaving it into the story of Kent.

The book is in four sections. The first deals with ‘Origins’ and in many ways is the most pleasing part of the book. It is not so much family history as history through family – an exciting approach. The Isles of Sheppey (there were three!) provide the earliest origins for the family and they, along with Minster, Eastchurch, Milton and Bredgar, are brought to life through Wood appearances at key points. Great use is made of maps and early surveys to show landholdings in Eastchurch. We see how documents relating to the Kings Ferry tell us about the nature of the area and link us to the family through a ferry warden and a supervisor.

Because Wood is not an uncommon name there are plenty of appearances in ancient records to weave into and enliven the area’s history. The records themselves are fully cited for those wanting to follow the trail.

We get genealogical insights too, as in the influence of gavelkind and the popularity in Kent of Fleet marriages. Links to places like Faversham show how an extended geography may affect family dynamics.

We see also with the Pyes (GOONS registered) of Cuxton, how strong links between families in the area were developed through several marriages.

Part two deals with the nineteenth century and the shift from a traditional agrarian economy to a more diverse entrepreneur-
It is not often that a “one-namer” gets the chance to travel to a remote S Atlantic island, live there for three years, and find that he is not the first of the family name to have lived there. Today there are two Hillmans in the phone directory - us, but we have since left the island - and two Hillman cars, one of which is still running on a daily basis. However, hidden deep in the island Archives and elsewhere are gems of Hillman information that, pieced together, reflect the very varied origins of the “Saints” who populate the island today. They illustrate the lives of the ordinary people, in contrast to the “illustrious” governors, officers, East India Company officials and other expatriates who previously, and still today, arrived and left, often with alarming rapidity.

Soon after arriving on the island we noted the occurrence of one - Charlotte Hillman - in the printed list of slaves emancipated in 1827. How had a slave ended up with the surname Hillman? So the search began.

An island has finite edges; an island of only 123 km² surface area and over 2,000 kilometres of open ocean from the nearest continent, and still without an airport (due to open in early 2016), has little chance to overlap with its neighbours, and once there, poorer members of society had little chance to leave again. In theory we should be able to trace the complete lineage of a relatively uncommon family name but that all depends upon the quality and completeness of the records now available.

Nothing is ever simple or clear cut in genealogy studies, and St Helena is no exception. Records go missing, get neglected, eaten by white ants, water-damaged, and the old-style handwriting in the Registers can take a lot of patience in transcribing. Little of this has yet been done. Cecil Maggott did a sterling job as government Archivist in his time in developing indices of many of the official handwritten Church Registers where Baptisms, Marriages and Burials were recorded. These enable you to search for a name, and the page number in a volume where the information was recorded. However, the original Registers are so fragile and valuable they are now handled minimally at the Archives. Witwatersrand University holds a set of micro-filmed records of many of the Registers, along with Cecil’s indices. These have all been converted to pdf files and can be searched and downloaded on the web, but be aware that you are still faced with pages of ancient script to wade through to find any record of interest. We are in the process of transcribing all of these microfiched BMD records.

Three John Hillmans
The family name Hillman came to the island not just once, but three times over a 100 year period. And every time the progenitor was named John Hillman! Two were East India Company soldiers, and one, an East Indiaman Captain, visited several times. There are eight John Hillmans in the records, three of them thankfully with a different second name. We have detected a total of 41 Hillman surnames to date in the records, twenty-four of which are male and seventeen female.

In Part One of this article we explore John Hillman and his descendants on the island; in a later Part Two we shall look at the other Hillman family links with the island and further afield.

The island has a chequered history, famous to most people only as the place of exile for six years of Napoleon Bonaparte (1815-1821). The island first emerged from the sea 17 million years ago and, to the best of our knowledge, man played no part in the island until the year 1502 when it was “discovered” by the Portuguese. So the influence of man has been a brief 510 year sojourn, yet during that time major changes have been wrought on the island’s ecology, whilst a settled human population has developed of - today - some 4,000 people. Early interest in the island as a ship re-victualing station by the Portuguese, Dutch, French and British led eventually to British dominance and settlement, and ultimately a Charter for the East India Company to manage it. An early Dutch capture of the island, lasting only six months between 1672-1673, led to massive fortification of the cliff-bound island and the need for military and guns to guard it. These were further enhanced during Napoleon’s exile on the island.

