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of One-Name Studies



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of One-Name Studies

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

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From the Chairman's Keyboard...

By Kirsty Gray

Wow, what a year! Looking back at the Chairman's Column in the July 2010 journal, I wrote about the many changes to the Guild Committee and several vacant posts. In the Chairman's report to the AGM in Warrington, on behalf of the Trustees of the Guild, I was able to 'wax lyrical' about what a fantastic organisation we are and the outstanding work carried out by over 200 volunteers on our behalf. It's true what they say – 'you can't please all of the people all of the time' so apologies to those who felt that I went on too long and thank you to those who took the time to come and say how 'informative, energetic and upbeat' the AGM was. For those who were not able to attend the AGM, the notes from my report are in the Chairman's Corner of the Guild website.

The AGM brought a new committee – one departure and one new arrival; our thanks go to **Sandra Turner** for over a decade of service on the Guild Committee and we welcome **Teresa Pask** to the team.

Our first committee meeting of the new Guild administrative year took place at lunchtime so we were able to announce to the conference delegates the new trustees, postholders and other Guild representatives.

The Guild Officers have changed slightly this year with **Anne Shankland** taking on the role of Vice Chairman. **Keith Bage** decided to step down from his roles as Vice Chairman and Editor this year and challenge a new volunteer to take the journal to the next level. He has handed **Teresa Pask** the editorial baton and my goodness, she has taken it running, almost immediately asking for more pages in this her first edition. Most of the other postholders and representatives remain unchanged. Full details can be found in the Member's Room.

Conference and AGM

The Conference and AGM proved very successful in Warrington under the superb management of Gordon Adshead and the Seminar Subcommittee team. The programme entitled 'Northern Lights' focussed delegates on Northern records as well as furthering our knowledge of sources, synthesis and collaboration projects in one-name studies.

During the annual report to the AGM, the Guild Committee's recommendations for President and Vice Presidents were agreed by the membership with **Howard Benbrook**, a popular choice, as newly appointed Vice President. **Gordon Adshead**, **Roger Goacher** and **Mary Rix** were also announced as this year's recipients of the title of Master Craftsmen of the Guild, each for their individual contribution to the running of the Guild and its services.

Post-AGM

Having changed our committee meeting cycle this year, we have already had a main Committee meeting and have co-opted **Bob Cumberbatch** to the team. He has also joined the Marketing Subcommittee to assist **John Coldwell** and **Corrinne Goodenough**, our leading lights in the marketing department. In the latter part of 2010, **Stephen Daglish**, **Cliff Kemball** and **Chris Pomery** surveyed members who joined the Guild in mid-2008 to investigate the loss of Guild members in their first or second year and identify actions that we can take to reduce this loss as well as improving the experience of membership for all. The results were fascinating and steps have already been taken in line with the findings, such as the **mentoring scheme**, for example.

Since the Marketing Strategy meeting in March 2010, targets and objectives have been set for the short term (2 years) and long term (5 years) future of the Guild with one of the main

aims being to increase membership from outside of the UK, with specific percentage targets. Challenging goals have been set and the marketing team are making great progress towards achieving them.

By the time you read this journal, I will have met with **Ancestry** to discuss possible links with the Guild. Discussions will take place at our next committee meeting in July and more information should be available to you very shortly after. **FamilySearch** are having teething troubles with their new site and so the link to the Guild database is not live to all users. Anne and I are in regular contact with them and we *hope* that the link will be sorted before long.

Projects

The **FamilySearch** transcription project launched on 17th March is going so well that the first project has been completed and the team are now awaiting the digitisation of the next set of records from the 2.4 million rolls of film that FamilySearch hold. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Glenys Marriott – volunteers@one-name.org.

We have a lot of capacity right now within our organisation to consider new projects. There are over 200 Guild volunteers and many more willing members out there, I am sure. If you have an idea for a project, please get in touch with either myself or Glenys and put forward a proposal for the committee's consideration.

To conclude as I did at the AGM, the Guild is in good health. We have an excellent Committee for the forthcoming year who are active, enthusiastic and motivated to move mountains. We still have less than the full complement of 15 Guild Committee members so if you would like to come aboard the ship, please do get in touch with 'the Captain or any of the superb crew' for more information! ■

Getting Started and Tips for Success

By **Laurence Harris**

I want a system that provides me with details of all individuals in the world, living and deceased, who have the same surname as my one-name study. The information provided must be 100% accurate, show exactly how these individuals are related to each other, give me a way to find more information about each of these individuals, and also allow me to easily contact their living descendants. Of course, achieving all of this is just a "pipe dream", but significant technology developments, in recent years, mean that many elements are actually available today.

This article explores the extent to which **Smart Matches™** technology from MyHeritage.com meets these requirements and can significantly benefit those undertaking a one-name study. It covers how to get started and also provides tips for success. A subsequent article will cover other

features within MyHeritage products which members of the Guild are likely to find useful in supporting their one-name research.

The author of this article is a family historian who has been tracing his **Chapkofsky** ancestors for more than ten years and has recently joined the Guild to further his research into this name. He is also the Head of Genealogy (UK) for MyHeritage.com.

Smart Matches™ intelligently matches a user's database of names (or names within a family tree) against a database of over 750 million profiles (i.e. individuals) within 17 million other family trees.

The process of using and benefiting from **Smart Matches™** is simple:

1. Create a Family Site for your one-name study.

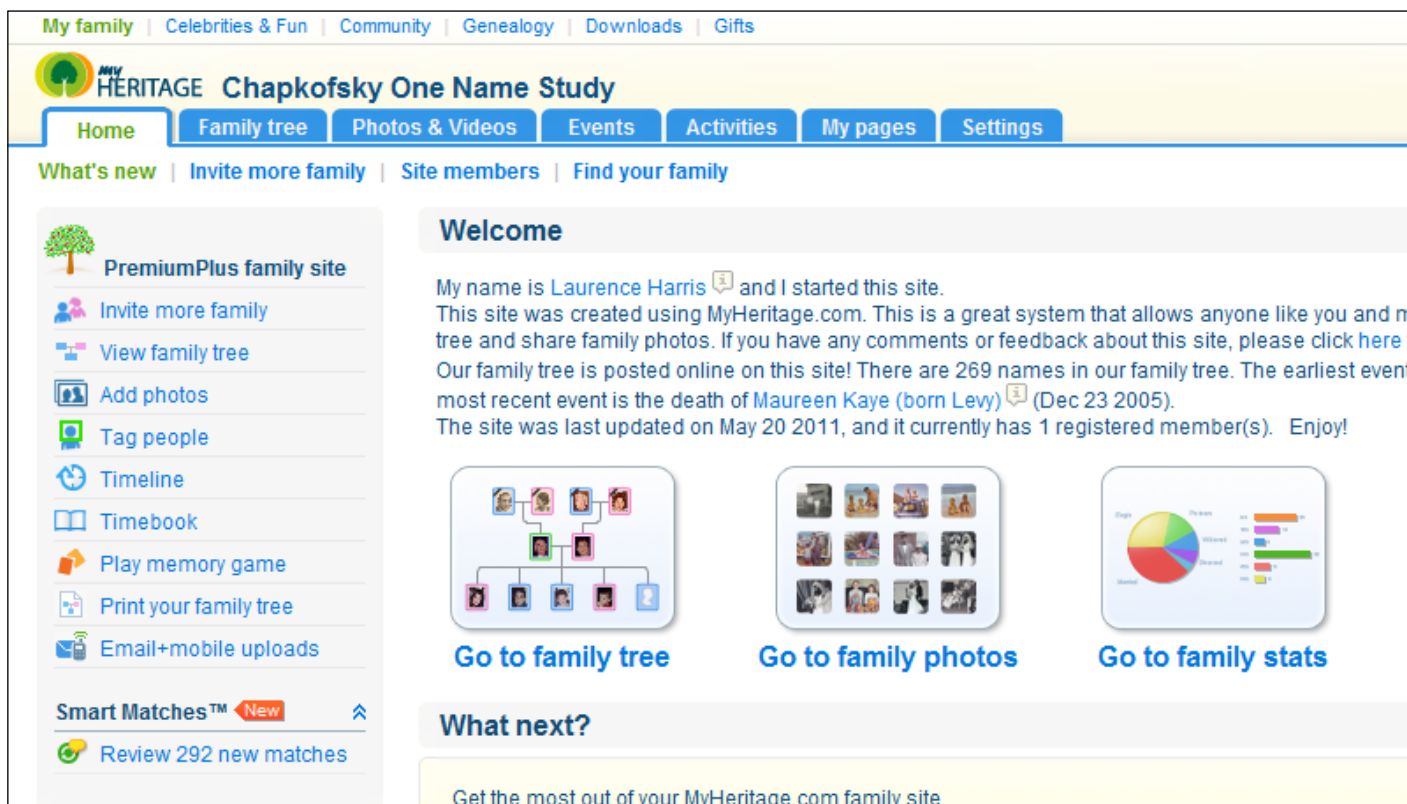
2. Populate it with data from your one-name study that you would like to find matches for.
3. Receive notifications of matches, and confirm or reject them.
4. Collaboration – Invite others to your Family Site so that you can collaborate with research and share information.

1. Create a Family Site

To start using **Smart Matches™** you must first create a MyHeritage account. The easiest way to do this is to go to **www.myheritage.com** and then click on "sign up" to create a MyHeritage family site (see advertisement on page 33 for details of the special offer of a free account for Guild Members).

Your site will initially be created with a title based on your surname which you entered during the sign up process (e.g. "HARRIS Family website"). If you would like to change your site title to reflect the name of

Fig 1. Home Page of CHAPKOFSKY One-Name Study



a particular one-name study (e.g. to "CHAPKOFSKY One-Name Study") then from the Settings tab select the General options page, and then change the title. The Home page of your site can be customised in several ways including your own welcome message and inclusion of a family photo (see Fig 1).

2. Populate your Family Site

The next step is to populate your site with the data that you want the system to use for Smart Matching.

Guild members who already use family tree software to hold their family tree or details of their one-name study should be able to create a GEDCOM file from their existing family tree software. After a GEDCOM file has been created, open your new family site and click on the "Family tree" tab. Then select "Import Tree (GEDCOM)" and follow the instructions. (Note: If you already use Family Tree Builder (FTB) software and have data there that you wish to upload then open Family Tree Builder and use the FTB "Publishing" menu rather than creating a GEDCOM). Alternatively you can key your data directly into a family tree on your new family site – just click on the "Family Tree" tab to start.

If you click on the "Tree" page of the "Family Tree" tab then you will see your imported data in a family tree format (see Fig 2). You can add or edit data/facts from this screen if you wish.

When you are the owner of a family site you have control over its level of privacy by using the Privacy settings within the Settings tab. You can make your site a "public site" with data open to all guests (i.e. all members of the public) or a "private site" (only open only to members that you invite to your site). Alternatively, many Guild Members may wish to create a "mixed site" with some sections open to the public and some sections restricted to invited members only.

Smart Matches™ is a collaborative feature, and the more data that you and others supply for Smart Matching the better the quality of the matches (i.e. fewer "missed" matches and fewer "false positive" matches). This is because **Smart Matches™** takes into account not only key details of the

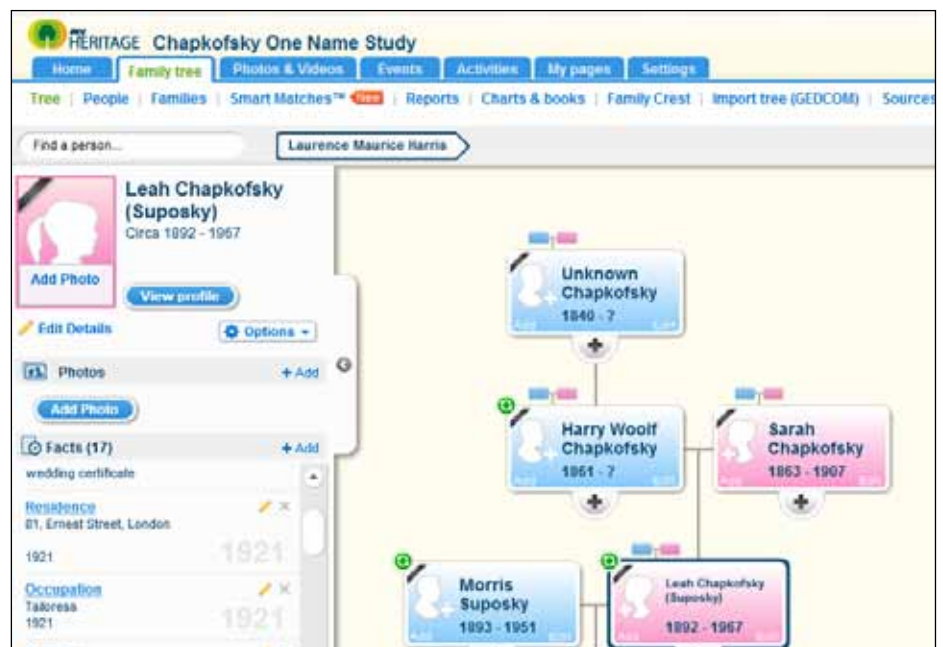


Fig 2. Chakofsky Family Tree



Fig 3. Smart Matches



Fig 4. Link to Duban WebSite Smart Matches



Fig 5. Smart Matches on Duban Website



"Smart Matches™ intelligently matches a user's database of names against a database of over 750 million profiles"

Fig 6. Reviewing a Match for a Specific Individual

individual but also details of spouse, parents, children and siblings when trying to establish a likely match.

3. Notification of Matches

When the system identifies a potential Smart Match both site owners are sent an alert message. In addition, details of Smart Matches are placed on the "Smart Matches" page of the "Family Tree" tab (see Fig 3). The display can be "By family trees" or "By people".

As an example the Duban Web Site was identified as being one of the websites where a Smart Match has occurred (see Fig 4). By clicking on the blue "View matches" button then the Smart Matches to individuals on this website are identified (see Fig 5). It is then possible to "Confirm" or "Reject" each proposed match, or to review the match in more detail by clicking on the blue "Review match" button.

