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30th

Annual Conference

Review & Photos

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of One-Name Studies

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MAIN ARTICLES

- 5** Seeking Cumpstons Everywhere by Glenys Marriott
- 8** Pharos Tutor's Course Review - Introduction To One-Name Studies
by Gillian Stevens, Trevor Holmden & John Darwood
- 10** 30th Annual Conference and AGM 2009 by Anni Berman & Judy Cooper
- 12** Photo Report - 30th Guild Conference
- 17** Computing For ONS Beginners - 2. Spreadsheets by John Coldwell
- 20** Adultery, Incest & Subterfuge by Dr. Tam Llewellyn-Edwards

GUILD REPORTS - NEWS - EVENTS

- 9** 500th Guild Profile
- 14** And The Winner Is... by Anne Shankland & Keith Bage
- 24** Non-UK Sources for One-Namers - Seminar Report by Sue Horsman
- 25** Forthcoming Seminars
- 27** One-Name Mail
- 27** Obituary - Fred W Hobson

REGULARS

- 4** From The Chairman's Keyboard by Peter Walker
- 13** Registrars Notes by David Mellor
- 22** A View From The Bookstall by Howard Benbrook
- 26** Marriage Challenge Update by Peter Copsey

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 Peter Walker

As is usual at this time of the year, I start by mentioning the very successful Annual Conference and AGM held at Peterborough. We had a record attendance and everyone seems to have enjoyed the weekend. If the Conference continues at this level of attendance then it will bring some challenges for future years. Indeed, the number attending this year already exceeds the number of rooms available for next year's conference at Oxford. Longer term, it does reduce the range of hotels which can accommodate us – we are now at the level of a large corporate event; the only advantage is that our event is at a weekend. The Committee has started to consider what locations we might target for future years. On the one hand, the success of some of our northern seminars suggests that we do have support away from the Home Counties and should therefore try to take the conference to as many parts of the country as we can. On the other hand, experience suggests we have a hard core of members who will attend wherever the conference is held – indeed last year's location at Bideford proved very popular. On balance we feel we should find a northern venue for 2011 and then think about other parts of the country where we have not yet held a conference. If you know of locations that could accommodate 100-120 at a weekend, please let us know.

As always, I delivered my annual report to the AGM covering all aspects of the Guild. For those of you who were unable to attend, you will find my report in full within the Chairman's Corner area of the member's room at <http://www.one-name.org/members/chairman/2009AGMreport.pdf>

New Committee

The AGM also brought a new Committee – well plenty of familiar faces, I suppose, but some departures and some arrivals. Those elected were:

- Gordon Adshead
- Keith Bage
- Peter Copsey
- Stephen Daglish
- Kirsty Gray
- Peter Hagger
- Cliff Kemball
- David Mellor
- Paul Millington
- Roy Rayment
- Anne Shankland
- Sandra Turner
- Peter Walker

You will notice that we are two under strength, which wouldn't be a major concern as long as we could fill all the key posts. Unfortunately this isn't so. After many years, Ken Toll has stepped down from the Committee. Ken has always been one of those members of whom one could say "if you want a job done well, give it to a busy man". But after many years, variously as Registrar, Chairman, Production Manager and Chair of the Marketing Subcommittee (MarkSub), he has rightly decided he needs more time to devote to other aspects of his life and genealogy. Unfortunately, nobody has come forward to take on the roles of Production Manager or Chair of MarkSub. So regrettably, the Committee has had to cease MarkSub. In the short term, our new member Stephen Daglish is looking at what advertising we currently have contracted for, with some useful input from Susan Meates who adds a US perspective. Others are helping to ensure that the various flyers are produced for the Journal inserts. But we do need YOUR support here. Without members coming forward to take on the role of Production Manager or assist with Marketing, the Guild cannot continue to operate as it has done in recent years. Added to that, David Mellor has announced that he is to step down as Registrar next April, so we are also looking for someone to take on this vital role. Both David and I would be pleased

to speak with anyone who might be interested in taking on this interesting role – one of the few Guild posts that requires some genealogical expertise, as well as good administration and tact.

On a more positive note, Ken Mycock has ably taken over as Data Manager from Gerald Cooke – this is the role that manages the one-name.org alias addresses. Ken has also agreed to assist me with the management of the WARP membership list.

Perhaps the most successful Guild services are those where members help each other and Marriage Challenge is the best known of these. But don't forget we have now launched our own "Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness" (RAOGK), where you both request help from others and offer services to other Guild members. Do visit the RAOGK area of the Members' Room and see if there's anything you can assist with, or if someone's offering just the help you need.

Offline Members

Of course, the facilities mentioned above are online ones and much of the Guild's focus in recent years has been on delivering services through the website. We haven't forgotten our non-online members, but they now represent at most 13% of members, far fewer than in earlier times. We publicise Marriage Challenges and Seminars in the Journal and Roy Rayment, our Front Office Manager, is always available via the Guild's Freephone number 0800 011 2182 (UK only) to supply material from the website for those who are not online. In addition, the Editor is always happy to have articles about doing one-name studies from 'offline' members.

I trust you all have a pleasant summer, but still find time to take your studies forward. ■

Seeking CUMPSTONS Everywhere

by **Glenys Marriott**

We all do it don't we – chase across the country searching for missing relatives, getting the feel of a place which until recently we had never even heard of, soaking up the atmosphere of bygone generations and trying to tune in to the vibes of what would have been their daily lives. I'd done Whitby and Hull, Bourne, Aylsham and Brough, but never anywhere abroad.

For my 60th birthday I dreamed up a special adventure – a one-off certainly, a mad escape maybe, and put it to my long-suffering and patient husband that this is what I wanted to do to celebrate: I wanted to follow Dr. John Stanley Cumpston of Australia to Macquarie Island, a Sub-Antarctic Island administered by Tasmania, and then sail on to the Ross Sea in Antarctica.

John Stanley and I share a 3 x great grandfather William Cumpston born about 1769 in Hull. John Stanley Cumpston was born on 6th March 1909 in Perth, Australia, to John Howard Lidgett Cumpston and Gladys Maeva Walpole. His father held an important place in Australian medical history, as the first director-general of the Australian Department of Health. The children were exposed at an early age to both research and adventure by parents with a love of learning, who published widely and encouraged travel.

John Stanley became a graduate of the University of Melbourne in Arts and Law and a Doctor of Letters in Political Geography. He was an historian in the Department of External Affairs in Canberra and married Helen Dunbar. They had 2 sons and 2 daughters.

For the last 10 years I have been steadily collecting copies of the books written by John and his illustrious relatives. The book that set me off

on this exciting trail though was *'Macquarie Island'* – John's definitive work in the field of Sub-Antarctic history which, to quote the publishers, *'takes its place as a classic in the Antarctic story.'*

In the introduction to his book John described how there was no available useful history of any of the Sub-Antarctic Islands. *'Standing in splendid isolation in the stormy Southern Ocean these islands form a ring of tiny stepping stones between more temperate lands and the ice-covered slopes of the Antarctic Continent. They offer only a precarious foothold and little shelter to those who seek to tarry there.'* With those two sentences he had fired in me a passionate desire to see them for myself, to understand what had led him to want to write their history, and to feel their splendid isolation.

Macquarie Island

Published in Canberra in 1968, John's book describes Macquarie Island, situated some thousand miles south of Tasmania. It was not discovered until 1810, and over the next 100 years the island's great natural wealth was exploited by both the fur and the oil industries. The *'Perseverance'* a Sydney sealing vessel discovered it, abounding in fur seals and sea elephants, and despite its bitter weather, it attracted ventures from Australia and New Zealand, at first



Fig. 1 Oil digesters on Macquarie Island, used for elephant seal oil

seeking fur skins, and then valuable sea elephant oil.

The oil industry lasted for over a hundred years. In 1890 the killing of penguins for oil began but in 1919 the Tasmanian Government called a halt following representations from a number of scientific organizations.

