



Greetings!

Hello! I am Charlie Wilson, registrant of the Southgate one-name study and volunteer Publicity Manager for the Guild of One-Name Studies. Each month I hope to provide some interesting reading and temptations to dig deeper into your surname bearers.

### **Where do you research?**

My last email was sent to you from a small Victorian terraced house in Cheshire, England, but this month I writing to you from a very different kind of place - an apartment in Massachusetts, with Blue Jays squawking outside my window.

We have relocated here for a few years, and I am really looking forward to learning about our new home.

### **And finding some local Southgates**

A great aspect of one-name studies is that they offer the opportunity to research in ALL the record sets, not just the ones geographically relevant to my own family.

So, rather than feeling sad that I no longer have in-person access to the archives in the UK, I can look forward to investigating new resources.

### **Expanding your research area can also help with family history**

One-name studies look at large pools of individuals, and fit them into their families. If you have a brickwall in your family tree, this can be a great way to break it down.

It was only when I started my Southgate study that I discovered where a missing ancestor was in 1851 - He had, like me, temporarily relocated to the USA and was in Pennsylvania, rather than Suffolk, England!

I might not have spotted him without expanding my research net to include US census records and trade directories.

### **Perhaps I will even start a one-place study!**

Several of our members already work on places as well as names, and it can be a great way to learn new things about both.

During January we had nine new one-name study registrations. They are listed below. Do any appear in your own research? If so, the registrants would love to hear from you and they can be contacted by searching for the surname here:

#### Guild of One-Name Studies

LAWLEDGE  
CUNDELL  
PORTERFIELD  
DOBY

COLE  
CUSKER  
EDKINS  
COGGINS  
MURDOCH

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### An unusual resource you may not have heard of

Sticking with my new location, I wonder if you might find some surname bearers in California?

Although there are larger newspaper collections, this one is free to access, and has some fascinating content. On this day (21st Feb) 100 years ago, the *San Francisco Call* featured such headlines as:

*Mysterious Woman in Film Death Grilling*  
and  
*Hospital Patient Claims Bride, Dies in Hour*

Perhaps you will find an ancestor or surname bearer in the news?

#### California Digital Newspaper Collection

Wishing you success in your research this month

Charlie.