When reviewing a match for a specific individual (e.g. Grace Regina van Simeon Duban – a daughter of Frances Salzedo née CHIFOFSKI [CHAPKOFSKI]) on the "Overview" tab (see Fig 6), there is often sufficient information to establish whether the match is likely to be correct. There is a toggle between "Show relatives" and "Hide relatives", and it is recommended that the "Show relatives" option is selected. In this example, the first names for the matching individual are almost the same, the maiden name is the same (if one ignores the case of the characters), and there is a difference

as to whether the individual is believed to be deceased. Also, in this instance, there is more information on the left hand side (my tree) compared with the information on the right hand side (from tree on the Duban website). Often, however, there will be additional information displayed in the Overview that is not known to you. Even if you are aware of all the information shown in the Overview, it is often the case that the other tree owner (in this case David Duban, the site manager) may have additional information that he has not entered onto his electronic family tree. Consequently, there is an option on this web page to contact the site owner of the other site so that further investigation and co-operation can take place.

It is important to take into account that the database of profiles used for Smart Matching comprises user submitted data, and so the quality and accuracy of the data varies significantly. It is therefore prudent to contact the submitter of the data to enquire about the source of the data and to form a judgement as to what degree you wish to rely on that data. It may well be that the owner of a matching profile has included appropriate source citations in their database on their MyHeritage family site and they may well be prepared to give you access to their site.

When a Smart Match occurs then both you and the owner of the corresponding site are provided with limited details about the matching individual and their immediate relatives so that an initial assessment

of the likelihood of a correct match can be made. MyHeritage allow site owners to turn off **Smart Matches™** if they wish to prevent this limited data exchange but this then negates one of the major benefits of using a family site for a one-name study.

4. Invite Others to Your Site

You may decide to invite others (e.g. known family members or persons you have found via Smart Matches who you know are interested in your one-name study) to be Members of your site. You may want to do this so that you can work co-operatively to research a specific family or family name. As mentioned previously, you can decide on the level of privacy you wish to have for your site and whether you want invited members of your site to add or amend the data on the site. This decision is yours as the site owner.

Conclusion

Whilst we are not yet at the point where there is one system that can provide details of all individuals in the world, who have (or had) the same surname as a one-name study, **Smart Matches™** functionality is likely to identify a large number of persons with the same surname, and provide basic details about them and their immediate family. MyHeritage family sites can also provide a means of identifying and contacting others interested in or connected with the name being researched, sharing information and supporting collaborative research. ■



Experiences of a New Member

By **Tony Holland**

Kirsty received this letter from Tony Holland. It clearly shows that our new joining process is proving beneficial to our new members. Congratulations to all concerned.

I am one of your latest new members and would like to express my thanks for such a slick joining process. It was an absolute joy to get quick responses, all the information I needed and two phone calls from Roy Rayment to make sure that I had received everything and to offer some advice. Please thank all those involved on my behalf. Many other organisations could learn a trick or two from GOONS!

I have just received the latest copy of the journal and have read it with interest. I was pleased to see that a survey had been conducted amongst members. The findings were interesting and some mirrored my own experience. Most importantly it was good to see that these had been analysed, published and soon to be addressed.

As it is very fresh in my mind, I thought that the committee might like to include my experience in its deliberations.

I had already embarked upon an international one-name study into the surname Holland (soon to be registered with GOONS) with the specific aim of conducting rigorous research into the origins and meaning of the name and presenting the outcome in a readable form, possibly a book. I would rather have done this as a member of GOONS, but had been put off registering it because of what read like a really onerous commitment of time. I think that, to be inclusive, some thought needs to go into this, not least that it would potentially exclude many older people, carers, some disabled people and others with heavy commitments that are not easy to shed.

In the web page What is a One-Name Study?, the definition given is: "The

One-Name Study aims to research the genealogy and family history of all persons with a given surname (and its variants)." That is to determine the ancestral line and the family history (flesh on the bone). Given that it is a lifetime's work to carry out one's own genealogical research, demanding that this is achieved on a world-wide scale for everyone with the same surname is almost setting people up to fail. Most people do not like failure and I am not surprised that many would not apply to register a name or people find it an impossible task after joining, and then leave.

On the same page of the GOONS website, under the quotation I have just mentioned, the bullet point breakdown (also in the Members Handbook, p 8), seems much more reasonable and does not include specifically "Researching the genealogy and family history of all persons...."

Looking from the genealogist's point of view, the value of an ONS might be the origins of names, meaning of a name, distribution in geography and time etc which, in their own way, paint a good picture of the name and serve as pointers for their future genealogical research. Doing the research for them might please the couch potato but not the keen genealogist who finds the research itself stimulating. This does not prevent the GOONS member being an expert on the big picture of the name, but leaves it to the genealogist to be the expert on their tightly focused part of it. This need not constrain the onenamer from exploring related niche areas of research or, for that matter, matters of more substance if they have the time, mental commitment to do it and, above all else, can realistically publish it within their lifespan for the benefit of others.

If members with registered names are to have time to respond to queries from the public, as well as study their surname(s) worldwide, perhaps something needs to give a little.

I support the request for some best practice guidance and I feel that there should perhaps be more emphasis on publishing research early so that it gets into the public domain rather than is disposed of when a person dies. This might need a slightly more structured or stepped approach, with perhaps the first step being to research the origins and meaning of the name and publish it. This could be followed by further work later and the published work revised and republished. This could feature in best practice guidelines.

It may interest you to know that researching the surname Holland has been anything but simple. Evidence has been unearthed that points to a large portion of the Hollands being from Norwegian Nordic stock (I avoid using Viking because viking means raiders, and not all of them appear to have been). The name Holland used in The Netherlands has its origins in the Old Dutch word *holtlant*, which means woodland. Dutch is a Germanic language and the similarity of holt with the German *holz* is very similar. The Dutch west coast area was covered in woodland before the population explosion, and now hosts the modern provinces of Nord and Zuid Holland.

I am very happy to be a member of The Guild.

Yours sincerely
A J Holland
BSc (Hons) Open Chartered FCIPD

Really, darling! Must you?

By **Tony Holland**

Tony Holland has also provided this article on a negative point regarding the lack of clarity in the description of a ONS on the website. It describes his own dilemma and illustrates just how easy it is to draw any number of conclusions, which should provoke thought. He also offered a more serious and scholarly offering, however we decided to publish this light-hearted article.

My one-name study of the surname Holland was already underway before joining, but I really did want to join it from the outset. My angst lay in some of the issues revealed by the recent survey recorded in the Journal article by Chris Pomery¹, not least what were described as the scary bits.

When I made my first visit to the Guild website my heart sank. Whilst I thought that a one-name study was complimentary to genealogy, it seemed that it was to replace it, on a grand scale and the one-namers had to do it all. Let me explain...

The Guild website, on the One-Name Studies page,² states that a one-name study is "Research into the genealogy and family history of all persons with the same surname and its variants." In my dictionary,³ genealogy means "1.a. a line of descent traced continually from an ancestor; b. an account or exposition of this; 2. The study and investigation of lines of descent..." Family history means the *systematic or critical account of a past event or events related to all the descendants of a common ancestor*. Hang on a minute, what did the website say? ..of all persons with the same surname and its variants...true one-namers do it worldwide [!] and only true one namers are admitted to membership! But wasn't this about studying a surname? At this time I made a grab for a gin and tonic and gave up.

Over a year later, I returned to the GOONS website, which had changed little. However, this time I visited the page entitled "What is a one-name study?"⁴. It begins with "A One-Name Study (ONS) is a project researching all occurrences of a surname, as opposed to a particular pedigree (ancestors

of one person) or descendency (descendants of one person or couple)." Ah, so it is not genealogy or descendency [sigh with relief] I make a grab for the dictionary...and what does pedigree really mean? Ah yes, a recorded line of descent. Good. Just the family history bit to bottom out.

Hang on a minute, how do you research family history without determining the ancestral line to discover who is in the family? [Having a gin Darling? Bring me another please, they're definitely having a laugh!]

Reviewing what I had read so far, and focusing on the positives, I learn that I have to record all instances of the surname worldwide. Researching and recording ancestral lines of ascent or descent is not required (therefore family history research is terminally undermined); I have the rest of my life in which to do it, subject to the possibility of debilitating infirmity, and I cannot be dismissed if I am dead. This isn't so bad after all.

In a flash of inspiration, I wandered [deviant] whether the objectives of mediaeval Guilds would help resolve this lack of clarity. The main purposes of these Guilds were to maintain standards and ensure a fair price. Well, we recover none of our costs; credibility depends to a degree on standards, and, hang on a minute..., there was no mention of quantity! good, an emerging and tantalising glimpse of realism.

Lifted by this, I suggested to my wife that I joined the Guild. Having witnessed my difficulty scoping the commitment, she uttered "Really, Darling – must you?"; fearing that the support I give to my severely disabled daughter, which I share with my wife,

might evaporate overnight. She thought that the pressure to deliver might affect my health and I was reminded that I am in my seventh decade! So, it is not just the potential Goon that has to be convinced, but wider family too, including some very lovely and opinionated grand-children. So I joined!

When I received my welcome pack I took the Members Handbook to bed and, as my eyelids were beginning to droop I dropped it. Fumbling, I picked it up, open now at page 28. I focused for a second on objectives and read "To advance the education of the public in one-name studies, this being defined for the purpose of this Constitution as research into the genealogy and family history of all persons with the same surname and its variants." Sleeping peacefully, I dreamt about how glad I was that the genealogy and family history was only for the purpose of the Constitution and not me.

The next morning I was full of vim and vigour. I could not understand why some people could be put off being members of the Guild. While there were statements that were at odds with each other, the scribes had clearly been rather generous in providing scope for various interpretations, so that we could find one to fit in with the demands of our lives.

This, eliminated my angst that I, and others like me, would be expected to perform superhuman feats at the expense of all else; for us to develop psychological problems in doing so because of the intensity and unrelenting pace of the work and still fail to achieve it for want of a much, much longer life? Good for them. [I'm off or some refreshment with my old friend Jim and his Serbian pal Tomić.]

Refreshed, I returned to consider how the expectations of our "customers" might shape the work of our members.

Would the value of an ONS to them be the origins of surnames, meaning of a surname, distribution and immigration patterns etc. which, in their own way, paint a good picture of the surname and serve as pointers for their future genealogical research?

On the other hand, doing the genealogy and family history research for them might please the couch potato, who arguably does not deserve to have it handed to him on a plate, but not the keen genealogist who finds the research itself stimulating. [Seems good to me]. Yes! We agreed that the aforesaid does not prevent the GOONS member being an expert on the bigger picture of the name, but leaves it to the genealogist to be the expert on their tightly focused part of it. This need not constrain the one-namer from exploring anything related to the name, or including niche packages of challenging work of real value to enquiring genealogists, the public and the wider genealogical community.

Clarity is something I look for in gin and the written word; however, its greatest value is in the written word. The lack of it was a barrier for me for over a year. It hasn't changed much, but now it might do (wink!) – and (not just to rescue my neck from the gallows) I am happy to contribute to its improvement too.

As to my ONS, I am really enjoying it and I have made new friends and many people have been extremely helpful to me, especially my mentor, Chris Gray.

As to the Guild, I am pleased to be a member for many reasons, not least that it is democratic, open to ideas and not frightened to survey opinion. The trustees and volunteers are committed people who are very generous with their time and totally focused on supporting members, which is truly laudable. What a team!

["So, darling, it's not that bad after all. No genealogy, no family history, no pedigrees. Just assemble the instances of the surname worldwide. No, I am not confused at all, that's what it said – I have it in writing. Are you having a gin dear?"] ■

Endnotes

1. Pomery, C. (2011). Revealing Online Survey of "New-ish" Guild Members. *Journal of One-Name Studies*. Vol 10. Issue 10. p. 26.
2. Guild of One-Name Studies (2011) [Online]. Available from - <http://www.one-name.org/onename.html> [Accessed: 8 May 2011].
3. Thompson, D. (ed). (1995) *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English*. 9th Edition. Oxford. Oxford University Press.
4. Guild of One-Name Studies (2011) [Online]. Available from - <http://www.one-name.org/onswhatis.html> [Accessed: 8 May 2011].

Editor's Comment:

What are your views?

I invite you to comment - whether you agree, or disagree with Tony's letter, or article.



Your Journal Needs You

By Teresa Pask

Having stepped into Keith's shoes I thought I would steal his headline from his first journal back in 2008.

These last two months have been challenging, overwhelming, stressful, and time consuming – I must be mad! However I have learnt a lot, and the satisfaction of finalising my first journal has definitely made it worthwhile. I am confident that my future journals will not be nearly as stressful and time consuming.

As well as becoming the Editor I have also joined the Committee. This has been an eye-opener. I have belonged to the Guild since 1982 and never realised the significant amount of work that goes on behind the scenes. To quote our Chairman, Kirsty, "*We have an excellent Committee for the forthcoming year who are active, enthusiastic and motivated to move mountains.*" Furthermore, they have been very supportive. Special thanks to Keith who has provided an excellent handover. I will strive to maintain

his high standards. Also to Anne, our Webmaster, whose copy-edit skills are second to none.

My sincerest thanks to everyone who has contributed to this bumper sized journal. Instead of the standard 28-page journal, this is 36 pages. This is indicative of the number of new initiatives, for example MyHeritage, FaNUK, and Marriage Locator.

My next challenge will be to find sufficient articles for future journals. I cannot stress enough that your Journal needs **you**. The Journal is only as good as **you** make it. Your contributions are very important, and make the Journal an enjoyable, and informative read, with a good balance of topics. Please email me at editor@one-name.org or write to me at:

32 Byfleet Road
New Haw, Surrey,
KT15 3JX, England ■



The Guild Marriage Index and Marriage Locator

by **Howard Benbrook**

At the Guild Conference in April, I gave an informal talk on the progress of the project to gather 'cardinal points' (if this phrase is a mystery to you, I'll come back to it). One of the questions I fielded at the time was: "Will you be covering this talk in an article for the Journal"? Now, this wasn't something that I'd planned to do, but what else could I answer? (And, of course, you get this horrible feeling that you've really not explained things very clearly and they're actually looking for something that they can just sit down and read quietly). So, here is that article...

Actually, the talk included the progress on two projects – the Guild Marriage Index and Marriage Locator because, as you will see, they are linked.