As a member of the Department since 1935, John had followed developments in the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic Islands, and assisted the chief cartographer to prepare the first reliable map of the area, published in 1939. As an Intelligence Officer with the Allied Geographical Section, he compiled a number of topographical studies for use in operations planning. John served in the Army during World War II, enlisting at Paddington New South Wales on 17th October 1940 and he was discharged on 25th April 1945, reaching the final rank of Captain in Intelligence Corp L HQ.¹

In my copy of one of his books *'First Visitors to Bass Strait'* (1973) John was shown as living at 42 Araba Street, Aranda, ACT. 2614. The fly leaf states *'since his retirement, as a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University he studied American whaling in Pacific and Australian waters. He is now editing the Roebuck Series devoted to Australian history, particularly local history.'* John was obviously ahead of his time as in 1963 he wrote in the Royal Geographical Society about the *'Probable Disintegration of Antarctica'*.² He died on 6th August 1986 and is buried in the Canberra Woden Cemetery.

Cumpston Glacier and Massif

Over the years I discovered that not only did he write about the Antarctic, he also had an Antarctic glacier and massif named after him. Now that was definitely a first in our family history – a fact that so impressed my 7 year old grandson Max that he wrote about it in his homework!

At 73°36 S 66°48 E the massif is a prominent, flat-topped rock outcrop, about 2,070 m high, 14.5 km long and 7-13 km wide, at the junction of the Lambert and Mellor Glaciers in MacRobertson Land. Discovered in November, 1956, from an ANARE³ aircraft, it was named for John who, with E.P. Bayliss, was responsible for the map of Antarctica published in 1939.⁴

Needless to say I bought the map and the book and from Wikipedia found a photograph of the glacier, but it quickly became obvious that I would be unable to visit this remote area as no company included it in their expeditions as it was too difficult to reach.

There are two major gateways to Antarctica, South America or New Zealand and Australia. The majority of visitors use the South American gateway and only a small number travel from New Zealand or Australia. The New Zealand/Australia gateway is often referred to as the 'Historic Gateway' because it was from here the great polar explorers like Scott, Shackleton, Amundsen and Mawson departed for Antarctica. It is also the more challenging of the two gateways. Distances are greater and access is limited to just three months of each year when the fast ice breaks out. The greater distances also mean longer expeditions, in the unbelievably rough Southern Ocean.

Only a couple of operators do this expedition and I chose Heritage Expeditions⁵ in New Zealand as they did both Macquarie and the Ross Sea on their visit to the Explorers' Huts of Scott and Shackleton. They take 48 people, twice a year, and the waiting list was three years! Each trip was at sea for 31 days, and we were warned that these were not cruises, they were expeditions, and we should be prepared for harsh environments. We duly updated our wills and planned to leave our affairs in order. Our trip was confirmed for February 8th 2009, and we were to spend January holidaying in New Zealand before we boarded the "Spirit of Enderby" or "Professor Khromov", as it was registered in Russia.

Rough Seas

After a stunning month in New Zealand, we headed to Invercargill and Bluff Point, to find our Russian ship waiting – it looked extremely tiny and very battered. Passengers who had just completed the first trip of the year disembarked looking green with sea sickness, having had 7 days of pounding in the Southern Ocean. No turning back for us though - we were on our way.

As we sailed south of New Zealand we visited two Sub-Antarctic Island, The



Fig. 2 The Spirit of Enderby

Snares and Enderby, before starting the 2 day haul to Macquarie. Ray and I were fortunate to be members of the special group who didn't get sea sick – but it was a very tiny group! We faced huge 30 and 40 foot swells, and discovered en route that the stabilizing fins had been damaged on the last journey back from the ice. Subsequently the anchor also broke, leaving us unable to secure the ship at night and with no stabilisers.

The excitement of visiting Macquarie Island was to be the highlight of our month at sea for me. Located at 54°30' S 158°57' E Macquarie Island is a Sub-Antarctic island in the Southern Ocean, approximately half way between Australia and Antarctica. It is a Tasmanian State Reserve managed by the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service. Macquarie is Australia's prized Sub-Antarctic possession, small but impressive and a World Heritage Site. It supports one of the highest concentrations of wildlife in the southern hemisphere. Millions of penguins of four different species – King, Rockhopper, Gentoo and the endemic Royal breed here.



Fig. 3 Research Station on Macquarie Island⁶

Australia operates a research station at the northern end of the island from which a wide range of research is carried out.

Although I had expected to enjoy the island, I had not bargained for the tremendous impact of the wildlife

that we were to enjoy. We first took on board the two Tasmanian Park Rangers who were to accompany us on a tour of the station and nearby areas. The ship then headed over to Sandy Bay, where we landed to the high squawks and yells of King Penguins and the Skuas, vying with each other for supremacy.

The King Penguin rookery at Sandy Bay is spectacular. A welcoming committee porpoised around our zodiacs as a quarter of a million King Penguins stood at attention on shore. We spent all day just sitting in the sand communing with them, avoiding the sparring Elephant Seals and laughing as the Skuas got beaten around the head by forceful adult King Penguins.



Fig. 4 The Welcome committee, with over 1 million penguins in background

There can be few opportunities in life to just sit and stare, and be fully satiated with all the senses reeling – certainly the sounds of the birds was enchanting, the Elephant Seals growling at each other during their annual moult was hilarious, and the delightful antics of the smaller Royal penguins were both funny and quaint. We thought the Royals had a pretty poor PR, as everyone's attention was drawn to the gorgeous Kings who wanted to search our ruck sacks, poke around in our pockets and generally 'be one of the group'.

After a good dinner and an early night we went ashore again the following day, this time to visit the research station, based on the low lying isthmus at the eastern end of the island. Our guides once more walked us around their patch, sharing lots of information and insights into daily life in a company of just 13 people all winter, rising to the high of 45 in mid-summer.

Not all the staff there are scientific researchers. One of our guides was

the station carpenter, who told us that he'd applied for the position when he was tired of submitting estimates for building work in Australia. He was so excited by life at the station that he was hoping one day to repeat the exercise in the Antarctic itself!

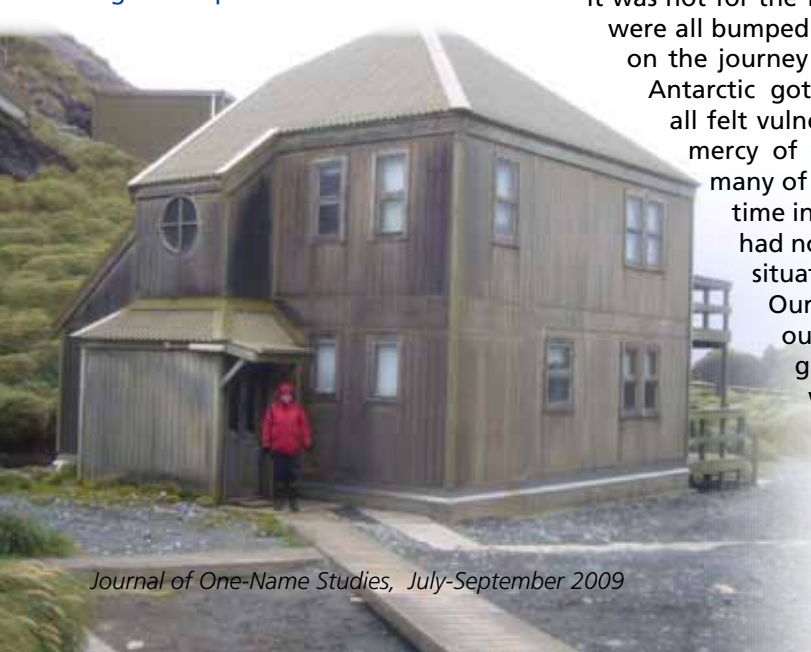
Three million Royal Penguins breed on Macquarie Island, and other wildlife includes Fur Seals, four species of nesting albatross – Wandering, Black Browed, Grey Headed and Light-mantled Sooty as well as many other species of birds. At the end of a splendid morning we were taken back to the mess for hot scones and coffee, and for me a delightful surprise awaited – the latest hut for researchers to live in had been completed and named after J S Cumpston!

What a great surprise! It left me with very special memories for the rest of the trip. All the researchers knew of his work and books, and were amazed that one of his relatives should follow him to Macquarie.