The first John Hillman - Sarjent (sic):
The East India Company developed the St Helena Regiment for the defence of the island, and before 1789 “Sarjent” John Hillman arrived from England. The first record we have of his name is in the Muster Record of 1789 indicating he was then already a serving soldier with the Regiment. He served in the 1st Battalion, in Captain Robert Statham’s Company. His name continues to appear in the St Helena Regiment Muster Rolls in 1794, 1805 and 1808.

The regimental Muster Record shows he left again after being discharged as an invalid in 1808 after nineteen years...
on the island, but not until after he had sired a significant Hillman line. Also in 1808, and fitting with his discharge, is his appearance on the passenger list of the HMS Cumberland on 25 April as a “Charter Party” passenger where his status as a discharged soldier is confirmed.

In addition to being a soldier, John Hillman was clearly a man of some respectability, being recorded as the “Parish Clerk” of St Helena between 1 April 1793 and 30 September 1794 and later as “Sexton” in 1802.

The first evidence we have found for Sarjent John Hillman’s family affairs on the island is the baptismal record for his son William Hillman in 1792. William’s birth is recorded in the India Office record as “illegitimate” and his mother simply as “Peg, servant to Mr Wilson” who was then the church minister. Since William was then recorded as a slave in later records, we are led to assume that Peg was also a slave, since all children born to a slave woman were at this time deemed also to be slaves until emancipation after 1827.

Sarjent John Hillman is then recorded as marrying Martha Dean, a “Free Woman”, and “Free Black” on 13 February 1796. No children have been discovered from this marriage, nor does it seem that Martha Hillman (née Dean) accompanied her husband away from the island in 1808. In fact, Martha Hillman is recorded as a Widow at her marriage on the island to James Clerk - a bachelor - on 14 July 1814. Thus, eighteen years after her marriage to John Hillman, she knew - or claimed - she was a widow, six years after he had left the island. No children have been discovered from her marriage to either John Hillman or James Clerk.

Did the first John Hillman die back in England after his return there? Did he ever return to St Helena? We simply do not know.

William Hillman - his son - married on the island twice, once to Rachel Chentry on 25 July 1814, only eleven days after his stepmother Martha’s re-marriage. Rachel died two years later, after the birth of their only son Richard Hillman in November 1814. Of Richard Hillman we have no further information.

William re-married, this time to Ann Bastina on 22 July 1822, who bore him no fewer than eleven children, registered between 1820 and 1847. These two relationships of William Hillman resulted in the main group of Hillman descendants on the island. We have records for thirty-two Hillman descendants from William and Ann Hillman (that is bearing the family name Hillman). This includes one line where Eliza Maria Hillman emigrated to South Africa where she married in 1891. Her descendants then emigrated to the UK, and a further generation to Canada where they now reside.

More Hillmans - another John, another Charlotte, and Helena Hillman

There are some “floaters” for whom connections to Sarjent John’s line are not easily substantiated. It is very likely that they are connected given the dates and events recorded in their lives, but the links need verification.

John Hillman, Private in the St Helena Regiment:

This John Hillman we know from his two marriages and five children resulting, as well as his death in 1859. His calculated birth year is 1783, using his stated age at death of seventy-six years. However, he was recorded as being thirty-four years of age when he was enrolled in the St Helena Regiment in 1828. This gives a calculated birth year of 1794. There is a record for a John, baptised in 1789, son to Peg, Rev. Wilson’s servant and a soldier and thus almost certainly Sarjent John Hillman’s son. All these potential birth dates place him clearly as a candidate son for Sarjent John Hillman. The date is for his baptism, which from other records could be as much as ten years after a child’s birth. In the Registers the slaves are recorded separately by Mr Maggott in the indices. There are over 100 slaves called John in this period who were baptised and yet to be transcribed in detail!