Guild Marriage Index

The Guild Marriage Index (GMI) began in 2004, and the two people to whom we are hugely indebted for it are Mary Rix and Peter Alefounder. I take my hat off to the both of them for their long-serving commitment to a project that has become increasingly important. What tenacity - phew! The GMI addresses the period of civil registration in England & Wales; births, marriages and deaths have been recorded since 1837 under the management of the General Register Office (GRO) and the indexes to them are widely available. Guild members are likely to have important details about the marriages that feature their registered surname(s) in this period, of course, and the neat idea here is that if those members submit basic information about their marriages to the GMI, the details may be picked up by another member interested in the name of the spouse. This doesn't just save the cost of a GRO certificate; it may well put two members together to share significant information. The simplicity

behind the idea is beguiling. Access to the GMI was to be members-only, and safeguards were placed on it so that neither the Guild, nor anyone else, could financially profit from members' research.

The GMI is now in its 15th edition and has more than half a million entries, 450,000 of which have both spouse names and marriage location recorded. If you haven't taken advantage of this very effective Guild asset, you're missing a significant trick! Go to: <http://www.one-name.org/members/GMI/gmi.html>, if you haven't been there before or it's been a while since your last visit. Searching for a name couldn't be easier; remembering that any records returned will be for the spouse of someone who features in an ONS, all you need to do is to click on the 'Search the GMI' button and enter a name in the Surname search panel (see Fig 1).

You can see in Fig. 2 that, for the surname BENBROOK, both David Herbert and Keith Percy have information on marriages that should be useful to me.

Of course, I wouldn't know that if David and Keith hadn't taken the trouble to submit their marriages; that's really helpful of them. How about you? Do you think you could find some time to add your marriages to the GMI? There's plenty of room for more! There are instructions on the website, and you can also contact Mary Rix (mary.rix@one-name.org), who will answer any queries you have about the process.

"The GMI began in 2004, and is now in its 15th edition"

Fig 1. Searching the GMI

Surname Search - GMI 15th edition

Searching for: BENBROOK

Page 1

year	qtr	name	surname	district	vol	page	surname	name	exact date	location	further details
1875	4	Thomas Henry	HERBERT	Birmingham	6d	069	BENBROOK	Elizabeth	20 Nov 1875	Bishop Ryder	2593 David Herbert
1898	2	Edward	WHITEHOUSE	W Bromwich	5b	1542	BENBROOK	Mary Ann		West Bromwich RO	1032 Keith Percy

Search complete. Total entries found: 2

Search complete. Total entries found: 2

Fig 2. Surname Search Results

GRO Place Search

The other useful GMI feature is the GRO Place Search which, because we now have such extensive data, can often identify the exact church where a wedding took place, from a GRO Marriage Index reference alone. I've recorded quite a few London marriages to be included in the GMI so, to find out how this works, just use the left hand side of the GMI search panel, the 'GRO place search'. Here's an extract from the results for the 4th quarter of 1860, volume 1c:

Shoreditch	371	Haggerston St Mary	1 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	382	Haggerston St Mary	28 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	383	Haggerston St Mary	
Shoreditch	412	Haggerston St Mary	31 Dec 1860
Shoreditch	413	Hoxton Christ Church	15 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	415	Hoxton Christ Church	29 Dec 1860
Shoreditch	417	Hoxton Holy Trinity	1 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	425	Hoxton Holy Trinity	25 Dec 1860
Shoreditch	427	Hoxton St John the Baptist	1 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	441	Hoxton St John the Baptist	28 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	442	Hoxton St John the Baptist	30 Oct 1860
Shoreditch	448	Hoxton St John the Baptist	18 Nov 1860
Shoreditch	464	Hoxton St John the Baptist	22 Dec 1860
Shoreditch	473	Hoxton St John the Baptist	25 Dec 1860
Shoreditch	478	Hoxton St John the Baptist	31 Dec 1860

Fig 3. GRO Place Search Results

I hope you can see that there's a sort of pattern to the data and this brings me on to these so-called 'cardinal points'. We're now not quite sure where this term came from but it seems to have stuck, and its appeal lies in the fact that pairs of cardinal points, or CPs, reveal the GRO indexing methods.

Cardinal Points

The screenshot shows the GRO page, church and date for marriages held in the GMI that took place in 4 Anglican churches in Shoreditch Registration District in 1860. Notice that the marriages are grouped by church, that each church begins on an odd-numbered page and that the churches are in a sort of alphabetical sequence – Haggerston before Hoxton, and Christ Church before Holy Trinity. The entries are also sequential by date within each church and it's the pair of entries that mark the very first marriage and the very last marriages for a church in a quarter that are referred to as the cardinal points. In the GMI place search results, CPs are identified in colour – orange for the first, and purple for the last (if only one marriage took place in that quarter, it will be coloured green). I should add that this pattern only applies to Anglican marriages, but that's still, by far, the bulk of marriages in the Victorian era and continues well into the 20th century.

Helped by data submitted by members who've completed Marriage Challenges, there are now over 170,000 CPs within the GMI and it has become increasingly obvious that this data is significant in its own right because, if we knew all the cardinal points – well, we could crack the code! From any GRO Index reference (year, quarter, volume, page) we could identify the church, and, of course, once we knew the church we could track down the original deposited register in the local Record Office and save the cost of a certificate!

*"A new project is born.
Announcing Marriage
Locator!"*

Marriage Locator

And so a new project is born. Announcing [cue: trumpets] Marriage Locator!



Fig 4. Marriage Locator

<http://www.marriage-locator.co.uk/>

Marriage Locator is a free, public-access website, supported by the Guild and is already open for use (go to: <http://www.marriage-locator.co.uk/>). Giving full consideration to the original safeguards, our Webmaster, Anne Shankland, has woven her usual magic and built its initial content by extracting 'anonymised' GMI data (i.e., there are no names, of any sort), and the website identifies the marriage location from cardinal points where these are available, or tries to deduce it from other data if it can. It will also offer the location of the archived register, where this is known.

"Marriage Locator is a free, public-access website, supported by the Guild and is already open for use"

Placing a query is straightforward. Just enter the exact GRO Index Reference

Search: 

Year: 1860	Quarter: 4	Volume: 1c	Page No.: 423	<input type="button" value="search"/>
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Fig 5. Enter the Exact GRO Index Reference

...and the church is identified:

Marriage Locator



Marriage Locator Search Results

GRO Index: 1860 quarter 4, volume 1c, page 423:

This marriage was at Hoxton Holy Trinity (RD: [Shoreditch](#)).

Search again:

Year: 1860	Quarter: 4	Volume: 1c	Page No.: 423	<input type="button" value="search"/>
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Fig 6. Marriage Locator Search Results

Help Wanted!

Currently, however, there are times when there just isn't enough data available for the Marriage Locator to identify the church - and this is where you can help. The simplest way to go about this is to 'adopt' a church - in other words, extract the CPs from the marriage register for a single church. By indexing standards, this is really not a huge task; the current database covers a period from Sep 1837 to Dec 1911, and the maximum number of marriages you would need to record for a single church would be 74.5 years x 4 quarters x 2 marriages = 596 and, for most churches, it would be a lot fewer. The process would look something like this:

"Help Wanted!"

1. Choose a church
 - a place where you can easily access the marriage details; this could be your local archive, but it could also be a CD you own, a website to which you have access or, say, an LDS microfilm, etc.
2. Check that the church has not been covered already
 - get in touch with Mary Rix (mary.rix@one-name.org)
 - Mary can also give advice and supply a spreadsheet template
3. For the first and last marriage in each quarter for your chosen church:
 - record spouse names, marriage date, place
4. Look up and record the matching GRO Index page
 - FreeBMD seems to be the popular choice for this
 - check against both spouse names, to be sure.
5. Finally, send your data to Mary (mary.rix@one-name.org)

By the way, the invitation to contribute Cardinal Points is not confined to Guild members as we feel this data is in the public interest and I've already had offers from outside the Guild so, if you have family history colleagues who would also be interested to take part, encourage them to make contact with Mary.

Now, I'd better get back to completing my latest 'adoption'... ■



Marriage Challenge Update

By **Peter Copsey**

Decisions each Challenger must make

believe that the basic process of a Marriage Challenge is well understood:-

1. A Guild member bravely volunteers to be a Challenger and selects an appropriate Registration District.
2. A cut-off date for requests is selected.
3. The Challenge is advertised on the Guild web-site, on the Forum (MC Co-ordinator will do this if Challenger is not a Forum member) and in the Journal (time permitting).
4. Members (requesters) send in their lists of marriages to be searched for.
5. The Challenger prepares a search-list.
6. After the cut-off date, the Challenger visits the County Record Office (CRO) or another depository that holds copies of the marriage registers and searches for the marriages on the list. Full details are recorded of every marriage found.
7. At an appropriate time the Challenger stops searching and sends out results.
8. The Challenger receives lots of nice thank-you messages and feels pleased with him/herself.

However there is one decision that the Challenger must make that will be vital in the challenge process. It relates to the part of 6) above "Full details are recorded" and to 7) "send out results". Basically, it is the decision

- do I use a computer or
- do I use pencil-and-paper?

I do not have a full evaluation but I would judge that about 70% of Challengers opt for the computer and about 30% opt for pencil-and-paper. Let's look at these alternatives.

The use of a computer will invariably mean that the Challenger possesses a lap-top and permission is given to use

it in the CRO. A suitable spreadsheet for results is necessary and the Guild has provided this (see <http://www.one-name.org/members/fauxcerts/results.xls>) in which the search list and the results are combined. This Guild facility, prepared by Andrew Millard, includes an option to send out results by email with each requester receiving a "faux certificate" of the marriages found.

The alternative to using the Guild's spreadsheet facility is to prepare one's own and perhaps to send out the full spreadsheet to all requesters to show the results.

Copying out marriage details using pencil-and-paper is best achieved using blank forms laid out in the same way as the marriage entry in the registers. The sending out of the consequent "faux certificates" is then by post. These certificates can be produced on green paper to mimic the certificates provided by the GRO.

I am a pencil-and-paper challenger and perhaps I have taken the idea of mimicking the GRO certificates to the extreme (some might say, to the ridiculous!). I do not have one proforma but seven, each one copying exactly the seven types of register layouts that can be found between 1837 and 1911.

There are several advantages of using a lap-top to using pencil-and-paper:

1. Probably it is quicker. I have been told of over 120 marriages being recorded in a day using a lap-top, whilst my record using pencil-and-paper is 81. Much will depend on typing skill and speed of hand-writing.
2. Sending out certificates using Andrew Millard's facility is quick and easy. And sending the results to the Guild Marriage Index (GMI) is easy too.

3. There is no problem with recipients not being able to read the computer-generated certificates. Challengers who opt for pencil-and-paper should have clear hand-writing.
4. There are no postage and stationery costs (when incurred, these costs are recoverable from the Guild).
5. The Challenger retains the full particulars of all marriages.

And the advantage of using pencil-and-paper isumm.....it can be more satisfying (well, it is for me – but many would disagree). Basically pencil-and-paper is suitable for those of us who are not too comfortable with a computer or do not own a lap-top.

There are smaller decisions that each Challenger will need to make:

1. Should I bother with searching for incomplete GMI entries?
2. Should I bother with Cardinal Points?
3. Should I bother with determining which marriages did not take place in an Anglican church?
4. Should I visit churches that have not deposited their registers?

For my recent Challenges, my answers were: Yes – No – Yes – Sometimes.

Marriage Challenge is designed to be suitable for any Guild member to be a Challenger provided they can get to a CRO reasonably easily, whether they are a computer-phile or a computer-phobe, whether they want to spend a few days searching or many, whether they want to learn about their selected Registration District or not. Marriage Challenge is rewarding and enjoyable and you will be helping your fellow Guild members with their studies. You could share the task with a friend or another Guild member. If you think you could become a Challenger, I look forward to hearing

from you. Contact me, the Marriage Challenge Co-ordinator, on marriage-challenge@one-name.org. Generally, expenses incurred during a Challenge will be repaid by the Guild.

Here is the list of forthcoming Challenges. Not many Challenges this period. I am hopeful that prospective

Challengers are gearing up for a good selection in the autumn.

All members are encouraged to send their requests to the Challengers by email, hopefully using the standard "requests.xls" spreadsheet on the MC web-page. However most Challengers will accept requests in any form. Send the listing extracted from the GRO

Marriage index (FreeBMD will give almost 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. ■

Registration District and Period	Deadline	Challenger	Challenger's email
Thanet (Repeat) 1837 - onward	ASAP (see below)	Shelagh Mason	stead@one-name.org
Bath - Stage 2 1861 - 1885	1 Aug 2011	Barbara Roach	gimblett@one-name.org
Aston 1837 - 1911	1 Sept 2011	David Fall & Pauline Pedersen	fall@one-name.org

Thanet Challenge began in late June, so send requests to Shelagh as soon as possible (just name wanted - no need for list).

Pat Lord 1937 - 2011

Iredale One-Name Study

Members will be saddened to hear of the sudden and tragic death of Pat Lord on 6th May. Pat was a very active and committed member of the Guild and many other genealogical organisations including the Huddersfield and District and Calderdale Family History Societies. She carried out Guild Marriage Challenges in the huge registration districts of Halifax and Huddersfield, and many members will have received marriage certificates from those endeavours.

Pat was also an active contributor to the Guild forum – always willing to share advice and knowledge. She was enormously helpful to me because my maternal grandmother was an Iredale, and Pat was generous with her time and energy in sharing her encyclopaedic knowledge of the Iredale families. After the announcement of her death on

the forum, messages of sympathy and gratitude flooded in. The sentiments of this tribute from Howard Benbrook were echoed by many...

"Pat was an energetic and committed member of the Guild and I'm overwhelmed by the thought that she is no longer with us. In her last note to me, she said that she had completed most of the cardinal points for Huddersfield and Halifax up to 1871 – two hugely important areas in the Victorian area. I will make every effort to move her work forward for the benefit of future family historians. Thank you, Pat, and farewell. I will miss you."



Pat leaves a husband, three daughters and grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her personally, and by the many friends all over the world whom she touched by her generous help through the Internet.

Donations in her memory, if desired, can be made to the Royal British Legion or the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Anni Berman



32nd Guild Conference and AGM

'Northern Lights'

Daresbury Park, Warrington 15-17 April 2011

Two conference reports were received, from different viewpoints. So both have been included.