Tragedy Strikes

After two splendid days we headed south to the ice. The sea was rough and dangerous and many of us became bumped and bruised as we tried to move around the ship. Increasingly the outer doors were locked to prevent disaster. Distressingly, on day 5, in awful stormy seas, one of our group was thrown in her cabin, hit her head, and died almost immediately. This put an understandable dampener on the rest of us, and we ensured that thereafter we were extra careful – even showering or dressing were at the extremes of our abilities in some of the rough seas.

Fig 5. Cumpston House



When we finally reached the Antarctic seas, things became calmer, and there was huge excitement as we saw the first icebergs.

Crawling over my 1939 Cumpston map I followed our progress round Cape Adair, into McMurdo Sound and through the Ross Sea to the 400 mile long Ross Ice Shelf. We sailed for 2 whole days under the smoking peak of Mr. Erebus. The ice was breathtaking, and our trips to the huts most memorable. Deep in history and preserved in time, they were a poignant reminder of those astounding expeditions. As some of the fortunate few who have ever visited the huts we felt very conscious of just how far we were from help had it been needed, and how desolate and challenging the weather was.

In each hut we signed the visitors' book. I usually sign such books with my name and email address and the short 'Seeking CUMPSTONS everywhere' tagline. For our visit to the Antarctic I signed instead 'Following Dr J. S. Cumpston'. On our return journey we managed to land at Cape Adair and visited Borchgrevink's Hut for the Southern Cross Expedition (1898-1900), the oldest hut in the Antarctic. After signing the book, I had to laugh at my husband Ray who wrote 'Following Glenys!'.

We experienced minus 20 degrees plus wind-chill at the height of summer, and wearing 5 layers of clothing were relatively snug and warm. Compared with the lives of those original explorers we were pampered.

This was my 'trip of a lifetime' and it was not for the faint hearted. We were all bumped and bruised, and on the journey to and from the Antarctic got little sleep. We all felt vulnerable and at the mercy of the sea, and for many of us it was the first time in our lives that we had no control over the situation we were in. Our admiration for our Russian captain grew every day as we sailed through those majestic icebergs.



Fig 6. Visitors Book

Final Thoughts...

Was it worth it? Undoubtedly, yes! Having read all John's books, I could have imagined the places about which he wrote, but could never have felt the connection I now have. Just as CUMPSTONS are 'mine', so now is Macquarie Island. As my grandsons grow older I shall want to pass on to them the love for this incredibly challenging area, excite them with the stories of what we saw, and of the people who discovered these amazing places. I now know just why John Stanley Cumpston wrote so prolifically about the Antarctic.....it got under my skin and my genes responded!

If any Guild members have a family connection with the Scott 1911 expedition I brought back with me some very special photographs which I am willing to share.

If you are interested in seeing more of the trip you can visit our blog at www.getjealous.com/glenys and read more of John Stanley and his family at www.cumpston.org.uk

1. Source: Peter Proctor, 'Biological Register of Canberra and Queanbeyan' Canberra, Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra, 2001, p.65. WW11 Nominal Roll www.ww2roll.gov.uk

2. Taylor, G., Cumpston, J RGS Monthly issue. Royal Geographical Society. London. Journal for June 1963, pp 190-191 (+) Searle, D.

3. ANARE - Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions

4. Property and Survey Branch, Dept. of the Interior, Canberra.

5. Heritage Expeditions: <http://www.heritage-expeditions.com/>

6. Photo courtesy of Australian Antarctic Division.

Pharos Tutors Course Introduction to One-Name Studies

By **Gillian Stevens, Trevor Holmden and John Darwood**

This article provides a review of the first recently completed on-line course entitled *"Introduction to One-Name Studies"*. It represents the views of three of the participants of the course: **Trevor Holmden**, new to the Guild as a result of enrolling on the course; **Gillian Stevens**, a relatively new member of the Guild with around eighteen months experience of undertaking a one-name study; and **John Darwood**, a more experienced one-namer and Guild member.

This five week course began at the end of April. It has been organised by Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Ltd in association with the Guild of One Name Studies. It is an online course, run by Helen Osborn and is suitable for everyone interested in One Name Studies regardless of whether they have just begun thinking about starting a study or whether they have been actively involved in a study for decades. Your place of residence is unimportant as students from all five continents can participate as long as they have access to email and the Internet.

Thanks to excellent advance publicity, the first run of the course for April/May 2009 was fully subscribed within hours of the booking lines being opened, with participants from all over the UK, Ireland, Australia and the US.

Course Structure

The course consisted of five weekly on-line lessons with "homework", each followed by an on-line chat with optional team tasks. The course structure is based around four different components as follows:

1. **The Lessons.** Each Monday, an email is received consisting of 12-15 pages in PDF format containing material pertaining to that week's topic. Copious



notes are given together with web sites links to go and visit, plus 3 or 4 exercises. The five lessons covered the following topics: Why do a One-Name study?; the size and logistics of such a project; distributions of your One-Name people; Surnames and their history; Core records you will need and information gathering; Analysing and making sense of your data, and finally, Practical aspects of running your own One Name Study.

2. **A Forum.** This is where further course information is provided. It also serves as a place where answers to the lessons can be posted (answers are not essays but are usually a few sentences long), as well as participants questions and other observations.
3. **Chat sessions** (this is chatting by written word not speech). Because of the diverse location of the students from UK, US and Australia, there were two sessions most weeks. This allowed every student the ability to choose a day and time during the week where they could get together with others on the course. The Chat sessions are facilitated by Helen to enable

discussion to take place about the course as well as other topics of concern to one-namers.



4. **A Group Project.** There were two projects offered to the participants – one on 'Drawing up a project plan to set up a one-name study' and the other on 'Data mining on the Internet'. Each participant could decide which they preferred to take part in.

Trevor Holmden

Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Ltd. was founded by Sherry Irvine and Helen Osborn and they have been producing excellence in online family history courses since 2005. Their collaboration with the Guild of One Name Studies has also produced another successful course and I am writing as somebody who has been a family historian for more than 30 years but, having only registered Holmden with variant Homden with the Guild in the last few months.



For me the first important point to come from the course is perhaps the similarities as well as the differences between family history and one name studies. A one name study involves the collection of all mentions of a surname and therefore involves large amounts of worldwide data mining. Family history is more about collecting

information to produce family trees and I hope that for me both will be mutually inclusive.

The course also included interesting information about effective research and a paper by Cliff Kemball, Guild Treasurer, called 'Organising a One Name Study'. As somebody who is new to the Guild I was also impressed by the information available to members in the Guild Knowledge Store (the "Guild Wiki") something that I hope will continue to expand.

"I would recommend it to any new or senior member of the Guild"

...Trevor Holmden

When the participants on the course were asked the question of how they stored their data it seemed to produce as many different answers as there were students. This would be a good course for the future bearing in mind that not all new members are computer experts and would be of great value to an inexperienced Guild member. The decision about what system is used becomes more important once the study moves to the stage of synthesis (analysis) of the stored data and drawing conclusions. Publishing and publicising your study are also important as you progress as is safeguarding and preserving your One-Name study for the future.

The course was well written with excellent tutoring from Helen Osborn

and I would recommend it to any new or senior member of the Guild. I have done many courses with Pharos Teaching and Tutoring and I would also wholeheartedly recommend any of the courses to anyone whether beginner or experienced who wanted to expand his or her knowledge of family and social history.

Gillian Stevens

The course allowed all students to re-visit the objectives of their study whether these were made last week or thirty years ago. The course has given me the opportunity to realise that I have started my ONS the right way. Using the knowledge gained over the last five weeks I can hopefully continue to grow my study so that not only does it give me pleasure but can also help others with an interest in the surname. The course has galvanised my thinking, given me lots of things to view and do, as well as given me confidence to set about thinking of publishing my findings. I have also gained many friends through the group tasks and chat sessions and it is their combined enthusiasm and encouragement which is going to help all of us to continue successfully with our research.

"It helped me to focus on the objectives of my study"

...Gillian Stevens



John Darwood

The teaching pace was busy and one needed to devote several hours each week to derive the best from the course. Both newer and experienced genealogists alike had much to gain and I thoroughly enjoyed it.