John (the younger) was a “Saint” (recorded as “native” at his discharge, born on the island) and he and Charlotte March were recorded as slaves at the time of their marriage in 1817. He was slave to Captain Robert Statham of the St Helena Regiment, while Charlotte was slave to Ann Statham, Robert’s wife. The plot thickens - Ann Statham was the widow of Rev John Wilson, whose servant Peg bore a son William Hillman to Sarjent John Hillman. Captain Statham was in charge of the “Spragues”, an old name for the military outpost at Lemon Valley, and lived in the cottage there in 1815. This location later became the slave quarantine hospital at the time of the anti-slavery naval patrols off West Africa. Captain Statham also lived at New Ground House, so presumably John and William Hillman and their families may have done also. The younger John’s likely brother William was also registered as a slave to Captain Statham, while his second wife Ann was slave to Mr Collyer. It would seem that the Statham menage maintained fidelity to the Hillman family - or vice versa?

After emancipation in 1827, John’s freedom was purchased by Captain Statham through the medium of an emotional letter to the government to acquire a personal loan to avoid any expense on John’s part in obtaining his freedom. William Hillman’s freedom was also purchased, and John was immediately enrolled in the St Helena Regiment where he served for 7 years and 119 days.

All was not well with John’s first marriage, and by 1827 at the time of slave emancipation Charlotte was recorded as living with another slave - Robert Mercury - the “property” of Captain Beale. Hers was the name that started our search into the surname occurrence on the island. By this time Charlotte had borne three children, all considered “free” due to new regulations before the turn of the century, whereby children born to a slave woman were no longer to be considered as slaves themselves. Charlotte went on to bear another two children in 1829 and 1832, both registered with the family name Hillman, but it is not clear who the natural father was.

Two additional children are recorded for a Charlotte Hillman. These last two - Charles William and Elizabeth Ann Hillman - were both registered as “illegitimate”. They were baptised on the same day in 1845, but Charles was born ten years earlier and Elizabeth seven. Were these Robert Mercury’s children perhaps? No father is recorded.

At some point between 1827 and 1849 when she finally married Robert Mercury, a divorce or separation must have been granted to free the younger John Hillman to marry Mary Riley, herself a widow, in 1836. No children were recorded from this second marriage.

John and Charlotte’s line only produced one more generation
in the form of a child born to their daughter Ann Margaret Hillman who married Henry Tim in 1842.

John (the younger) was discharged from the Regiment in 1836 after Captain Statham’s death. At his own death in 1859 this John was recorded as an East India Company Pensioner. An account in 1842 of the pay scale for a plumber to replace the deceased Chinese plumber, “Typho”, mentions the name John Hillman as replacement. The younger John Hillman discussed here would have been about fifty-nine years old at this juncture so perhaps a little aged. However, his own son - also John Hillman - born in 1819 is a likely candidate being about twenty-three years old at this time.

**Charlotte Hillman:**
We only know of this Charlotte Hillman from the record of her son Francis Watson being baptised in 1813. She was recorded as being “Free” and unmarried (i.e. her birth name was Hillman) at the time. The father was recorded as William Watson. We have no further information on this Charlotte. There is however a record for the baptism of a Charlotte on 26 July 1789, born to a soldier and a Black woman. It is highly likely the soldier was our original John Hillman. This would appear to conflict with the date given for John and Peg’s son John, baptised 11 October 1789, though both are baptismal dates and not birth dates, neither of which is available, and baptism was often long delayed after birth.

There is potential for confusion with Charlotte Hillman (née March), wife of the younger John Hillman above, who also had a son called Francis Hillman, but not born until 1829.

Assuming that this Charlotte was at least fifteen to twenty years old at the time Francis Watson was born, she herself would have been born between 1793-1798. This was at the time that Sarjent John Hillman was fathering children on the island.