Conference Diary 2011: One Man's Views and Thoughts

By **Steve Williams**

Friday 15th April

It's conference time again. And guess what? it's our turn not to have to travel. Sheila and I live only 30 miles up the road from Warrington!

11.00: Conference has started! Sheila and I have offered to help Gordon Adshead with setting up. As soon as we arrived Gordon has set us the task of making up the conference packs with Dominic Johnson – 175 packs later I was transformed into a taxi driver and set off for the stations of Warrington and Runcorn to meet delegates travelling in by train.

16.00: Thirsty work all that driving. Now they are all safely gathered in it is time to retire to the bar to meet up with friends made last year and the year before – and slake the thirst!!

18.00: Just time for a wash and brush up before Dinner in the restaurant – great food and bags of it – we won't starve this weekend.

20.00: First speaker up is John Hanson, who gave us an insight into the headaches of running a large one-name study – thankfully my Outhwaites don't present quite as much of a challenge but some of John's ideas and tips are very relevant. One speaker down and I've started to take notes! I will be going home better informed than when I arrived!

21.00: Quiz Time – We shall gloss over this item – not our finest hour – the North/South divide didn't cover themselves in glory. We came last. But it's not the winning it's the taking part – and it was a great icebreaker – thoroughly enjoyable, good company

and good back chat with Alan 'never again' Moorhouse, the organiser!!

22.00: Back to the bar to chat with friends old and new – this is one of the strengths of conference – like minded people getting together to enjoy each others' company, swapping stories, and experiences.

And so to bed!!!!!!

Saturday 16th April

8.00: Breakfast – didn't know there were two 8 o'clocks on a Saturday!!

9.00: AGM time – boring – but hey not so boring – Kirsty got up and told us what the Guild had been up to over the last year, what the Committee and Executive had been doing on our behalf – wow – what a fantastic organisation we belong to – so much going on, so many dedicated people and with Captain Kirsty at the wheel, we can't go wrong!

10.30: The first presentation of the day – Tony Barratt telling us about the Jacobites in Cheshire in 1745. A very interesting talk, made all the better by being told that part of the story happened just outside the hotel, and more within a few miles. Didn't see the 'Bonnie Prince Charlie was here' sign outside the hotel though! Some interesting word pictures were drawn by Tony as he described the Highlanders coming into the area – what must have the local Ag Labs made of them?

11.40: Dick Eastman is next to talk to us about the Family History World in 10 years time – some thought provoking ideas were presented to us – we could get more collaborative genealogy by using the internet – many researchers working on one project, better software, and a changing demography of family historians – Dick believes the Family Historian population will grow and get younger and the newbies will want to research particular characters from their ancestors rather than all the ancestors – interesting thoughts!!!

Quiz Time: Winners "The Championship", with Organiser Alan Moorhouse



14.00: Peter Park is here to tell us about the Poor Law migration scheme of 1835 in which people were migrated by the Poor Law Commissioners from the South of England to the mills of the North West for work.

15.10: Patrick Hanks – the UK Family Names Project – what a fantastic project and what an opportunity for Guild Members to get involved – to submit their views of where their names originated, backed up of course with their research.

16.40: Chris Pomery – The value of DNA Projects to one-name studies – how this man can explain such a complex subject as DNA to us, the common herd I will never know! Lots of information about the new advances in DNA research, and some thoughts how DNA can help group the people in my ONS into family groups that maybe weren't obvious from documentary evidence. Memo to self – have a look at FTDNA's FamilyFinder, a test that extends the power of genetic genealogy. Apparently you can discover connections to descendants of all sixteen of your great-great-grandparents – great idea since my maternal grandfather was adopted!!!!

17.40: No rest at this conference – a quick meeting with the Lancashire contingent and our Regional Rep – Rodney Brackstone. We agreed that we should get together again soon



Chris Pomery

– maybe a social get together to get to know every one – thanks Rodney – let's hope we get the support!!

19.00: Reception for the banquet – a bit of a rush!! but that's what conference is about – time for a glass of wine and a chat – guess who thought the event was formal!!! Yep me – I felt a little over dressed in my dress suit and dickie bow – but what the heck – it was good getting dressed up!! What a good night – good food, good company, good wine! Even had a dance or two before retiring to the bar for more chat!! This time with our esteemed chairperson – whoops I think I dropped a name!!! Thanks for your company Kirsty!

And so to bed!!!!!!

Sunday 17th April

08:00: Breakfast – I do love going to hotels and getting my full English!!

09:00: First up – Peter Park telling us of the problems of researching in Lancashire – thank you Peter, coming from Chorley in Lancashire I am well aware of the problems – but you told us of even more – I might quit whilst I am ahead! I hope our visitors to the north enjoyed your talk as much as I did – it gave me lots of pointers to follow up when next I am in the Lancashire Record Office!

10:30: After a welcome brew, Dominic Johnson told us about Palaeography for One-Name Studies – a bit of a disappointment as I was expecting a talk on dinosaurs – T-Rex and all that – should have gone to Specsavers or read the programme better!! Once I realised Dominic was talking about old handwriting – I was a bit happier – as family historians we come across examples of old handwriting and Dominic gave us lots of examples as to how to read our documents – I meant to give her a sample of my handwriting – bet she couldn't decipher that!!!

11:35: We moved straight on to Robert Young – our man in America who gave us the low down on North American Sources and the Guild in the USA – and you thought researching in Lancashire was difficult – come back Peter Park – all is forgiven!! Robert is a very useful resource in himself – a fount of wisdom for all things

genealogical in the USA – I'm sure I will be contacting him next time I have a problem over the pond! The Guild is moving into America – what with our front desk contact number and Guild presence at a number of large Genealogy Conferences, I can see the Guild Committee setting off in their covered wagons and heading west to the Gold Rush!!

12:40 Lunch – Phew!! The food this weekend has been wonderful.

Sorry folks but my Conference ended at lunch time – Sheila took a funny turn – well funnier than normal and we felt it prudent to head home a little earlier than we had intended. Glad to say her funny turn didn't develop into anything serious – we think her blood sugar went a little awry – (living too much of the high life!!) but I did think a visit to A & E was on the cards at one stage.

So sorry Paul Newman we missed your talk on The Cheshire Tithe Map Project – luckily we had heard you speak at the Helsby Cheshire Mapping seminar and were very impressed with the work done by you and your team to make available digital versions of the Cheshire Tithe maps.

And sorry John Marsden – I was hoping to hear you talk on the On Line BMD's – but being a member of one of the contributors – Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society – I am well aware of the strengths of the UKBMD fraternity – and also aware of the huge commitment put in by all the transcribers to make this resource freely available to us all.

So Conference is over for another year – I hope you can tell that Sheila and I enjoyed ourselves – we always do – we learnt a lot, met a lot of friends old and new, talked a lot, ate a lot, drank a lot (coffee!!!!!!), slept very little. Thanks Gordon and your team for all the hard work in putting the conference together.

And so to bed!!!!!!

Next year's AGM and Conference will take place at **Five Lakes Hotel, Maldon, Essex** from Friday 13th – Sunday 15th April 2012, with the AGM on Saturday 14th from 9am.

32nd Guild Conference

Photo Report



Left to right - 1. Kirsty Gray and Gordon Adshead preparing for the AGM. 2. Peter and Christine Hagger. 3. Richard Moore and Else Churchill. 4. Liz Clayburn and Polly Rubery enjoying a chat over a glass of wine. 5. (Centre Page) Our three new Master Craftsmen of the Guild – Gordon Adshead, Mary Rix, and Roger Goacher. 6. Chris Pomery, Roy Stockdill and Barbara Harvey, 7. John Coldwell and Robert Young. 8. John Coldwell together with the Poster Competition entries. 9. Glenys Marriott, Lily Catterick, and Pauline Litton enjoying pre-dinner drinks.



Left to right - 10. & 11. The De Vere Hotel, Daresbury Park – conference room. Delegates ready themselves for the sessions. 12. Ray Warburton and Glenys Marriott. 13. Kirsty Gray, our Chairman, delivering her AGM report. 14. Paul Newman – prior to his talk on *The Cheshire Tithe Maps Project*. 15. Dick Eastman – prior to his talk on *The Family History World in 10 Years Time*. 16. Graham and Margot Tuley. 17. Delegates attentively listening to Howard Benbrook providing information on the new Marriage Locator project.

Rod Clayburn sent this summary of the 11 interesting talks at the Conference. Further notes on the full slides of many of these presentations may be found on the Guild Website at

http://www.one-name.org/members/seminars/2011Conf/Conf2011_Warrington.html

John Hanson: Researching and Recording a Large One-Name Study

This was a tried and trusted talk to start off with; covering John Hanson's work with 'The Halsted Trust'. This is an example of how not to leave your hard work; were it not for the endowment by Mrs Lewis-Jones, the Halsted research of her husband and former Guild member, Raymond Lewis-Jones, would possibly have ended up in the much mentioned skip. It was nice to see that John has kept the talk up to date and it certainly gives newcomers to the Guild several pointers on how to proceed, not just with a large one-name study, but one of any size. How many times have we considered digitising the ever increasing amounts of data accumulated over the years? How many of us keep a log of what we have searched? Then the ultimate question, where do we publish, as publish we should, web or book? The Halsted Trust decided on the web.

Tony Barratt: 1745 The Jacobites in Cheshire



Tony Barratt

A touch of local history with this talk by Cheshire expert Tony Barrett. Many references to places just outside the venue site. With Tony pointing this way and that, it certainly made you realise that two hundred and fifty years ago, the area was very different to the industrialised south banks of the Mersey we have lived through recently. King George had ordered that the line of the river Mersey be defended and Bonny Prince Charlie's army not allowed to cross. I caught that the Red Army was from Liverpool,

nothing new there then; the Blue Army came from Scotland. The forms of warfare in 1745 were, apart from armaments, not too different from today, with the demolition and rebuilding of bridges, destruction of armaments stores, having parallels with our recent conflicts—a very interesting talk of what life was like in those troubled times.

Dick Eastman: The Family History World in 10 years time



Dick Eastman

The keynote speech was given by Dick Eastman, the featured guest speaker. The opening slides led us into a clip from an episode of Sci-Fi TV programme 'Star Trek'. As Dick mentioned, this episode was produced in pre-ancestry.com days, possibly in series one 1966-69, where the actors demonstrated how, in 2266, the total Family History (FH) of the world will be held in a single database. Not much fun researching in the future then! Popularity of FH as we know it today probably started with the 'Roots' book written by Alex Haley in 1976 – yes it was that long ago. No longer is FH the sole reserve of retired pensioners as a look around the audience demonstrated.

Dick proceeded to talk about modern methods, using the "cloud" for storage, and how, with the use of 'Facebook', 'Twitter' 'Wikis' 'Blogs' and the like; young people of today are finding family history more interesting.

Dick certainly opened my eyes to what's happening, especially when he informed us that all the information in 'Facebook' files will be held forever;

but have you saved your Email history – why not? Genealogists of the future will be more interested in individuals' stories. Surnames, what about them? Research suggests that 50% of those in a recent poll did not share a surname with their fathers! A most enlightening talk, thank you Dick.

Peter Park: The Poor Law Migration Scheme of 1835

Peter Park is well noted for his expertise on Poor Law history, especially in the north and the famous Quarry Bank Mill and Styal Estate in particular. Peter explained how unemployed agricultural workers in the south were invited to the north for better wages, and how this initiative became twisted somewhat in its good intentions. 'Widow with children' adverts summed up the ploy; the children being required for working in the cotton mills until the end of the migration scheme when trade started to recover in the 1840s. The state of the housing used by these poor unfortunates was terrible, and we think that we have it bad in today's depression – you haven't lived!

Patrick Hanks: The UK Family Names Project [FaNUK]

Lexicographer is the official title of Professor Patrick Hanks, Lead Researcher for The UK Family Names Project [FaNUK] being undertaken at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Patrick's co-leader is Professor Richard Coates, an Onomastician. There's two words to get your head around. Patrick gave the audience some laughs with his references to the work of his predecessors in the 'Names Dictionary' business which were certainly amusing, especially those about the famous P.H. [Kip] Reaney; a gentleman in senior years who rushed to complete his dictionary in later life—so leave yourself plenty of time to write up your research. Patrick said that the best aid to his compilations was the 'British Surname Atlas' by Guild member Steve Archer. After explaining the project's slant on certain popular surnames; (not always agreed with by those present) Patrick went on to demonstrate the FaNUK website surname list. We all wrote down the URL, but unfortunately we were not given the password! The

liaison of FaNUK with the Guild should certainly produce some interesting results and hopefully, a surname dictionary that has credibility. Should you be available to assist Patrick and his team with local indexing and knowledge, please step forward, as he is seeking as many volunteers as are available. Many in the talk volunteered on the spot – well done.

Chris Pomeroy: The Value of DNA Projects to One-Name Studies

This was an update from Chris, one of the Guild's DNA specialists. Briefly outlining his work in the Pomeroy One-Name Study, Chris went on to explain that his DNA study was about as complete as it could be and certainly in the UK, there was very little left to do! Can any of us see an end to our study? Chris proceeded to advise on the uses of DNA and the lowering of charges for simple DNA tests and the advantages of ultra high resolution tests; something I am now undertaking as no one in the country, or in fact the world, has a good match with me – back to Star Trek!

Chris explained how DNA research into high frequency surname Phillips, managed to reduce the name down to a smaller series of groups, thus making this form of one-name study feasible. A number of new publications were mentioned.

Peter Park: Problems of Research in Lancashire



Peter Park

If you have any problems in Lancashire research, this was the talk not to be missed. Peter claims that there have been more boundary changes in Lancashire over the years than any other county – even Royal Berkshire. From this sequence of maps that Peter brought up on the screen, I could not disagree with him. We were given a listing of all the county's

major Record Offices, and we went on to a detailed description of their holdings. Mapping of the church and state boundaries was shown together with that showing the production areas. No longer could we say that it was cotton in Lancashire and wool in Yorkshire. Many counties produced these products and schooldays simplistic descriptions do not meet the requirements of good Family History researchers – I shall be looking at my Lancashire research again, all I require is time...

Dominic Johnson: Peering into the Past - Palaeography for One-Name Studies

An excellent teacher of this most difficult, to me, subject; Dominic certainly narrowed down the basic principals of reading old handwriting. With the first handout, Dominic led us straight into English Vernacular Script and before I had got my vowels sorted from my consonants we were into English palaeography and the use of 'thorn' and 'yogh'. One hour? I required a full term in order to come to grips with this lot. Dominic knew this of course, so the second sheet was the homework! Now where did I put that sheet – think the dog ate it.