Personally, my learning included genealogy together with on-line Forums, Chatzy rooms (Chat sessions) and the joys of Google docs with 24/7 access to all participants, meaning that Group tasks could be added to, wherever in the world the participants were located – we quickly embraced these useful tools.

"Both newer and experienced genealogists had much to gain"

...John Darwood

Finally, we would all like to thank our tutor Helen Osborn, and the committee of GOONS involved in developing this new course and we look forward to participating in further on-line Pharos/GOONS courses.

This course is being repeated in June 2009 and again in September 2009. Please see www.pharostutors.com for the latest details on the next available "Introduction to One-Name Studies" course. ■

500th Guild Profile

A small landmark was reached in May when the 500th Guild Profile was created by member No. 5140, Mr Gary Barton of Texas. The number of profile pages has been steadily increasing and it was only a matter of time before the 500 mark was reached. If you do not yet have a Profile page, it is worth looking at what can be achieved and the benefits this can provide.

The Guild created this facility as a simple way for members to publicise their studies on-line without the need to create and maintain their own website. No technical knowledge is required; the content is created by completing a form on the Guild web

site. For any members still feeling unsure about getting started, Roy Rayment can talk you through the process. Just call Roy on the Guild's freephone Helpline number 0800 011 2182 during UK working hours.

Profile pages usually achieve a high ranking on Internet search engines, such as Google, so that anyone searching for the surname you are studying will be directed to your profile page. Profile pages can include contact details and visitor counter.

Collectively, the Guild Profiles now form an important resource for surname research. Unlike surname dictionaries, where little dedicated

research can be undertaken on each entry and where in many cases authors have largely copied from past dictionaries, our surname entries are the result of lengthy and dedicated research by experts in their respective names.

Congratulations to Gary Barton for creating the landmark profile for the Barton One-Name Study. The Barton Historical Society already has its own website, the Barton Database, and there is a link to this from Gary's Profile page.

Thanks must also go to Paul Millington who created the Profile facility and has continued to upgrade it over the years, which is now being used by a large number of members – and we hope that this number continues to grow. ■

The Guild of One-Name Studies

30th Annual Conference and AGM 2009

By **Anni Berman & Judy Cooper**

This year's annual conference and AGM at the Holiday Inn in Peterborough was a very special one, as it celebrated the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Guild in 1979.

Conference is always fun and interesting, and this year's was no exception. Everything seemed to flow very smoothly, and our thanks go to Kirsty Gray and her team for all their hard work in putting on such an enjoyable weekend.

We reached the venue earlier than expected, having reassured the SatNav that in the final part of the journey we were driving on a new road and not, as she thought, a field! On arrival we were greeted by the ever-enthusiastic Kirsty and were presented with eye-catching mugs and document bags designed by Ken Toll to celebrate the 30th anniversary – thanks Ken, for the attractive and useful souvenirs.

Check-in at the hotel was extremely efficient, but the lift was broken, so we lugged our cases up two flights of stairs then headed for the bar to enjoy a tasty lunch. Socialising and laughter began at that point and didn't stop until we left on the Sunday afternoon.

On Friday evening we had our meal and the "I never knew that" moments began. One of the great joys of conference is exchanging anecdotes, tips and information with other members. Several of us were grateful to Mary and Phill Brinson for telling us about the "download" feature on Find My Past... how did we manage to miss it for so long? (Top of the results page – press the "download" button and you can send all the data straight to an Excel spreadsheet, if there's anyone else out there who hasn't found it yet!)

The first presentation of the conference took place after Friday's evening meal, when our own Howard Benbrook, entertaining as always,

gave us masses of information about researching in London. His talk covered records available, e.g. Old Bailey, Tower Hamlets BMD index, Charles Booth Online Archive and many ways of finding excellent historical maps of London.

Friday evening was rounded off, as ever, by more socialising in the bar. It's always good to meet up with "old" friends, and to make new ones, which in the Guild often means putting a face to a name you already know from the forum, the register, Marriage Challenge etc.

Saturday

Saturday dawned, not enough sleep – will we ever learn?!

When we all reconvened on Saturday morning we began with a one minute silence in memory of Sydney Brewin MBE, a founder member and former Treasurer and Vice-President of the Guild who died recently. Derek Palgrave then welcomed us officially and declared the conference open. The AGM began, and Peter Walker, our Chairman, presented the Committee's report giving a very encouraging résumé of the Guild's activities over the past year, and yet again demonstrated the extraordinary range of projects being undertaken. The rest of the AGM business followed, and at the end, Anne Shankland, our webmaster, presented the prizes for the Guild Publication Awards (see separate feature).

The first lecture on the Saturday was from John Titterton and was entitled "Records before the Tudors – what chance?". It was fascinating to hear how many pre-Tudor records still exist. John mentioned Fine Rolls, Close Rolls, Patent Rolls, Inquisitions, Visitations and Manorial Records to name but a few, and referred us to the Guild Wiki for more information – look under "English Medieval Sources".



John Titterton

Ian Waller gave the second talk of the day on "Researching before Parish Records". This sounded as if it was going to be an exact duplicate of the first lecture, but it was entirely different. Ian started by saying that in pre-Tudor research it is important to know where your people lived and that there can be difficulties in following female lines. He added that Latin was the official language and recommended TNA's short Latin course (on their website).



Ian Waller

Ian said that status and wealth makes a great difference to the availability of the records but warned that much of the wording in early records is highly abbreviated and that the continuity of generations through these records

cannot be guaranteed. Ian seemed to pack about 3 hours worth of content into a one hour slot, and there were no doubt some sore hands at the end from the note-taking, but he did impart a vast amount of information.

After a tasty lunch where we met more friendly members of the Guild, several of whom were attending conference for the first time, Audrey Linkman gave an enthralling guide to "interpreting your family photos". It was fascinating to discover the subtle messages which could be conveyed by the photographs from the pose of the subjects and the setting or the objects used in the photos. The afternoon's lecture programme was rounded off by Eve McLaughlin helping those of us who were still awake by that time to "get to grips with old handwriting".

After a tea break there were two workshops to choose from, one led by Eve McLaughlin about old handwriting, and the one we attended, led by Audrey Linkman, who told us a great deal more about the development of photography and then commented on many photos brought to conference by members, suggesting dates, meanings, relationships and so on. Iain Swinnerton was also very helpful to several members who had military photos with them.



Audrey Linkman

The Saturday evening banquet is always a highlight of the weekend, and this one was as good as ever. In celebration of the 30th birthday of the Guild, a number of founder members were presented with certificates of appreciation, and a large cake was cut. There was also a 1970s themed fancy dress competition, and although there were fewer entrants than last year, those who had made the effort really had gone to town. No-one who

attended is likely to forget "punks" Jeanne Bunting and John Hanson! A late night, as always, but great fun.

Sunday

Sunday morning began with an ecumenical service for those who wanted to attend, a Regional Rep's meeting for those heroic enough to volunteer, and coffee for the rest of us. The first lecture by Kathy Chater was an interesting and informative one on Coroner's records, and she explained a good deal about the way the system worked and the people it encompassed. Our ancestors could have been involved in many ways; as victim, beadle, jurors or witnesses. Kathy recommended comparing the coroner's records with contemporary newspaper reports as the two together often give a very good picture of what happened.



Kathy Chater

Ian Tester from findmypast.com followed with an enlightening and superbly presented talk on the issues of digitisation relating to the 1911 census. The point was well and truly made about what an extraordinary feat it had been to achieve digitisation of such a huge set of records in such a short time. Amazingly, not a single question was asked about the cost of viewing the records, but some members still expressed concerns about the transcription being done overseas, since genealogists understand the enormous value of local knowledge when transcribing historical records. The explanation was that it was a logistical issue to do with the speed necessary to enable the transcription to be done within the timescale. Each piece number had a seven day turn around from scanning to completion – including the transcription!

After lunch, Debra Chatfield, Marketing Manager for findmypast.com led us through some of the schedules from the 8 million households in the 1911 census. She explained that this was the first time the household schedules had ever been retained, that new questions about the length of the current marriage and the number of children were asked, and that the 1911 census was the first one in which British soldiers serving abroad were recorded. Fascinating examples of household schedules followed, ranging from Victor Prout who refused to fill in his form "until women's enfranchisement becomes law", to Joseph Parrish of no address who "slept out in the brickyard" and "Peter Tabby, occupation Mouser" whose entry has been crossed through in red by the enumerator with the disgusted comment "This is a cat"!