**Helena Hillman:**
Finally we come to Helena Hillman, perhaps named for the island? Like Charlotte Hillman, we only know of Helena through her mention as mother at the baptism of her daughter Margaret Helena Howze Hillman in 1837, who was recorded as “illegitimate”.

It is difficult to place the mother Helena as a daughter to the original Sarjent John Hillman, since making the same best assumption of her age at the birth of her first child, she would have been born between 1817-1822. If she was significantly older at the time of Margaret Helena Howze Hillman’s baptism, or the child had been born several years before being baptised then the likelihood of a link is far greater. Sarjent John Hillman left the island in 1808 and did not, as far as we know, return.

There is a possible clue in the name “Howze”. From the records it would seem that the father of an illegitimate child was often acknowledged in the naming of that child. Perusal of the baptismal records at this time indicates three children born in the 1830s period with the family name Howze or Hozzé. There are also a number of Howes names in the records so Howze may simply be the form of spelling chosen by the recording clerk at the time.

For the time being she remains a mystery, but it is most likely she was related to the other Hillmans in some way, since the chances of an unmarried and unrelated female Hillman travelling to the island at such a time in history seem remote.

**Life on St Helena for the “ordinary” people**
The genealogical tracing is interesting in itself, but can be used as a window onto life on the island over 120 years or so. I started this account saying there are no “Saint” Hillmans on the island today. History however shows at least fifty people bearing the name are recorded on the island.

The Hillmans descending from Sarjent John Hillman were slaves until 1827. Children born to slave women after 1818 were considered free. We know from the emancipation records that slaves had been the backbone of the services provided to families in domestic service, supply of fish from the sea, farming support and doubtless market gardening. Several of the men found employment after emancipation in the St Helena Regiment until it was disbanded or they were discharged at around the time of the demise of the EIC. One of the John Hillmans found work with the government as a plumber as described above. “Billy” (William) Hillman, at the time his freedom was purchased, was noted as a “fisherman and cooper”. However life cannot have been easy for the freed slave Hillmans.

We also - with a hint from the Archives Department - found where several of the Hillmans lived. Reference to “Hillman’s Cottage” on a recent land deed from 1963 led to other archived documents indicating the plot location at the Briars and its lease to the Hillmans (Fig.2). Clearly the original slave family had gone up in the world and were able to afford a 10-year lease within the period 1813 - 1833. Interestingly this overlaps completely the period of Napoleon’s imprisonment on the island, and his brief sojourn at the nearby Briars at the end of 1815. Superimposing the 1830 Briars Estate map over a modern Land Plots map shows clearly the presence of a cottage at the location of the current 010 Land Parcel (Fig.3). It is evident from subsequent parcel numbers that parcel 10 has been subdivided and would have included modern parcels 328 and 329 making the whole a reasonable small holding which would have helped the family with subsistence.

Several Hillmans were recorded as “of the Briars” in registration documents over the period 1852-1871, suggesting occupation of the site by the Hillman family for a long period.

![Fig.2 The 1830 land deed leasing to “Hillman, Lot N° 10 of the New Village near the Briars containing 100 feet square.”](image_url)
In addition, at least one Hillman family lived further up the slope near Prospect House at the edge of Alarm Forest, and at Longwood, their baptisms being recorded at St Matthew’s Church. In the transcribed baptismal records, it is evident that twenty-nine Hillman baptisms took place in the “Town Church” of St James, with another four at St John’s in upper Jamestown, and a further four at St Matthews, beyond Alarm Forest and close to the Longwood area. St Paul’s baptismal record (the “Country Church”) has yet to be indexed. The four marriages and two burials so far found are all from St James, but few of the other churches’ records have yet been indexed.

Editor’s Note: The new airport on the island of St Helena, built at a cost of £250 million to British taxpayers, has had its opening postponed indefinitely after trial flights showed dangerous wind conditions (The Times, 28 April 2016).

\textbf{Fig. 3} Briars Estate 1830 map (yellow) super-imposed on modern land parcels (green lines); Hillmans cottage arrowed.