Robert Young: North American Sources & the Guild in the USA



Robert Young

Prior to his talk, Bob Young had circulated the Guild membership with requests for subject matter. One can only assume he received many, as the slides flashed on and on very fast in an attempt to explain in one hour, why the United States especially, has such a convoluted system of registration — all the fault of the English of course! Bob's occupation is being superintendent of a cemetery,

so is hot on memorial inscriptions. The talk was completed by presenting us with a pecking order of the 'best' US websites. This will certainly assist the UK centric of us to expand our one-name studies into North America. Bob promised us a handout later, which will be available from the Guild Website; this will show all the websites mentioned and hopefully give a re-run on the methodology used. I shall have to have another go at that family in Utah.

Paul Newman: The Cheshire Tithe Maps Project

Paul treated us not only to a good explanation of what Tithe Maps are all about, but also to an intriguing description of the problems of digitising and matching up a wide variety of map sizes. He followed up with a live demonstration of many of the excellent features, including the value of being able to search for and plot all fields owned by or rented by persons of a given surname. In order to see just what has been achieved, you must visit the Cheshire Tithe Maps project website and see how the 1836 maps have been digitised and cross referenced to the modern Ordnance Survey mapping. It is hoped that, with more Lottery funding, other counties may be able to carry out similar tasks; many are already underway, I do hope you are researching in a lucky area. Hats off to Cheshire Archives for leading the way and to Paul for his involvement.

John Marsden: On-Line BMDs – A Great Northern Strength

Surely we have all heard of and used the On-Line BMD county sites? Anyone with Lancashire research to undertake, like myself, will know that this county certainly leads the way in the amount of births, marriages and deaths that have been recorded from the registers held in local record offices. Pro-rata, Lancashire must hold the most extensive Online BMD records in the country [some 18 million references]. John, who is a member of the Manchester and Lancashire FHS, explained the background to this work, the organisation of nearly 160 volunteers, and the benefits of using these indexes rather than the GRO registers. He went on to describe the great progress with Lancashire Online Parish Clerks on the ecclesiastical front – a 'very well done' and thank you to all involved I say. ■

The 'Family Names of the United Kingdom' (FaNUK) Project

by [Simon Draper and Patrick Hanks \(University of the West of England\)](#)

Until recently, the study of surnames was neglected by the academic community. It was left to members of the Guild and other like-minded enthusiasts to do their research with very little support from or interaction with medievalists and other scholars. That state of affairs is about to change. In 2010 the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded a large-scale systematic investigation of family names in the UK (FaNUK). This is a four-year research project at the Bristol Centre for Linguistics in the University of the West of England. It is headed by Professor Richard Coates (philologist and onomastician) and Professor Patrick Hanks (lexicographer). The project team comprises a small core group – Dr Paul Cullen and Dr Simon Draper (research associates – an onomastician and a historian), Kate Hardcastle (editorial research assistant), Debbie Cole (project administrator), and Harry Parkin (PhD student, working on the family names of Gloucestershire). They are supported by a number of specialist consultants, including Dr Peter McClure, the leading expert on medieval personal names, who aided Professors Coates and Hanks in developing the proposal. We are keen to promote interaction with the Guild and other interested groups and individuals.

FaNUK will provide a reference source for names scholars of many different interests and also for the general public – a major step forward in surname studies, drawing on all the resources that modern computer technology can provide. Of the currently available resources, only P. H. Reaney's great dictionary of 1958 can lay claim to being a reasonably comprehensive scholarly study, in which the origins of surnames are explored, explained, and supported by medieval evidence. But, despite its merits, it has many errors and omissions. Over the years, publications by scholars such as David Hey, George Redmonds, and

Peter McClure have drawn attention to the many deficiencies of Reaney's work – and (as we now know) they barely scratched the surface. Reaney's dictionary was a heroic achievement in its day, but after fifty years it had become clear to everyone with a serious interest in the study of surnames that a radical new approach was needed. It is a measure of Reaney's achievement that neither R. M. Wilson's revisions of his work, nor Cottle's Penguin dictionary, nor the Oxford dictionary by Hanks and Hodges were able to achieve a satisfactory replacement.

The principal objective of FaNUK is to create a publicly accessible online database in which the origin, meaning, and geographical distribution of over 40,000 family names of the United Kingdom are investigated and explained. Every name in Reaney's dictionary and every name in the UK with at least 100 present-day bearers is being researched. The focus of the research is, of course, the medieval origins of English surnames, but to this must be added the numerous surnames of Irish, Welsh, Cornish, Scottish Gaelic, French Huguenot, and Jewish origin. The intention is that the explanations should not only be well researched and well supported by evidence, but also clear and readable, so that they can be used by everyone from high-level researchers to schoolchildren.

FaNUK recognizes that Britain is a multicultural society. For this reason, "stub entries" are given, drawing on the expertise of an international consortium of consultants, for names of more recent immigrants, with origins as diverse as Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, Urdu, Yoruba, Greek (Cypriot), Turkish, and Polish, among many others.

From the 12th century onwards, there have been massive population exchanges between Britain and Ireland. FaNUK recognizes that it is impossible to study surnames in

Britain adequately without taking account of names of Irish origin. The consultant for Irish names is Dr Kay Muhr of Queen's University, Belfast.

Entries are being created for many names that have never before appeared in a surnames dictionary, whilst names covered by standard reference works, e.g. Reaney, Hanks and Hodges, Black (for Scotland), are being re-examined. Names that have never been satisfactorily explained include not only Irish names and those of more recent immigrants, but also native names, such as Abnett, Blair, Cockburn, Lovegrove, Pringle, and Winterbottom. The aim is to create the most comprehensive, up-to-date, and scholarly survey of the UK's family names that is possible with the resources available.

"The principal objective of FaNUK is to create a publicly accessible online database in which the origin and meaning of family names of the United Kingdom are investigated and explained."

An important part of the research is the collection of references to bearers of names from as wide a chronological span as possible. Examples are drawn from published and unpublished sources, including medieval tax returns, medieval and post-medieval wills, and records of baptisms (spelling each name as recorded), thus providing the evidence to support the explanation(s) and demonstrating the growth and development of each name. This is an area in which we would value the input of Guild members (see the article by Andrew Millard on page 24).

By way of illustrating our progress so far, here are a few names where our research has provided new or upgraded explanations:

1. A locative name not in any dictionary:

SHERLIKER: Frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 0. Main location in 1881: Lancs.

Variants: *Shellaker, Shillaker*

Locative name: from the lost place-name Shurlacres (*Shirwallacres* in 1476) in Halsall (Lancs).

Early Bearers: **Lancs:** Adam *de Shirwalaccres*, 1323 in Lancs Inquests; Walteri *de Shirwalacres*, 1334 in Lancs Record Office; Grace *Shyrlaceres*, 1550 in IGI (Aughton by Ormskirk); John *Shorlicars*, 1558, Elizabeth *Shurlacars*, 1559, Jane *Shorlikers*, 1565, Ellen *Shorlikares*, 1580 in IGI (Ormskirk); William *Shirlakar*, 1575 in IGI (Whalley). **WR Yorks:** Isabella *Sherlacar*, 1561 in IGI (Sowerby); John *Shirlaker*, 1570 in IGI (Elland); John *Sherlacre*, 1599 in IGI (Halifax). **Northumb:** Thomas *Shorley carr*, 1596 in IGI (Newcastle upon Tyne). **Leics:** Thomas *Shellakers*, 1671 in IGI (Loddington). **Rutland:** Ann *Shellaker*, 1763 in IGI (Ridlington).

References: Lancs Place Names p. 120.

2. A locative name where Reaney's explanation is misleading:

LANGNER: Frequencies: GB: 101, Ireland: 0. Main location in 1881: Middx

Locative name: German, from any of several places called Langen or Langenau in Germany, Bohemia, and Silesia.

Early Bearers: Joseph *Langner* (born in Poland) in 1881 Census (Middx).

Reaney connects Langner with the extinct locative surname Longnor, derived either (i) from Longner or Longnor, Shrops or Longnor near Penkridge, Staffs, or (ii) from Longnor near Buxton, Staffs. However, the very late appearance of the form Langner, exclusively in Middx, suggests a recent introduction to England rather than a development of a Shrops/Staffs name.

3. A name not in any dictionary where two possible explanations can be put forward:

REDKNAP: Frequencies: GB: 117, Ireland: 2. Main location in 1881: London; also Bucks and Oxon

Variants: *Redknapp*.

(i) **Nickname:** from Middle English *red* 'red' + *knape* 'boy, servant' (Old English *cnapa*), perhaps for a boy or servant with red hair. Compare Johannes *Redknave*, 1377 in Poll Tax (Rutland), from Middle English *red* 'red' + *knave* 'boy, servant' (Old English *cnafa*), and see also *Redman*, *Redhead*.

(ii) **Locative name:** from Middle English *red* 'red' + *knap* 'hillock' (Old English *cnæpp*). The surname may be topographical, for someone who lived on or by a red hillock, or perhaps toponymic, for someone from a place so named. Place-Names of Warwicks p. 323 gives the unlocated name *le Redecnappe*, recorded in 1278.

Early Bearers: John *Redknape*, 1335 in Patent Rolls (Norfolk); Thomas *Redknop*, 1379 in Poll Tax (Norfolk); William *Redknop*, 1467 in Close Rolls (London). **Middx:** Judetha *Rednappe*, 1590 in IGI (Westminster); Jeffry *Redknop*, 1638 in IGI (Stepney); Judeth *Rednap*, 1664 in IGI (Clerkenwell).

How Guild Members can Help FaNUK

by **Andrew Millard**

The FaNUK project is a massive undertaking for a small team over only three years. Efficiency is therefore essential and the team are using a series of large databases and electronic texts to facilitate their research. Guild members can help in a number of ways, but this assistance also needs to be carefully focussed and streamlined.

The most obvious contribution you can make is providing information on your registered surname to help FaNUK explain the origin of the name. Before contributing please check Reaney's surname dictionary – the research team already has that information and there is no point repeating it. If you have reached a different or additional explanation for the name's origin, then FaNUK would like to know. Similarly FaNUK would like to hear about earlier examples than those in Reaney, examples that fit better with the geographical spread of a name, or examples with a proven line of inheritance to present bearers. Evidence of aliases proving variants would also help. In order to gather this information in a structured

format, an online form will be made available within the next few weeks for you to submit information. When this is available an announcement will be posted on the Members Room page of the Guild website. The FaNUK team reserves the right to decide whether to use any material submitted, and to edit it in line with the project's overall editorial policy.

There are several other tasks where volunteers can supplement the work of the FaNUK team. In this vein, some Guild members have already volunteered to help verify place-names in FaNUK's copy of the systematic extracts from the IGI, following a protocol supplied by FaNUK. More volunteers are needed to start this work in July or August.

Another area for help would be examining local records not easily accessible to the FaNUK team (such as county record society publications) to establish early examples of specific surnames in particular areas. This would be especially useful where FaNUK research identifies a discrepancy between Reaney's explanation and the

1881 distribution of a name. In other cases it might be helpful if a volunteer could sift through genealogical forums to locate reliable research demonstrating continuity of a surname.

The FaNUK team will create a 'needs list' of specific issues, and invite the co-operation of Guild members in researching them. This list will be publicised online and in the Journal. If you wish to work on one of the advertised issues, please contact me (academic-coordinator@one-name.org), and I will co-ordinate our volunteer work.

The efforts and rewards will not be one-way. In return for a contribution used by FaNUK or for carrying out a FaNUK-requested research task, volunteers will be entitled to receive a copy of a name cluster of their choice from the FaNUK database, in addition to the name that they have researched. Contributors will be listed in FaNUK acknowledgment pages, in the format:

volunteer name (researched name[s]). ■

Yorkshire Regional Meeting Competition Winner

At the Yorkshire regional meeting on 4th June in Harrogate, Debbie Gomersall completed a most complex translation of Old English images with the best number of correct answers set by another member Jackie Depelle.

The vouchers were donated by one of our members from the West Yorkshire group, Tony Beardshaw at My History tony@my-history.co.uk

Many thanks to John Coldwell, Mike Clipston, Denise Lewry, Pauline Litton, Glenys Marriott, and Pam Smith for all their hard work getting the day together.



Debbie Gomersall



How I Run The ULPH One-Name Study

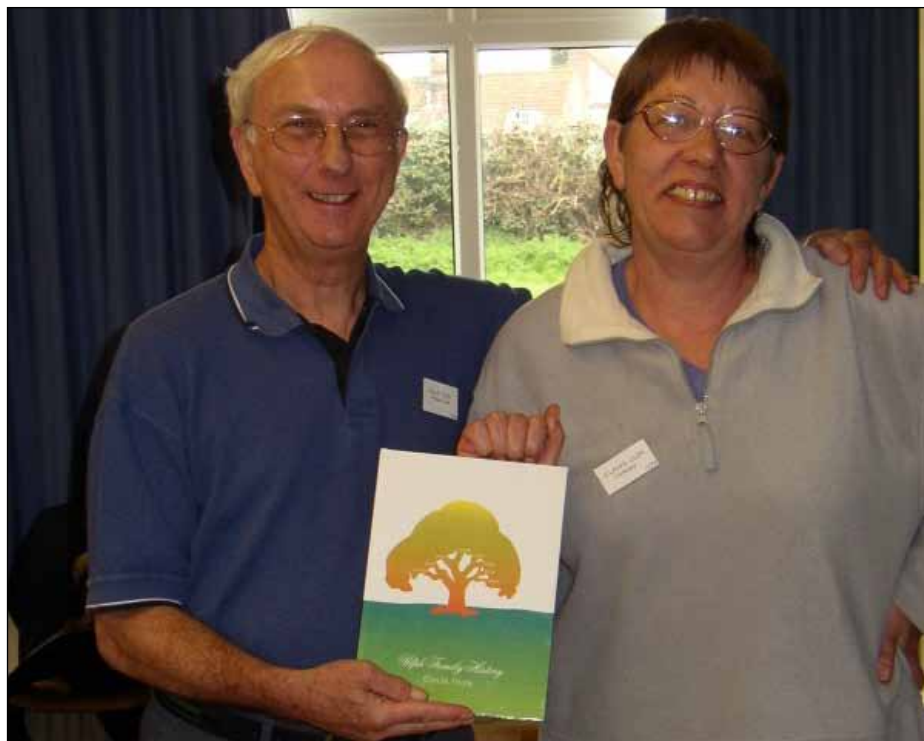
By **Colin Ulph**

The winner of the 2011 Guild Essay Competition was Colin Ulph.