Debra also assured us that any images and transcripts we pay to look at now are stored in the "My Records" section of the website and will be available for us to consult again at any time in the future, including after 2012 when the redacted information in the last column will become available without us having to pay again. When the enumerator's walks come on-line, we shall be able to access the entries relevant to the schedules we have already paid to look at, through "My Records" at no extra cost.

Conference ended as it had begun, with an inspiring Guild member as the speaker. Paul Millington gave us an incredibly thought-provoking talk looking back on how genealogy has developed in the thirty year life of the Guild, and forward to the possible developments in the next thirty years up to 2039. What will be digitised and available to us in the future? As the government has so much information on us from other sources, will it be able to justify the expense of a future census, or will the 2011 UK census be the last one ever? Will the trend towards fewer marriages mean that surnames will increasingly pass down the female line, and if so, what are the implications for DNA studies and One-Name Research?

We don't know if we'll still be going to conference in 2039 (we hope so!), but in the meantime, the one in 2010 is already in the diary for 9th – 11th April at the Oxford Belfry, Milton Common near Thame. See you there! ■

30th Guild Conference

Photo Report



Left to Right: 1, Kirsty Gray. 2, The Banquet begins. 3, Derek & Pamela Palgrave, just two of the founder members presented with a certificate commemorating 30 years with the Guild. 4, Marion & Jim Filby with Ruth Smith. 5, Winners of the conference quiz, Maureen Selley, Sue Atkins, Teresa Paske & Alan Moorhouse. 6, Teresa & Stuart Paske with their Guild Publications Award certificates. 7 & 8, More fancy dress entrants. 9, Liz & Rod Clayburn. 10, Ken Mycock. 11, Corrinne & Tony Goodenough. 12, Paul Millington presents his thought provoking presentation on the next 30 years for one-name studies & genealogy.





Registrar's Notes

By
David Mellor

Advertising Your One-Name Study

"If You've Got It, Flaunt It!" (title of a song from the 2001 Broadway stage musical "The Producers" written by Mel Brooks 1926-, American writer, composer, lyricist, comedian, actor and producer)

Max Bialystock's Swedish secretary Ulla was not singing about her one-name study in "The Producers" but, had she been, the sentiments expressed would have been equally appropriate. We should all be seeking maximum publicity for our one-name studies if we are going to attract as much information-sharing with contacts as is possible.

Paper

Many locally-based family history societies encourage their members to put study names in a Member's Interests page in their regular newsletters. If you are a member of one or more such societies, make sure you take up these offers as they can be extraordinarily productive for no extra financial cost. If your study name has a geographical hotspot you might want to see if the relevant local newspaper would print an article about your one-name study and invite readers to contact you with information.

Sadly the international Genealogical Research Dictionary is no longer published but it is possible to insert occasional advertisements for your one-name study in the national family history magazines of North America, UK and Australia without having to take out a second mortgage on your home.

Electronic

Nowadays a website is one of the most cost effective ways of advertising your one-name study to the rest of the world and attracting contacts. If you have the necessary skills you can

do it yourself but if not, don't fight shy of getting professional advice or help from knowledgeable friends. Also consider signing up to contact websites such as Genes Reunited, Lost Cousins, Curious Fox and perhaps even Facebook. Lost Cousins now has the facility to accept entries from the 1841 census of England and Wales, the 1880 USA census and the 1881 census of Canada as well as the 1881 census of England, Wales and Scotland. In addition they are now happy to receive one-name study entries as well as direct ancestors and blood relatives.

The Guild

One of the Guild's objectives is to help members to advertise their studies and it tries to do so using both paper and electronic means. I have written in this column previously about the recent changes that have been made in the way studies are recorded in the paper and online Register of One-Name Studies. Up to ten separate properties are now listed for every registered study by the presence or absence of letter symbols. Paul Millington has done an analysis of the recorded properties for all of the current 2141 registered studies (as of mid-May 2009). The results suggest that many members have not yet taken up this new advertising opportunity. Only

352 studies (16%) claim to have any reconstructed trees which suggests serious under-reporting. Only 498 studies (23%) have a Guild Profile and only 221 (10%) have a Guild Archive which means that many members are missing out on these free study advertising facilities. Only 504 studies (24%) have a listed study website, only 152 (7%) have a recorded DNA website and apparently only 63 (3%) produce a regular newsletter, all of which suggest that many members have yet to update their entries.

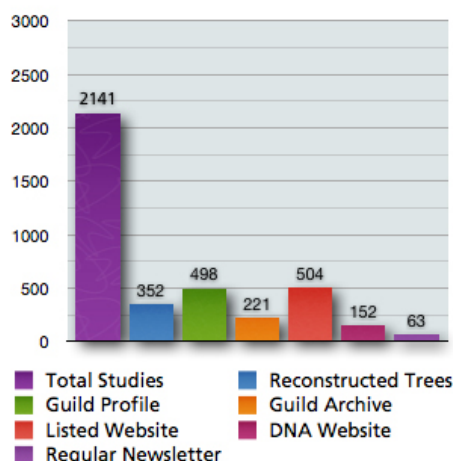
Update Your Entries

If you do not have an Internet connection, check out the required details from the introduction to the 2009 paper Register of One-Name Studies and write to me with your study properties (my address is on the inside of the front cover of this Journal).

Members with an Internet connection should go to the Guild's Members' Room and under 'Self-service', click on 'Change of membership details'. Then on the page that appears click on the third tab 'Change study details'. At the top and bottom of the new page that appears there is information and guidance about the changes you might want to make and, in the middle, the online form on which to make them. When you have completed the changes and/or additions you want to make to the online form, click on the 'Submit changes for Xxxx ONS' box below the form and your study properties update request will have been completed and sent off in next to no time.

As soon as you have updated your study properties for the online and paper Register of One-Name Studies you will feel so elated you will want to sing along with Ulla "I've got it, I've flaunted it, I've stepped right up and strutted my stuff"!

Members per "key" property



And the winner is...

Announcing the winners of our Guild Publication Award

By **Anne Shankland & Keith Bage**

When we announced the new Guild Publication Award, we thought (and hoped) that we would get quite a few entries – but we didn't expect over a hundred! In total, there were 106 entries, and our thanks go to all the Guild members who took part and submitted entries for this competition.

We also didn't expect such a high standard of entries. The books in particular were outstanding, and we found it all but impossible to choose winners. We had announced that entries would be judged on presentation, content, and style, and not on technical wizardry; this seemed to strike a chord with many members, who proved by their entries how much could be done with sometimes very simple means.

Websites

The high level of response to this competition is shown by the number of websites entered. I had expected most of the entries to be websites; and we did in fact get more websites than any other category. But whereas last year when we ran the usual "Best website" competition, we had 11 websites entered; this year, when we opened the competition to all formats, we had 44 websites – four times as many! – not counting Guild profiles and weblogs.

As could be expected from such a large number of entries, the websites presented a remarkable variety. Our criteria for judging included not only the websites' content, navigation, and general usability, but also their overall design and aesthetic appeal – the "wow!" factor. Some of the websites had been generated "by hand", but most had been created by one or other of the special-purpose website production packages available, or in some cases even by commercial website designers. Since we were inter-

ested in presentation, content, and style we ignored this aspect altogether when judging, assessing only the finished result. And we decided that with 44 websites, we should make a first, second and third place selection.

Our choice for first place was the **Adamthwaite Archive** (shown below), submitted by **Sue Mastel**. This site combined a very attractive, elegant appearance with very good content and usability, delightful in many ways (one of the comments on the site said that it was too tempting to spend too long on it looking round!) One of the things I particularly liked about this site was that although it used Flash, for underprivileged browsers without Flash or Javascript the site still worked – it wasn't as pretty, but it did still present the information, and it also explained clearly that the site needed Flash, even providing a download link for it. This website credited SiteMaker 4.0 (at Moonfruit.com) as the web creation tool.