\textbf{The Briars area from High Knoll Fort (Hillman Cottage location arrowed)}

\section*{News from the Guild Website...}

If you log onto the Guild of One-Name Studies website you will see a list of headings at the top right hand side of the page, one of which is ‘What’s New?’ Clicking on this will show the heading ‘Features’ and this is where you will find some information pages, two of which have been highlighted below.

\subsection*{Surname Saturdays}

Surname Saturdays are seminars covering a range of topics to help members further their research and to share tips and tricks exclusively for fellow Guild members. These live webinars are held on the first Saturday of each month except January (Down Under time), the Friday before the first Saturday for those in South Africa, Europe, UK, Ireland and the Americas. Sessions are recorded so members can watch them at a time that best suits them.

Currently these sessions are run by Karen Rogers (Australian Regional Rep for NSW & ACT) and Michelle Patient (Regional Rep for NZ). If you have a topic you would like to see covered please send them an email at surname-saturdays@one-name.org.

Read more at \url{http://one-name.org/surname-saturdays/#LXo5gac0x421yfte.99}

\subsection*{Suggestion Board}

What is the Guild’s Suggestion Board? This forum is only accessible by logged in Guild members. Guild members are invited to enter their suggestions for improvements or enhancements to the Guild’s services, for discussion by the Committee. All suggestions will be submitted by the Vice-Chairman to the next meeting of the Committee, and the response subsequently posted here. Please note: Committee reports are prepared and submitted around two weeks before a meeting, so if your suggestion is made after that cut off point, it will be discussed in the next available meeting. Committee meeting dates are shown to the lower right of the Events Calendar.

Any suggestions that had been actioned prior to the migration of the Suggestion Board to the new website in April 2016 can be viewed in the Suggestion Archive. If you need more general information on using forum features, please contact the WebForum Manager.

Read more at \url{http://one-name.org/suggestion-board/#MBhUyIRctu9BBW41.99}
Guild Subscription to Increase from 1 November 2016

by Tracy Care (Guild Treasurer) and Susan Hundleby (Guild Registrar)

The Committee has reviewed the Guild’s long term income and expenditure forecast and to balance the books has decided to increase the subscription rates with effect from 1 November 2016. The basic annual subscription fee (excluding a copy of the printed Register) will increase to £18.00. The cost of the printed Register will be £2 and household membership rates will increase to £10.00. The one-off fee to register a one-name study will be £14.00 for each study registered. Pro-rata changes will happen to other currency rates and term memberships.

Our annual subscription has remained unchanged since 1st November 2009. Ongoing rising costs have forced this decision. **UK first class postage rates alone have increased by 64% during this period, for example.** Without an increase in the annual subscription the Guild would incur increasing financial deficits and would be unable to continue its ongoing growth and development. The Committee is determined that we should continue to develop additional benefits for our members while remaining financially strong.

The recent implementation of the Members’ Websites Project demonstrates our resolve to support and assist new developments. More are in the pipeline particularly with regard to preserving our work.

**“Going Green”**

We already have a few members who have volunteered to “go green” and forego a printed copy of the Journal each quarter. For cost reasons, particularly for overseas members, we would like to encourage more of this. Such members will have access to the Journal direct from our website the moment it is ready, thus not having to wait for the mail, and be able to read it directly on their iPad or other device. We will make an opt-out facility available on the website. In the meantime, if you would like to take advantage of this option immediately, please make your request by emailing registrar@one-name.org.

We do understand that a printed Register is handy to have on the shelf but we ask members to note that it is out of date moment it goes to print! The online version of the Register is always accurate and if you opt out, your annual cost will be £18 instead of £20 – see below for how to opt out of the printed Register.

**Long term forecast**

The Guild achieved breakeven in the 2012-13 financial year, but reported a loss of £3,969 in 2013-14. Whilst the Guild was able to reduce these losses and report a small overall surplus in 2014-15, the 2015-16 budget is for a loss situation and the long term forecast indicates that these losses are only likely to increase in subsequent financial years due to rising costs.