What follows is the story of how the ULPH one-name study has evolved and developed over the past 33 years, with particular reference to the techniques employed to ensure it runs effectively and gives satisfaction to both me and the 'clan'. It is not a how-to-do-it text book for new one-namers to follow rigidly, simply because all one-name studies are different. However, some of the ideas may be useful to others.

First, let me give an idea of our size. The ULPH one-name study currently has records of about 7500 individuals. Including female spouses there are about 400 ULPH, 100 AULPH, 80 HULF, 350 ALP, 250 ALPE and 100 ALPS people alive in the world today whose origins lie in England. All of which means that our names are quite rare and our study is comparatively small. But it's not just size that determines how our study is run. The way facts are obtained, records kept and information disseminated has grown rather like Topsy, from origins before there was even a Guild of One-Name Studies.

It all goes back to 1978, when I was still at work but looking for a hobby I could pursue during winter evenings once the infants were abed. After attending a talk on family history, I decided to find out just where we ULPHs came from, how many of us were now living and where any others lived. For all I knew, my own four-person family plus my parents and two aunts, were the only ULPHs alive in the world. I began by asking the 'olds' about ancestors and other ULPHs they might remember from the days before grandfather ULPH brought his family to Sussex in the 1920s. Grandfather ULPH had died before I was born and no-one was in touch with any other ULPHs. They had no vital certificates, and none of their photographs had names



Colin and Elaine Ulph with their book *ULPH Family History*

on the back. As I hadn't a clue where we originated beyond my grandfather's home in East London I decided to collect **all** references to ULPH in public records and work out which ones were 'mine' in the comfort of my own home.

Finding and recording facts

In 1978 there were no desktops, no laptops and, of course, no internet. My one-name study was launched by personally visiting national record offices in London and recording data entirely in handwriting. I was absolutely amazed at the number of ULPHs I found. Births, marriages and deaths alone between 1837 and 1978 totalled more than 2,000. I was also intrigued by the discovery that nearly all nineteenth century ULPHs lived in Norfolk. Very quickly I became so absorbed that I found myself piecing together not just my own line but other ULPH families, too.

I transcribed all the data on to four indexes. Three of them were on A4 sheets that I kept in lever-arch binders: (1) births, marriages and deaths from 1837, in order of year and quarter; (2) census extracts, by year and county; and (3) post-1858 probates and administrations. The fourth index, kept in a shoe box, was on 5"x 3" cards, one (or more) for each ULPH I had found. On these cards I recorded data from the other three indexes relating to that individual. And, although I've since transcribed many of my records on to electronic media, I still retain and update these original indexes. They often obviate the need to power up the computer when answering phone calls and letters and also act as back-up when technology lets me down - as it has, on more than one occasion. The card index has far outgrown its original box and now resides in a four-drawer metal filing cabinet which itself has overflowed into more shoe boxes!

Incidentally, every individual has a unique reference number, in order to match data for the same person in different records. The system consists of two letters symbolising the family's place of origin (MM=Marsham) or an ancestor's name (AR=Richard of Aylsham), followed by 1-3 digits indicating the individual within that family.

For the first seven years my research was confined to ULPHs but, as it progressed, so the scope of the study widened. In 1981 I discovered that there was a parish in north Norfolk called Burnham ULPH, now one of several that make up the civil parish of Burnham Market. It was named after a Saxon ULF who held land there before the time of Edward the Confessor. Gradually I formed the theory that the first people to bear our surname were emigrants from the parish of Burnham Ulph.

Around 1985 I discovered that the surnames ALP and ALPE occurred in the same parts of Norfolk, so data gathering and analysis thereafter embraced these similar-sounding names. They became part of the ULPH study, along with the variants AULPH, HULF and ALPS, which came to light around the same time. The time-consuming searches in London record offices therefore had to be

An ALPE Memorial at Little Fransham, Norfolk



All Saints Church, Burnham Ulph, Norfolk

repeated for these new names, and the findings were added to my records back home.

I do now have a computer. On retirement in 1994 I decided to keep the grey cells working by committing much of my data to computer files. For general working I now use Microsoft Word for correspondence, Excel for spreadsheets, Works for databases and Publisher for our newsletter. The first specialist family history software I acquired was Pedigree. Later, I replaced it with Family Historian, which is incredibly easy to operate and manipulate - and it produces trees, made up of boxes that contain whatever I want.

Today the internet is an invaluable asset. The number of useful indexes and websites available online is immense, and I have found it very worthwhile paying an annual subscription to Ancestry.co.uk. Having said that, I know only too well that all such indexes contain transcription errors, so I check against the original 'images' where available online or, if not, against the records at The National Archives or county record offices.

Making contact

An essential element in the ULPH one-name study always has been making contact with people all over the world who are interested in our surnames. In the very early days I wrote to some of the ULPHs listed in British telephone books.

Also I acquired, through 'members' interests' lists published by some family history societies, a few contacts who were already involved in ULPH research and who were pleased to exchange information.

I take every opportunity to publicise our one-name study, entering my interest in visitor books whenever possible. In 1983, I had a letter from a fellow ULPH who had spotted my name in the book at the door of the old Public Record Office census rooms. She, too, had embarked on a one-name study of ULPH (her own surname). What's more, she lived in Norwich and was a frequent visitor to the Norfolk Record Office. In those days the only way of finding pre-1837 records was to visit county record offices to search parish registers. Elaine offered to pass on whatever she found in Norfolk, and so began a lasting friendship that has resulted in the exchange of thousands of records. We also hold 'remote location' duplicates of each other's records as a fall-back in case of disaster. It is now very much 'our' one-name study.

Having established that my own roots, and those of nearly all the ULPH and ALP(E) families are in Norfolk, I joined the society that is now the Norfolk Family History Society. And, in 1983, I first learned of the Guild of One-Name Studies. Membership of both has been invaluable. As far as the Guild is concerned, I have made many friends at seminars and meetings where there have been useful

exchanges of information. 'Marriage Challenge', too, has been beneficial: it has enabled me, at no cost, to fill gaps I could never have done except by purchasing expensive certificates. And setting up 'profiles' on the Guild website has led to approaches from more people interested in our names. I have not, as yet, attempted to set up my own website, but my two Guild profiles - one for ULPH and variants and the other for ALP and variants - are a very good alternative for attracting new contacts.

Keeping them Informed

After about five years of gathering data and compiling trees, I sent a progress report to my twenty-or-so contacts, mentioning that I hoped in future to launch a newsletter and hold a clan gathering. The following Christmas (1985) I issued the first edition of ULPH Family News, which went to all existing contacts plus all the other ULPHs and HULFs in the phone books. My letter told them a little about me and what I was doing, and asked them (a) were they interested in other ULPHs and their ancestry, (b) would they like to receive the newsletter regularly, and (c) might they be interested in coming to a gathering about two years hence. The response was phenomenal. I posted 135 copies, with no reply-paid envelope, and had replies from 65. They all wanted to receive future newsletters, and 28 of them sent me a donation towards costs - something I did not ask for nor expect. Yes, they were very interested in learning more about the others and yes, they wanted to meet them!

Content of the newsletter has been more or less unchanged over all 25 years of its publication. Its format is similar to a 'broadsheet' newspaper, except that the paper size is A4. It includes news of the latest discoveries, biographies and articles on name-holders, past and present. There's a births, marriages and deaths column and updates on how many of us are alive in the world and where we live. Also there is usually something on 'Ancient ULFs', those Vikings and Saxons who lived before the invention of surnames and gave their names to many ancient settlements in the UK and elsewhere. Now, of course, the surnames ALP, ALPE, ALPS, AULPH and HULF are included as well as ULPH.

Copies are reproduced by a local printing company that collates them and punches four holes so that readers can file them in their own binders. Normally each issue runs to 12 sides. The most recent edition, in January 2011, was the first one to be available as a pdf file, sent by email to those who requested this rather than the paper version. There was such a good response to this facility that nearly half of the recipients of our newsletter will receive the next issue as a pdf file, so producing big savings in printing and postage costs. In 1998 an Australian ULPH volunteered to produce an indexed CD, containing scanned images of all back numbers of ULPH Family News. This is a great service, especially to new readers who want to learn something of our early research and findings.

Incidentally, over the first 25 years of publication I never had to appeal for funds to offset costs. Such has been the interest that, from the very start, donations have come in regularly, and it was only in the latest issue that I drew attention to the soaring costs of paper, printing and postage and suggested a modest contribution from those who could afford it.

Having confirmed that neither the ULPHs nor the ALP(E)s had ever been entitled to arms, I organised a competition for newsletter readers to design a simple, though meaningful, logo. From entries received we adopted a design that incorporates a wolf's head ('ULF' being the Old Norse word for 'wolf') and the Horn of Ulph (a carved elephant's tusk that is one of the treasures of York Minster), both enclosed in a symbolic letter 'U'.

Gathering the clan

Another way to keep in touch with branches of the clan and help them feel they are part of one big family is to 'gather' them from time to time at a convenient location. Our first gathering was held at Burnham Ulph in 1987 and attracted considerable interest in the local press. More than 100 people turned up, aged from three months to 87 years. Some came for just a day, but most made a weekend of it. There was an exhibition of family trees and photographs, a service at the parish church, a talk on the progress of the one-name study, a group photograph, a slide show

about the village and a sumptuous buffet tea, prepared by the local Women's Institute. One of the most rewarding aspects was witnessing the interaction between members of different ULPH branches who previously never even knew of each other's existence.

We held gatherings at different venues in eastern England for four consecutive years before they became less frequent due to the amount of work involved. There have been seven so far, including visits to Jorvik and York Minster, and walks around ancestral haunts in Aylsham (Norfolk), St Ives (Huntingdonshire) and the Rows of Great Yarmouth. The three gatherings at Burnham Ulph have cemented our connection with 'our' parish and each time we have contributed to a tangible gift to the parish church.

Eventually I decided it was time to put together an official history of our names. It took about three years to compile and was launched at a gathering in 2005. It is a sort of 'coffee table' book that owners can leave lying around for visitors to dip into, thus raising wider interest in our names. It is an illustrated, hardback book of around 250 pages, printed on good quality paper although, in order to keep the cost within bounds,

[Holding the Horn of Ulph at the York Gathering, 1988](#)



the illustrations are all in black and white – but then, most of the old photographs in it were black-and-white anyway! I had it professionally printed and bound, with a coloured cover and art-work designed by a young graphic-designer cousin. 250 copies were produced at a cover price of £15: by the end of 2010 nearly 200 had been sold.

All the drafting was done by me as holder of all the necessary data, but most of the chapters were read over, corrected and improved on by Elaine and other contacts qualified to comment. Naturally, because a one-name study is on-going, there have been many new findings since ULPH FAMILY HISTORY was published, and ULPH Family News is the vehicle to communicate these to the clan. One day there may be an updated book but, at present, that's a long way off.

" The most recent major development in the ULPH study has been the launch of our DNA project. "

Comparing the genes

The most recent major development in the ULPH study has been the launch of our DNA project. In 2008 I began to invite selected males to take the simple swab test so that their DNA could be compared with that of other volunteers. I am pleased to say that more than 50 so far have accepted and tested. From results to date, we have established which ULPH branches are linked to each other and proved that the main ALP and ALPE branches share a common ancestor, although none of the AULPHs descended from one who migrated to Canada in 1836 are related to any of today's surviving ULPH lines. Having established that some previously unconnected families do have a common ancestor, the DNA project now points the way to further research in the record offices, to find that common ancestor.

I have set up a number of files on my computer to track the progress of the DNA project. The main one is a 'template' designed by Susan Meates, which is a summary of all of the participants, their documented



Grandfather ULPH with his family

ancestry and their DNA results, while another shows the 'genetic distances' between all of the project's participants. I include a progress report in each edition of ULPH Family News, and send a more detailed breakdown every six months to all of the participants.

Looking to the future

For these first 30+ years, most of the collection of data relating to our names has been done by Elaine and myself, with help in recent years from one or two others who have done sterling work on the internet and in various record offices. Between us we come up with theories based on our findings, and bounce them off one another before deciding whether they have 'legs' and can be broadcast to the eagerly-waiting clan. Editing the newsletter, organising gatherings, writing and publishing the official history book, managing the DNA project, and corresponding with contacts all over the world have all rested with me.

Readers of our newsletter have shown interest in all we do by being lavish in their praise and generous in their giving, but very few have offered to assist practically with time or effort. For this reason there never has been any question of forming a one-name society with officers and a formal constitution. At the last gathering, in 2005, I did indicate that, if the clan wanted

another, it was time for someone else to organise it. No-one came forward. In event of my demise I have provided for Elaine to inherit all the records of the ULPH one-name study (she is 16 years younger than me!). It then would be up to her to decide how to take the project forward, but I would like to divide up the tasks before that, so that they do not all fall on the shoulders of my successor.

I honestly believe, and have letters to prove it, that the work Elaine and I have done over the years has given pleasure and interest to many families. It has brought together isolated pockets of people and helped them to feel they are part of a bigger family. And I believe that our research and experience have contributed something to the wider history of English ancestry. I would like to be able to 'retire' one day in the knowledge that this work will go on and develop through generations to come. ■

This is an abridged version of Colin's essay. The full version is available at

<http://www.one-name.org/members/comps/2011/>



Beyond Bedlam

by Roger Goacher, MCG

Compared with the austere conditions and harsh regime of the Workhouse, the Victorian Lunatic Asylum was a model of social responsibility and care.

The Bethlem Hospital was the first purpose-built building for insane patients. Built between 1774 and 1776 at Moorfields in London, it was usually known as Bedlam Hospital. Hogarth's engraving of it in *The Rake's Progress* provides a visual image of conditions that many believe to have existed everywhere in eighteenth and nineteenth century Lunatic Asylums.