Second place in the websites category went to **Chris Sackett** for the **Sackett Family Association website**, another very attractively designed website (designed using SecondSite), and third place to **Paul Howes** for the **Howes**

Families Genealogy Pages (designed using TNG - The Next Generation of Genealogy Sitebuilding). These two websites were very different in appearance, as these screen images will show, but both were impressive and appealing in their own way.



Profiles & Weblogs

As far as Guild profiles are concerned, we had only 2 entries, and so regrettably we decided that we could not award a prize for this category.

Weblogs, however, provided eight entries, of a consistently high standard (which I think was largely because the "Blogger" templates impose a certain consistency and style on the content). This made it very difficult to pick a winner, and we debated backwards and forwards for some time before selecting the **Pask, Paske One-Name Study blog** entered by **Teresa and Stuart Pask** as our favourite here.



Articles

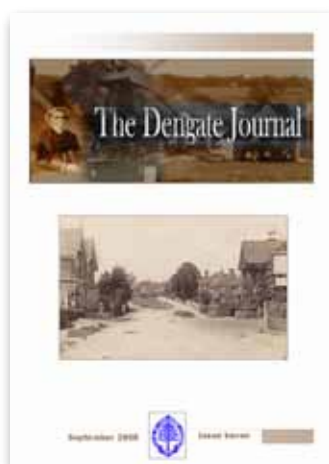
Turning now to printed media, I had expected to see more articles submitted, since articles submitted to the Guild Journal or to other magazines were equally eligible. I was hoping that we would get articles submitted to other magazines, since these would have publicised not only the One-Name Study in question, but also (hopefully) the Guild. But there were only five articles entered, which was a little disappointing, although again these entries showed a wide range of styles and subject matter. The out-and-out winner in this category had to be **Susan Meates'** two-part article in our own JoONS, "**How a DNA Project has produced discoveries...**" (JoONS vol.9 no.1,2) – a unanimous choice by the judges.

Periodicals

Another unanimous choice was made in the case of softcopy (PDF) periodicals. For this award we took the term "periodical" to mean any form of journal, magazine, newsletter, etc., whether regular or not, and including both those sent out by email in the form of a PDF file or similar, and those printed on paper and sent by post. We had expected the former type, the softcopy periodicals, to be superior in presentation to the printed ones, since it costs no more to send out a pdf with plenty of coloured pictures, whereas printing and sending this type of publication in paper form is rather more expensive. But in fact we found little difference in this respect between the hard-copy and the soft-copy entries.

There were 14 entries in this category altogether, six being softcopy and

eight being printed format, and we decided to choose a winner from each of the two subcategories. The soft-copy winner was **Nathan Goodwin** with his **Dengate Journal**, which had not only a very attractive presentation but also masses of great one-name content.

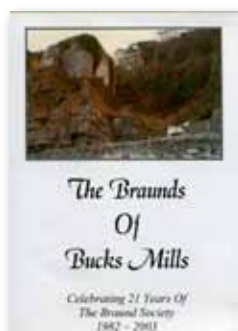


Choosing the hard-copy winner gave us a little more of a problem, but we eventually agreed on **Grubbing Around**, submitted by **Ken Grubb**, with **Soul Search** by **Maureen Storey** as a very close second.



Multimedia

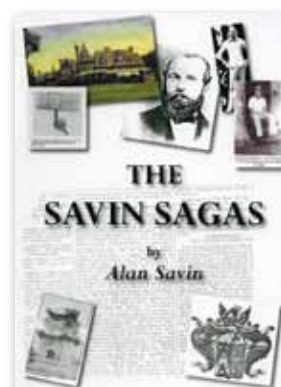
Before I get on to the book entries, I should mention the "multimedia" entries, one being an audio CD and one being a pair of video DVDs. Despite the very small number of entries in this category, we really could not resist giving an award to the video, **The Braunds of Bucks Mills**, entered by **Janet Few and Chris Braund**. This video, which included a guided tour of



the Braunds' area, a videoed meeting and presentation, and interviews with historical Braunds, was in terms of One-Name Study publications such a gift to non-local or overseas Braunds that we felt it well deserved an award.

Booklets

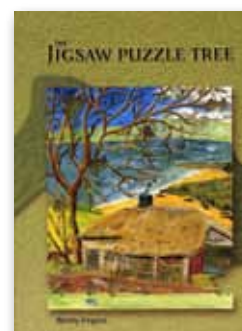
For the purposes of categorisation we defined a "booklet" as being 50 pages or fewer, and this category comprised seven entries. Of these, again the judges were unanimous in choosing **The Savin Sagas**, entered by **Alan Savin**, as the winner.



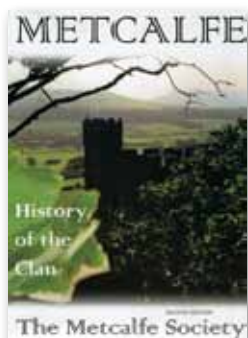
Books

Finally we come to the book entries. There were no fewer than 23 entries in this category, and they were without doubt the hardest to judge. Since many of the entrants have been kind enough to donate their entries to the Guild Library, members will have the opportunity to judge these books for themselves and understand the difficulties we had in choosing between them. We intended to select a first, second and third place from the 23, but this proved all but impossible; we had to supplement this with no fewer than five "highly-commended" awards – each of which, frankly, would be worth a first prize in its own right.

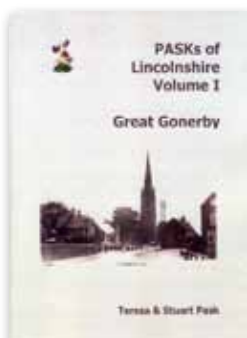
The five "highly commended" entries were (in alphabetical order of study name):



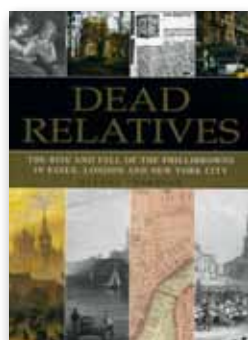
- **The Jigsaw Puzzle Tree** by **Wendy Angove** – one of my particular favourites as it conveyed more than any others the sheer fun of research;



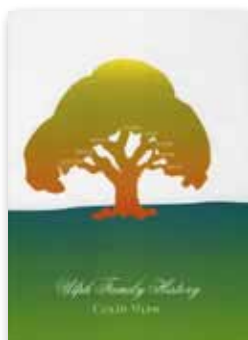
• **Metcalfe: History of the Clan**, entered by Ena Metcalfe – a glossy and well illustrated account of the Metcalfes



• **PASKs of Lincolnshire: v1. Great Gonerby**, by Teresa and Stuart Pask – a magnificent account of one branch of the Pask line, beautifully laid out and illustrated



• **Dead Relatives: The Rise and Fall of the Phillibrowns**, by Glenda Thornton – a splendidly readable account with lots of historical research behind it

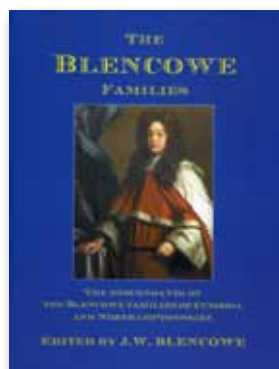


• **Ulph Family History**, by Colin Ulph – another outstanding book, wide ranging and thorough, but eminently readable

In all cases, what we were looking for was a skilful combination of the scholarly and the accessible: the multiple aspects of a one-name study, treated with suitable depth of research, but maintaining clarity and above all, readability. These attributes were plentifully displayed in the books listed above, but our three winners all had in addition a certain special quality which amply justified their awards. They were:

3rd: The Blencowe Families, by Jack Blencowe: In the expected way of things this was almost guaranteed to be a winner: a glorious presentation

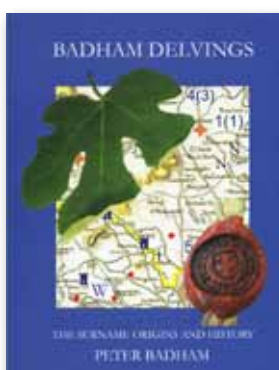
of a notable family, well researched, well narrated, and beautiful to look at.