As a charity it is not acceptable for the Guild to allow its subscriptions to be subsidised by reducing our reserves. Without an increase in fees, the Guild will be financially restricted in its ability to take up many valuable projects that will benefit you in your research and we hope that you will understand the necessity for the Committee to make this difficult decision.

The increased subscription rate of £18 a year (£20 if you still want a printed Register) should ensure that the Guild will not need a further increase in fees for a number of years to come.

**Administrative arrangements**

The new subscription rate will be introduced on 1st November 2016 for all new and renewing members. Revised membership application forms and renewal forms will be produced in time for the 2016-17 renewals process.

The new subscription rates mean that members who pay by UK standing order will need to amend their standing order payments. We would appreciate it if you could arrange to do this as soon as possible. To assist in this change-over the Guild is providing a revised bankers standing order form with this issue of the Journal. We will also be introducing the facility to pay by Direct Debit, which will be available for anyone with a UK Bank account. If you are interested in setting up a direct debit then please email treasurer@one-name.org and we can start the process. Similarly, we hope to add a facility for recurring PayPal payments in all six currencies.

Alternatively, if you have an on-line UK bank account you can pay your annual subscriptions (and any donations you may wish to make to the Guild) via a direct transfer. The Guild Bank Account details are as follows:

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For those members who want to benefit from the basic subscription rate of £18.00 and therefore not receive the printed Register, please ensure you opt out by amending your Guild Register preferences. You can do this by logging into the Members’ Room on the Guild website under “Self-service” and “Guild Register Preferences”. Here is the link:

[http://one-name.org/cgi-bin/user-maintenance/registerfrontpage.cgi](http://one-name.org/cgi-bin/user-maintenance/registerfrontpage.cgi)

We hope that all members appreciate that the Guild provides exceptionally good value for money. A list of the benefits available to our members can be seen on the Guild website [http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/membership-benefits/](http://one-name.org/about-the-guild/membership-benefits/)

We believe these changes will provide a solid platform for the Guild to prosper over the next several years. Thank you for your continued support.
Forthcoming Seminars

DNA Seminar
National Star College, Ullenwood, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL53 9QU
9:30 am for 10:00 am, Saturday 13 August 2016

We return to Cheltenham for a long overdue DNA seminar, starting with a headline talk on Richard III by Dr Turi King of University of Leicester. We will then offer two parallel streams with sessions aimed at three levels of experience: Starting Out/Basics (B), Intermediate/Advanced (A) and Advanced/Expert (E), all led by leading DNA experts from within and without the Guild. The day will conclude with a Wrap Up Session/Q+A Panel with many of the day’s speakers and other experts.

Programme

09:30 – 10:00  Registration and Coffee
10:00 - 10:10  Welcome to the Seminar - Alan Moorhouse
10:10 - 11:10  Richard III: The Resolution of a 500 Year Old Cold Case
               - Dr Turi King (University of Leicester)
11:10 - 11:20  Comfort Break
11:20 - 12:20  B1 - DNA Basics for Beginners — Geoff Swinfield
               A1 - Promoting Your Y Project — Debbie Kennett
12:20 - 13:30  Lunch Break
13:30 - 14:30  B2 - Starting Your Y DNA Project — Speaker TBC
               A2 - Understanding Y DNA Results and Grouping People
               - Maurice Gleeson
14:30 - 15:00  Tea Break
15:00 - 16:00  B3/A3 - Using Autosomal DNA - Barbara Griffiths
               E1 - Advanced Y DNA Testing - James Irvine
16:00 - 16:10  Comfort Break
16:10 - 16:45  Wrap Up Session/Q+A Panel
16:45  Close of Seminar

If you will be travelling by train please contact us for help in finding a lift from Cheltenham or Gloucester station.

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, is £20.00. Bookings close on July 31st 2016. All bookings will be confirmed by email, with full joining instructions, on or shortly after this date. To book and pay online see http://www.one-name.org/seminar_2016aug_cheltenham.

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

#GuildDNA
Pictures from
Conference and WDYTYA? Live 2016

Photos courtesy of Peter Alefounder and Peter Hagger