However attitudes towards the care of the insane began to change towards the end of the eighteenth century. Doctors started to recommend greater personal freedom for patients, and advocated the therapeutic benefits of exercise and employment.

The small numbers of asylums built in England during the eighteenth century were all charitably funded, but the Lunatics Act of 1808 permitted county magistrates to fund new asylums from the rates. About twenty public funded asylums were built up to 1845.

1845 Lunatic Act

The 1845 Lunatic Act made counties responsible for providing for pauper lunatics, and created the Lunacy Commission, responsible for visiting and inspecting asylums. The Act laid down procedures for the admission and care of patients, which were further tightened by the 1890 Lunacy Act.

The Victorian era saw a massive rise in the number of 'persons of unsound mind' in institutions, and in the number of public-funded asylums provided for their care. In 1847 there were about 5,200 pauper patients in 21 public-funded asylums in



Fig 1. Engraving 'The Rake in Bedlam' – from 'The Rake's Progress', a series of eight paintings by 18th century English artist William Hogarth

England and Wales. By 1914 there were 102 asylums with more than 108,000 patients, an increase of 81 major buildings in 67 years.

Surprisingly, the new asylums were modelled on the country house estate. They were grand, spacious, airy buildings, often in an elevated position, with extensive grounds, in a rural setting. The Lunacy Commissioners demanded that land should be provided for exercise, recreation and therapeutic activities, such as gardening and agricultural employment.

Grounds were landscaped, often by important designers, and outdoor facilities, such as sports fields and shelters, were provided for the comfort of the patients. The asylum was seen as a medical facility to harbour and nurture the patients, and their surroundings should have none of the repressive and deterrent elements of prisons or workhouses.

But by the early twentieth century the reformers' aims of respite, rehabilitation, recovery and release for the mentally ill had been severely compromised. The number of patients, especially the chronically insane, pauper lunatics and the elderly, had massively increased. The high staff turnover, due to poor pay and difficult working conditions, and the economic pressures to limit costs led to patient overcrowding, reductions in specialist care, and ever worsening conditions.

It would be another fifty years before the availability of drugs to control conditions such as schizophrenia, and moves towards 'care in the community', heralded further significant improvements in care of the mentally ill.

For more information see:
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/

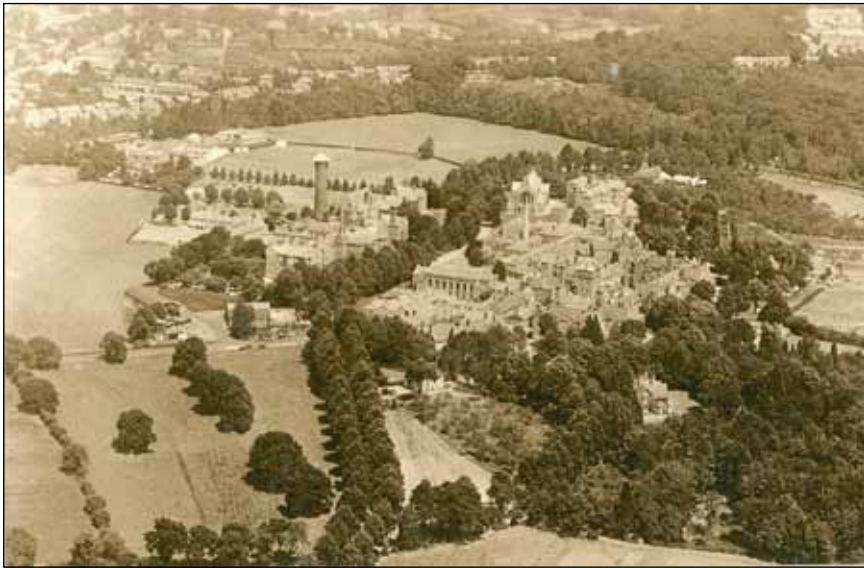


Fig 2. Aerial view of Brookwood Asylum, Surrey

Brookwood Asylum, Surrey

Brookwood, near Woking in Surrey, is now perhaps best known for its massive cemetery, but it was also the site of the second Surrey county asylum, built 1862-67. Its extensive buildings were grouped together and looked almost like a picturesque Italian hilltop town.

Architect Charles Henry Howell, the principal asylum architect in England and architect to the Lunacy Commissioners and Surrey County Surveyor from 1860-1893, designed it. The 'Brookwood Asylum', as it was originally known, was renamed 'Brookwood Hospital' in 1919.

From its opening on 17 June 1867 until its closure in 1994, Brookwood Hospital was the leading mental hospital for the western half of Surrey. The hospital had a dairy farm, a cobbler's workshop, a large ballroom, and its own fire brigade, gasworks and sewage farm.

Since its closure in 1994 the land has been sold off for development for housing, and the Hospital's annexe block, which is listed, has been converted into luxury apartments. Several of the new residential roads were named after the old hospital wards. The hospital's chapel is now a Buddhist temple and the former mortuary now provides living accommodation for the temple's monks.

In 2002 a grant of £16,862 from the Wellcome Trust enabled the Surrey History Centre to produce an integrated and comprehensive catalogue of the archives of Brookwood Hospital. The records had been deposited in four distinct accessions and amounted to 90 standard archive boxes, 70 large cartons and 673 freestanding volumes.

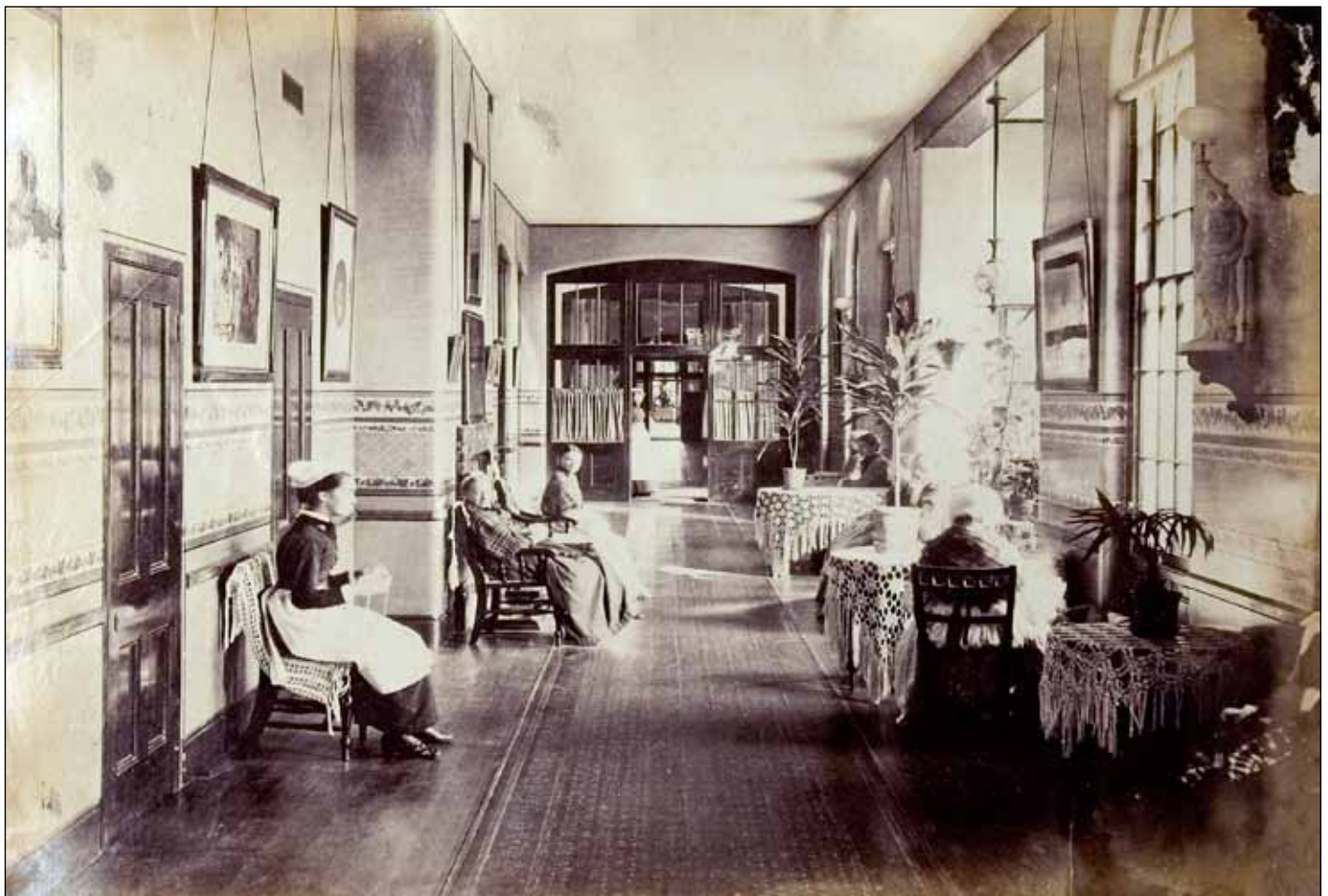


Fig 3. Female Day Ward at Brookwood Asylum, Surrey

The preserved archive provides a detailed overview of the day to day running of Brookwood Hospital and of the medical care provided to patients throughout its history. The records also show how the hospital operated as a self-contained community, employing patients with skills in cooking, cleaning and gardening, providing training workshops, how the 12-acre farm supplied food for both the Hospital and for sale, and details of the entertainment provided for the residents.

William Goacher (1864-1925)

A distant relative of mine was a patient in Brookwood in the early 1900s. William Goacher was born in West Sussex in 1864, the third of twelve children of an Agricultural Labourer. He married, had five children and worked as a Farm Carter. But early in 1908 he gradually developed a persecution complex and became seriously depressed. On 13 July 1908 he tried to kill himself by drinking Jeyes Fluid and attempted to cut his throat. Two weeks later the local JP committed him to Brookwood Lunatic Asylum. The initial diagnosis was "melancholia" and his extensive medical notes give a full description of his mental and physical condition on admission.

He was prescribed drugs and appeared to make a rapid recovery. He became brighter, more cheerful and free of delusions. His physical health improved and he was able to undertake useful employment. The improvements were so marked that by November 1908 the Visiting Guardians, on the advice of the Medical Officer, approved his discharge for one month on trial.

Unfortunately the recovery did not last, and within two weeks the Parish Relieving Officer brought William back to the Asylum. He was again very depressed, unable to eat or sleep and was afraid he would harm himself.

Sadly William never left the Asylum again. His medical records show the rapid decline in his mental health, though his physical decline was slower, and for some years he was capable of useful work in the Asylum garden or on the farm. He died in the Asylum in July 1925 of "senile decay".

Reading his medical information it appears that he was regularly assessed and reasonably treated, but that he was suffering from what we would now call "senile dementia". The notes also showed that the Asylum Medical Officer considered his mental instability to be hereditary. It was noted that one

of William's brothers and a sister had both committed suicide, and that another relation was in an asylum – useful family research information that I didn't already know.

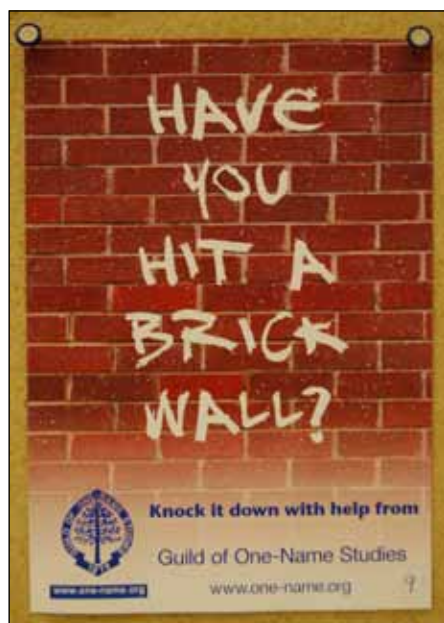
I am grateful to the staff of the Surrey History Centre for their help in researching William's records, for obtaining permission from the depositor to examine information less than 100 years old, and for allowing reproduction of the images of Brookwood.

If you are interested in learning more about the subject, the booklet *The Victorian Asylum* by Sarah Rutherford, published by Shire Publications, is a very readable general introduction.

Many records of Victorian Asylums have survived and can be researched. The Hospital Records Database, a joint project of the Wellcome Trust and the National Archives, provides information on the location of hospital records in the UK and includes details of many publicly-funded asylums: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/.

If you don't know the full details of the institution enter Asylum in the Hospital name search box and all such facilities will be listed. ■

Guild Poster Competition 2011



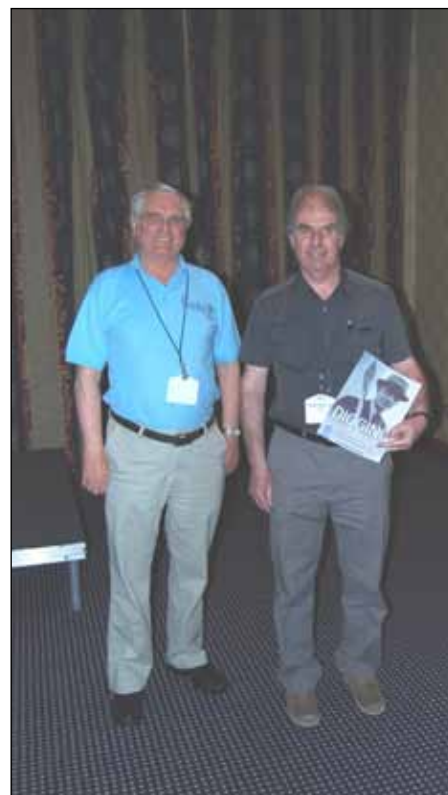
The winning entry "Have you Hit a Brick Wall?" from Peter Rugman

We received an interesting and well thought out collection of 17 entries to the Guild Poster Competition at the Conference.

Thank you to all the members who contributed. You may well see your poster again in a Guild promotional activity!

The winner and runner up of the poster competition was Peter Rugman with his posters 'Have you Hit a Brick Wall?' and 'Digging for Your Ancestors'.

Peter was presented with his prize on Sunday afternoon – a 12-month subscription, sponsored by *FindmyPast*. Well done Peter!





Northumberland Mining Seminar

Woodhorn Archives, Ashington

Northumberland 21 May 2011

Members have missed a real gem of a Seminar as it has been a long time since the venue nearly outshone the programme but this was a close run thing with Woodhorn, allow me to explain.