2nd: The Choyce Compendium, by Betty Choyce Sheehan: A tour de force: A4 format and over 1000 pages of Choyce/Choice family data, all recounted with charm and wit – it is clear that Betty Choyce is a professional writer (and a good one)!



1st: Badham Delvings, by Peter Badham: In betting terms this might have been considered something of the outsider, when in company with the other two books mentioned above. But in terms of the range of topics, and the depth in which they were treated, this book could not be faulted; and to this was added a readability, clarity and charm which led to both of the judges rating it as the winner.



Well done to all the winners – you were worthy winners and we thoroughly enjoyed reading your entries. And for all the others – take heart, your entries may not have won one

of our Guild award certificates, but competition was extremely fierce, the standard was extremely high, and your publications have already done wonders in publicising your One-Name Study to the world. So well done to all the entrants, and thank you again for taking part. We couldn't have done it without you! ■

Loan Scheme

During the competition, we were frequently asked if others would get the opportunity to see the entries. Now that the contest is over and the names of the winners have been published, we can also announce a new facility for members to request a loan of those entries which were generously donated to the Guild Library (this represents almost all of the entries, I am glad to say).

Guild members with access to the website will find details of this new scheme in the Members Room, under the "Library" tab, and will be able to use the online form to request loans of these items. Those without web access can instead call the Guild Helpdesk on 0800 0112182 to find out all about it and to arrange loans.

The new scheme involves prepayment of double the postage and packing costs of the book or books requested; borrowers will receive a reply-paid return label in their parcel for the easy return of the item, which will therefore cost them nothing to return.

We regret that the online loan system has to be restricted to loans within the UK, since postage to other countries can be prohibitively expensive (more than the original cost of the book). However, Guild members in other countries than the UK can request a quotation for their selected item (using the loans web page) – but we can't promise to come up with an acceptable price!

It is hoped that there will be a good take-up of this scheme, despite the costs of postage, since these entries to the Guild Publication Award deserve a wider readership, and I am confident that other one-namers will find them as impressive and inspiring as we, the judges, did.

Computing For ONS Beginners

2. Spreadsheets

By **John Coldwell**

This article assumes the reader has a basic knowledge of spreadsheets. I aim to show how a spreadsheet can be useful for the special needs of a One-Name Study (ONS), including the collection and saving of large amounts of data. The article is based on the use of Microsoft Excel although in most cases other spreadsheet programs will function just as well.

There are two classes of general purpose tools (as opposed to specialised family history programs) for storing and manipulating data – a spreadsheet which provides “flat” database capability and the more flexible “relational” database programs (e.g. Microsoft Access). Spreadsheet programs are lower cost, easier to learn and offer most facilities required for an ONS. One advantage of starting with Excel is that if you wish to upgrade to a database program it is usually possible to import the data directly from Excel.

Excel is not free so it is worth searching for the best price. If you are a ‘student’ (broadly defined) it is possible to buy at a reduced price. The older and cheaper 2003 version is adequate for ONS work.

Excel Workbook Example

This article covers the collection of civil registration data from FreeBMD as well as information from the 1901 census (in this case extracted from Ancestry). To compliment the article much of the detail of building the 1901 Census and the FreeBMD databases are provided in an Excel workbook available from the Guild’s website at <http://www.one-name.org/journal/vol10-3Spreadsheet.xls>. Please follow this link where a window will open offering the options to open or save the file. Open the file using the Excel option. A window will then open asking if you would like to “Disable” or “Enable” macros. You should choose to “Enable” them. The Excel workbook will then open. Save the file as **Spreadsheet.xls** on your computer (and if you wish, put a shortcut on your desktop for quick access). The website can now be closed.

The **Spreadsheet.xls** file should open with 11 sheets accessible via tabs along the bottom of the window. If these are not visible resize the window to view the tabs and scroll bar.

The file includes Excel and VBA functions which can be copied and pasted into your own one-name spreadsheet to perform the various tasks needed to build the databases. No programming knowledge is needed – just copy and paste!

Some general Tips

Many of the spreadsheet processes can be achieved by different methods and the ones given here are the writer’s preference. Other ways may well offer advantages and it is hoped that Guild Members will access this article in the Beginners section of the Guild WIKI and add their own tips.

It is a good idea to learn the keyboard short cuts to speed up selecting, deleting, copying and pasting both for consecutive blocks of cells (with Shift key) and non-consecutive cells (with Ctrl key). This is usually quicker than using a mouse and less arm aching.

Add a title on the spreadsheet in Row 1 which includes the full URL of the site as a source reference with a note of any limitations such as missing counties. Row 2 should include the column headings from the web page and data should commence in row 3. Use the “Window” menu’s split and freeze options so that the title column headings are always visible when scrolling through data.

It is useful to number the lines in a data base both as a reference and to enable you to get back to the original list by sorting by this number. A simple

procedure to do this automatically is available **Spreadsheet.xls (Sheet 2)**.

It is sometimes convenient to break down a name into separate columns, representing first name, middle name(s) and surname. An easy way to do this is to install the “reversestring” function into Excel. Please see **Spreadsheet.xls (Sheet 3)** for the simple instructions to do this.

Records often produce a mix of Uppercase and Proper case names and these can be converted to be all the same case using the Excel function PROPER or UPPER. An example of the method is shown in **Spreadsheet.xls (Sheet 7)**.

Create an icon on the tool bar to provide quick access to the Paste Special - Values function. This is useful because once formulae have been used to process data it is necessary to remove the formula and replace with the resulting data. This is done by selecting and copying the column(s) of formula and with the same selection clicking the “Paste Value” icon.

Duplicate rows sometimes occur and these can be automatically removed in Excel by following the menu path Data > Filter > Advanced Filter and then tick Unique records only.

PROJECT: Using “Data Mining” and Spreadsheets to identify families.

A useful starting point for a ONS, which also provides an introduction to spreadsheet capabilities, is to produce spreadsheet records of one-name individuals grouped into families from the 1901 census index (ancestry.com subscription version) and the FreeBMD web sites.

Data Sources: One-Name Marriages and Children						
PERIOD	1881 - 1891	1891- 1901	1901- 1911	1911- 1921	1921- 1931	1931- 1941
DATA and SOURCE	FreeBMD Birth Index					
	Child Full Name & Year Born	1911 Census Index				
		1901 Census Index				
	Child Birth Place	1901 Census Index				
	Marriage Date	FreeBMD Marriage Index				
	Father's Full Name	FreeBMD Marriage Index				
		1911 Census Index				
		1901 Census Index				
	Father's Birth	1901 Census Index				
	Father's Birth Year	1911 Census Index				
		1901 Census Index				
	Mother's First Name			FreeBMD Marr Index		
		1911 Census Index				
		1901 Census Index				
	Mother's Maiden Surname			FreeBMD Birth Index		
				FreeBMD Marr Index		
	Mother's Birth	1901 Census Index				
	Mother's Birth Year	1911 Census Index				
		1901 Census Index				
	Data valid until person dies or mother remarries					
	Data ambiguous (more than one possible spouse)					

Details of the information available from these sources, illustrating the different information available in each of six decades, are shown in the table above:

These databases can form the heart of a ONS with the addition of more recent information obtained from registration data, newspapers, contacts, electoral rolls etc. and earlier information from census returns and BMD records, Wills etc.

The method described enables large databases with numbered families to be created much quicker than by manual extraction and these provide a basic framework against which the data can be checked and additional details added by time consuming one-by-one searches and examination of the original images.

When searching use a surname for a specific search and then perform separate specific searches for all known variants (and possible transcription errors) then combine the results to produce a composite database.

Automatic numbering of family groups has been included for those who wish to produce GEDCOM files for the purpose of importing data to other database and family history programs. The family number can also be useful for linking families together by inserting another column and adding a son's family number when his marriage has been found. This too can be included in the GEDCOM file. The conversion from Excel to GEDCOM

process to extract data and reformat into numbered families together with formula which can be copied into your own spreadsheets.

The 1901 census index with parent/spouse and place details can be obtained from subscription versions of Ancestry, Find My Past & GeneReunited. For the purposes of this article I am using Ancestry. Separate indexes are available for England, Scotland, Wales and these can be searched separately and the results combined in one spreadsheet.