One drives up to the colliery via Queen Elizabeth II Country Park, gone are the spoil heaps, industrial buildings and railway sidings to be replaced by lawned areas, a lake together with a tree lined approach road with mixed conifer and deciduous plantings and a very modern Archive building. The only thing left of the old pit head is a pair of Victorian winding towers and their accompanying engine rooms which have been refurbished as function and catering rooms where our seminar was held.

I had not heard of Ashington/Woodhorn Colliery until it was featured in an arts TV programme presented by Robson Green the well known north-east actor and fisherman, on the ITV Perspectives Series on a Sunday evening. Robson introduced us to the Ashington Group which was a group of miners who met after a hard day down the mines for Workers Educational Association courses. One such course in 1934 was art appreciation which quickly turned into a painting class where members painted their lives in the community above and below ground. They quickly acquired their own hut where they met to discuss and criticize their own work and this lasted until 1984 after which, one member, Oliver Kilbourn, collected together many of the paintings and put them into a trust so that today they are housed in a gallery at the mining museum for free public viewing. The exhibition is superbly displayed and I will leave members to judge for themselves their reaction to the paintings, but I found them personally very powerful and compelling. Any future visitors should be aware that if one goes

from the cafeteria into the engine room block then up one storey there is another group of paintings of The Life of Oliver Kilbourn, which they may miss.

However this was only half the pictures present, in an adjacent gallery there were 41 paintings by Thomas Harrison Hair an early 19th century artist who compiled, for a book, this portfolio of exquisite sketches and watercolours recording Views of Collieries of Northumberland and Durham which was on loan until the 12th June from the Hatton Gallery, University of Newcastle. For the family historian these are an invaluable record of many of the very old mines, some constructed in the 18th century, a truly magnificent resource and of great beauty in themselves.

Now to the programme, which had a common thread apart from mining and that is that people find an ancestor was a miner, then contact the County Record Office/Archive and ask the following, "my ancestor was a miner, so do you have his record and/or do you know which pit he worked in?" The short and only answer is "No", this unfortunately is not like The Police or The Military but all the information is there in any mining community to construct a part or full life history of your mining ancestor.

" Do you have my mining ancestor's service record ? "

Woodhorn Archives Mining Records

Our first speaker was the delightful young Sue Wood from the Woodhorn Archives, which now houses all the archives for Northumberland previously dispersed at Morpeth Alnwick and Berwick together with about 1000 unsorted boxes of British Coal

Records from TNA, in all covering 800 years of mining in the area, together with 300,000 photographs and all sorts of ephemera.

The records are from:

1. Landed family estates where owners turned to mining for extra income
2. Colliery owners
3. Compensation records and disputes
4. NUM. documents
5. Institute of mining engineers
6. Superannuation schemes and more. The trail can go, Accident, fatal/non fatal ... report ... name index ... inquest ... coroners report ... local newspaper ... compensation tribunal ... union ... dispute ... etc.

Durham Mining Museum and DMM Website

Next up was Kev Duncan an enthusiastic volunteer from the Durham Mining Museum a virtual museum created on the web with 78,000 pages, 23,000 fatalities listed 3,000 photographs, 2,500 tombstones 4,000 collieries/mines/pits noted all for Durham so one should be able to find some clues or leads in this area.

The British Steel Collection is also found here, as old companies had iron ore mines in North Yorkshire, steel works on Teesside, and coalmines in County Durham. Kev said that Sue the first speaker had stolen some of his thunder but added that there were records from Miners Lodges/Union group, Miners bonds, and Miners Compensation Scheme.

The Durham Mining Museum website is available at <http://www.dmm.org.uk/mindex.htm>.

After a very pleasant lunch, during which our table became involved in a very useful discussion of computer software for One-Namers, there was time for meeting friends new and of long standing.

Early Miners' Surname Lists for Northumbria

The afternoon started with Geoff Nicholson from The Northumberland and Durham F.H. Society and he gave us an interesting talk on the history of many aspects of mining in this area starting with simple pits, wagon ways, small boats to Newcastle, then transfer to larger sea going vessels to eventual markets mainly London.

Geoff went on to explain why miners moved around so much as they signed a bond for 1 year. which gave them paid employment, a tied house and a supply of coal. However after 1 year. if they were not happy they signed on at another pit and moved house using a cart for their belongings. This was the reason why children were sometimes born in various different parishes or registration districts between census returns. There were

often yearly bond lists retained by the mining company together with managers notebooks and pay lists all of which act as mini indexes. His talk was very well illustrated with original detailed examples.

Mining Durham's Hidden Depths

The Seminar team had saved the best until last in the form of Gill Parkes from Durham Archives who gave us a very professional talk on the huge indexing project they have undertaken and put on line using volunteers, 5,000 names so far 56,000 references at present rising to 120,000 very soon. One puts in a name, searches, and hopefully the searchable database gives you a reference to a number of the previously noted sources, e.g. a pay list, a bond and some union record so you can go to the archive and look straightway at the document to get the details. Gill gave us a remarkable

statistic 1 in 5 miners were injured in any one year thankfully very few were fatal, but with approx 100,000+ miners in Durham County at the height of the mines from Kev. and the comment that many mines went east under the North Sea to a max. distance of 8 miles one is left with nothing but admiration for these men who extracted the coal.

Overall a superb seminar in all respects so a big thanks to Gordon and the Seminar Sub. Team.

More details of some of the presentations are available on The Guild website.

Rodney Brackstone

GOONS # 2276

Searching for Brackstone/Braxton

Anytime/Anywhere

Regional Representative for Lancashire



SPECIAL OFFER FOR GUILD MEMBERS

FREE THREE-YEAR MYHERITAGE.COM PREMIUMPLUS SUBSCRIPTION

MyHeritage.com is one of the most popular genealogy and family networks on the web, providing genealogists with tools to explore and grow their family history.

MyHeritage.com is offering a free three-year "Premium Plus" subscription (worth over £200) to all Members of the Guild (as of 15 April 2011). This will allow Guild Members to undertake **Smart Matches™** against a database of more than 750 million individuals, allowing them to grow their one-name research projects further and faster. Members will also be able, if they wish, to host their data in a safe and secure environment at no charge during this three-year period.

Many Guild Members have already taken advantage of this free offer and have had success using **Smart Matches™** in identifying new individuals to add to their one-name studies and in finding others who are researching the same surname.

Guild Members can easily import all or selected parts of their data from existing genealogy programs (via a GEDCOM file), or else manually key in the data. There is no limit on the number of individuals entered onto trees created or submitted for **Smart Matches™**. Guild Members retain full ownership of all and any data that

they enter or upload. As managers of their own "site" on MyHeritage.com, Guild Members also control all privacy settings relating to their site, making their data as open or private as they wish.

There is information on how to get started and some tips for success in the **Smart Matches™** for One-Name Studies article on page 6 of this Journal.

Further details of this offer (which closes on 16 September 2011), and instructions on how to apply, are available at <http://www.one-name.org/members/promotional.html> in the Members' Room of the Guild website.

MyHeritage.com

- more than 56 million registered users worldwide, including more than 3 million members in the UK
- unrivalled geographic presence: approximately 200 countries
- over 750 million "profiles" (names in family trees)
- 17 million family trees
- 36 languages



Registrar's Notes

By
Stephen Daglish

Studies Update

We are very sorry to record the passing of a number of Guild members since the publication of the 2011 Register.

202 **Mrs Sabina Doust**
Member: 1980-2011
Study: **Doust**

The Doust study has been taken over by Pam Rowden, the daughter of Sabina Doust.

992 **Ernest Cozens**
Member: 1987-2011
Study: **Cozens**

1701 **Dr. Christopher Lerwill**
Member: 1990-2011
Study: **Lerwill**

1783 **Ronald Coghill**
Member: 1991-2011
Study: **Coghill**

Ron's obituary notice in The Scotsman described him as "chief marine engineer, renowned genealogist and at home operatic tenor extraordinaire". His Coghill study has been passed to his nephew Stuart Coghill.

1832 **Frank Hakney**
Member: 1991-2011
Studies: **Hakney, Hackney**

Frank was an active member of the Guild for many years and will be remembered by many from his Somerset House days.

2930 **Patricia (Pat) Lord**
Member: 1998-2011
Study: **Iredale**

Many members will have known Pat for her contributions to the Guild Forum, Marriage Challenges and general help to fellow members.

4558 **Gareth Watkins**
Member: 2006-2010
Study: **Ombler**

Gareth was a former archaeologist who later became the Hull City Council genealogist to provide family history services to the public.

Genealogical Next of Kin

In case any members missed the announcement in the October 2010 Journal, the Guild now has a facility which allows members to say what they want to happen to their study materials in the event of their death. This includes nominating a contact, describing what should happen to study materials and a "genealogical next-of-kin" who might wish to take over the study.

If you have Guild Profile or Archive pages you can also state what should happen to these. The default is for these to be automatically removed – but you may choose to allow these to remain on the Guild website, with your details removed, for the benefit of future researchers or someone who may subsequently be interested in taking over the study.

To use this facility, from the Members Room, select Self Service – Change of study details. Then select the link Preserving your study. If you do not have access to the internet, please write to me.

Transferred Studies

Where a member is unable to continue with their research, it is possible to transfer the study to another member, or to a person who becomes a member of the Guild. This can be done by contacting myself as Registrar. In recent months the following studies have been transferred:

John Hebden (member 247) transferred the Hebden study to fellow member 4611 Stuart Hebden.

The Madge study has been taken over by Adrian Wilkins from member Paul Madge, and Michael Harmer is now the member on behalf of the Harmer Family Association, taking over from Tom Kelley.

Variants

There seems to be some confusion about how to add or remove variants for a study. Members can update the variants to their study at any time. There is currently no online form to add or remove variants - but this can be done by writing to me as Registrar with the details of what is needed.

New Studies

Below is a list of surnames that have been registered since the 2011 Register was printed and published in April.

This includes a mix of some small and some large studies. Do take a look – it is quite likely that some members will find names that are of interest to them or occur in their own studies. More details can be found on the Guild website.

Auty, Bassingthwaighe, Calkins, Cessford, Chapkofsky, Crann, Darlow, Date, Daunt, Dawdy, Drury, Earp, Engall, Espley, Gamwell, Greenane, Halkyard, Harlow, Hillary, Holland, Huffer, Ibbotson, Jancey, Joynson, Kemp, Lusty, McKelvie, Moulding, Oatway, Owston, Porter, Rashleigh, Renshaw, Ronshausen, Santry, Shillaker, Steers, Tharby, Traud, Wadey, Whitcher. ■

Geoff Riggs

As we went to press, we were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Geoff Riggs. Geoff joined the Guild in 1995, studying Riggs and variants. He was a former Vice Chairman of the Guild and Chairman of the FFHS. He was Chairman of the Association of Family History Societies of Wales and a Trustee of the Halstead Trust. Geoff will be sadly missed.

Forthcoming Seminars

19th November 2011

Railway Records Seminar

You would be hard done by if there was not a railway worker in your ancestry or one-name study. We have selected this magnificent venue and requested some of the county's most recognised specialists on the subject of railways to speak about old railway records and associated trade unions. To start us off, a member of the museum staff will explain just what they hold; should you wish to include this in your visit. Maybe you would like to stay an extra day, as we will have a full session?

Venue: STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway, Kemble Drive, Swindon, SN2 2TA

18th February 2012

Aldershot Army Seminar

Where better for a seminar on Army Records than at the home of the British Army, Aldershot? Not quite Aldershot, but at Ash Victoria Hall, some 3 miles to the east. Ash is home to the Army Medical Services Museum at Keogh Barracks. We shall be assembling a group of experts and trust you will join us.

Venue: Ash Victoria Hall, 121 Ash Hill Road, Ash, Surrey, GU12 5DN

May 2012

Industrial Revolution Seminar

The seminar will give everyone who has interest in research around the time of the Industrial Revolution, 18th to 19th century. We shall have a selection of speakers specialising in the Surnames or population movements around this time period.

Venue: West Midlands

The Art Of ONS

13th August 2011, Colonel Dane Memorial Hall, Church Street, Alwalton, PE7 3UU
Near Peterborough
Just off the A1

Sponsored by the
Halsted Trust



This seminar is directed at new members and those interested in joining the Guild with an emphasis on what an ONS entails, and will also provide a useful update on new methods and facilities for established members. A specialist panel is planned to address submitted questions from attendees and members at large.

Programme

- 09.30 - 10.00 Arrival: Registration and Coffee
- 10.00 - 10.10 Welcome and Introduction
- 10.10 - 10.30 Background to the Halsted Trust: A Large Study – Derek Palgrave
- 10.30 - 11.30 Using Custodian - Alan Moorhouse and Chris Gray
- 11.30 - 12.25 Harnessing the 'Facebook' Generation: the future of your one-name study - Dr Janet Few
- 12.25 - 13.30 Finger Buffet Lunch & Opportunity to talk and see displays
- 13.30 - 14.15 The Guild website - Anne Shankland
- 14.15 - 14.40 Some recent Guild Projects and Initiatives - John Coldwell
- 14.40 - 15.25 A brief overview of online and other sources - Richard Heaton
- 15.25 - 15.45 Tea Break
- 15.45 - 16.50 Specialist Panel - Running an ONS
What new members want to know
- 16.50 Close of seminar

Cost £5 including buffet lunch. To make the day more interactive everyone is invited to bring along details of their studies for display and sharing. We shall have pin boards available and the seminar co-ordinator will liaise with you beforehand. For more background information and booking on-line see www.one-name.org/events.html.

Disabled delegates: We would like to ensure that any disabled delegate can participate fully in this event. If you need any special requirements please telephone the Guild Help Desk below.

Postal booking forms may also be obtained from the Guild website or by telephoning the Guild Help desk Tel: 0800 011 2182. ■



Pictures from the Northumberland Mining Seminar Woodhorn Archives, Ashington

Vol 10 Issue 11 July—September 2011



Main inset: Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives. **Top left:** Sue Wood – Chief Woodhorn Archivist. **Middle left:** Kev Duncan of the Durham Mining Museum. **Bottom left to right:** Woodhorn Memorial and Pit Head, Geoff Nicholson, Gill Parkes – Durham County Records Office, Woodhorn Memorial and Pit Head.

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