When searching Ancestry, first set the records/page to 50, then alter the web site URL (displayed in your browser window) to change the end number from 50 to 2000 which is the maximum permitted. An easy way to download is to use the Firefox browser and Table2clipboard add-on to copy the data and then paste into a spreadsheet. Save the data in a file Families.xls. If there are more than 2000 records open the pages of results one by one and copy and paste the data to the bottom row of the spreadsheet.

For ease of future access this file (and any others created in this procedure) should be saved in a folder named Families (alternatively the data can be saved on different named sheets in a single Excel workbook file as in the Example). Note that the file date is automatically added to the file and is a record of when the data was extracted which is useful for choosing when to check the site for any new data.

can be made using special purpose formula or by the use of a dedicated program such as the free French language TransGed program.

1. 1901 Census Index

Take a look at Spreadsheet.xls (Sheets 1 to 5) for an example of the various stages in the

The next step is to Sort the data. This is an area where spreadsheet users are prone to making errors by unintentionally selecting an incomplete data set - so always create a backup file (or sheet) before Sorting.

Select and Sort the data in the following order: Residence, Parent or Spouse Names, and Birth Year. Looking down the list you will see that families are now in groups of consecutive rows. Look through the list and make any adjustment where necessary to correct any misplaced family members or other discrepancies. Use the formula given in Spreadsheet.xls (Sheet 4) if you wish to number the families.

2. FreeBMD

See Spreadsheet.xls (Sheets 5 to 9) for an example with instructions of the various stages in the process to extract data and reformat into numbered families.

Start at the web site <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com/cgi/search.pl> and in the search window select "Marriage" and type your one-name in the top surname box with all other boxes empty. Provided that there are less than 3000 records a list of marriages will be displayed. If there are more than 3000 records split the date range into a number of bands and search these individually (and combine the downloaded data one below the other in the spreadsheet described below).

The easiest way to transfer the data to your computer is with the red "Download" button (near the top of the page). This opens a small window giving an option to "Open with" with a browse button to select which program you wish to use. Click "Other" and scroll down and select Excel and enter. This automatically opens a new Excel sheet and neatly places all the marriage data on the sheet conveniently arranged in a single row per marriage. Save the sheet in a file named Marriages.xls.

Repeat the above for each name variant. Each search downloads to a new Excel file. Copy the data from this file (but not headings and tails) and paste below the data in Marriages.xls. Close the download file without saving.

To obtain the mother's first name, repeat the above procedure but this

time with your one-name now in the "Spouse/Mother surname" box and nothing in the top name boxes. Set the date to start at Mar 1912 (no end) to capture just the index entries where the spouse name is given. Rearrange the columns to match the previous set of details and combine again in **Marriages.xls**.

Sort the list in **Marriages.xls** by; District, Page number, & Maiden Name to arrange the marriage details in rows one below the other, one with the Partner Name and the other with the Spouse Name. Move the names into the same row. Where available the full names of both partners in the marriage are now in the same row. This procedure is not perfect and some manual adjustment is necessary to correct for missing page numbers, missing names, misspelt names and removal of ambiguities.

The pre 1912 marriage data in the file **Marriages.xls** provides the full name of the husband and options for the wife's full name. The correct wife can often be identified by reference to the wife's first names in the census returns.

Next step is to extract the Birth index from FreeBMD. The spreadsheet columns should be adjusted to correspond exactly with the sequence of headings as the marriage sheets. The birth data does not include the spouse name so create a blank column corresponding to the spouse name in the marriage data. Save the file as **Births.xls**.

Families with marriages post 1912 can now be identified using the FreeBMD mother's maiden name. Select and copy just the post-1912 births in **Births.xls** and paste below the marriage data in **Marriages.xls** and Sort the entire set of marriage and birth records using by Maiden Name, & Year. Families will now be grouped in consecutive rows with a marriage (where available) followed by the births. Family numbers can be added using the formula given in **Spreadsheet.xls**. Save your **Marriages.xls** file.

If a marriage or a births details are missing (e.g. due to the event date being earlier than 1912) these can often be obtained by manually searching FreeBMD for the specific

names. Other manual corrections and additions will prove necessary using the usual detective methods and if all else fails birth or marriage certificates can be purchased.

Make a note of any unallocated births or marriages in a spreadsheet for future research.

3. 1911 Census Index

Much to the chagrin of one-namers the records in the 1911 census are currently not available on an unlimited access subscription basis and it is not known what the cost will be or when this will become available. Until then the choice is to use the expensive process of paying for access on a per household basis or to make-do with the use of what can be gleaned from the free partial index. A suggested procedure of doing this is described below.

Search the entire free index available at www.1911census.co.uk and make a note of the Counties and Districts where your one-name families were in residence. Then search the index on a district by district basis. Do not exceed the maximum allowed number of pages of results (around 25 pages each of 30 results) as excess results are lost. If necessary split into contiguous birth year blocks and search each separately and then combine in one spreadsheet. Save the data in files named **1911district.xls** where "district" is the actual name of the district being searched.

Provided that there are not too many family groups mixed together in the district it may be possible to identify extra family details and some new families.

Use **1911district.xls** as a working document to record individuals as they are identified (e.g. use different cell fill colours per family).

For each district list try to separate into families as follows:

1. Locate family members by using the name, year of birth and residential district of family members already found the 1901 census.
2. Detective work is now required to locate households in 1911 using the advanced search options. Find all members of a household by

searching in the specified District (with First name and Last Name boxes empty) and a known First name and Last Name in the "Other member of the Household" box. To make this search produce results also type a # character in the Census Reference box. If possible choose a household member with a distinctive name to minimise the possibility of a person with the same name in more than one family. Try other names if this does not produce a single family in the household. As a check insert Head in the "Relationship to Head" box to see if there is more than one Head in the Household. Also try identifying relationships by trial and error searches with alternative relationships (e.g. Wife, Son, Niece, Boarder etc. You can even try a guess at the "Residential Place" to find a family.

3. The marriage data in file **Marriages.xls** for the range 1901 to 1911 provides the full name of the husband and options for the wife's full name. In the 1911 census list locate the couple using the male name and one of the alternative female first names to determine if possible the correct spouse surname and the start of a new family.
4. Examine the list of children born post 1901 and consider those not already assigned to a family. It may be possible to identify their parents from the sequence of ages, unique names or birth registration district.

Add any extra individuals or families details obtained this way to **Families.xls**. Delete all identified individuals from **1911district.xls** leaving a list of individuals to be identified when more information becomes available.

Conclusion

The files **Families.xls** and **Marriages.xls** contain family details and can be used to add further data as research progresses and for the creation of a GEDCOM file to feed a Family History program or to share information with other researchers. Alternatively the files can be used as input to a database. The processes used are representative of what is required to extract data from other web sites into a spreadsheet. ■

Adultery, Incest and Subterfuge

– An Every Day Tale of Genealogy

By **Dr Tam Llewellyn-Edwards**

In this article the names have not been changed to protect the innocent, but some identifying details have been omitted to protect the sensitivities of the living.

The line to be discussed is the main FEAR bloodline which has been traced back into the 15th Century, when the FEAR family were paying almost half the taxes due in the parish of Chew Magna, in Somerset UK. However, we will pick up this line later with one Samuel Jaques FEAR, a wealthy merchant in Bristol. He and his second wife, Christian Fear HAWKINS (who was from the same Chew Magna FEAR line) had four sons and two daughters. The one we are to follow is Jacques Samuel FEAR (b 1844)

Jacques Samuel was educated at St John's College, Cambridge. He was admitted in 1867 but does not seem to have graduated. In 1871 he married a daughter of another wealthy Bristol family, Emma Vidal STRICKLAND. Her father was Rev John STRICKLAND, the Rector of Christ Church Redlands, and her mother was Emma Vidal from a Slave owning Jamaica family which included the first Mayor of Kingston, Jamaica

Love Triangle

Jacques and Emma travelled extensively during their marriage, as Jacques was an agent for his merchant father. They are known to have had homes in Penzance, Sydmouth, Plymouth, Tours (France) and Weston-super-mare. They had two children, Edith Vidal (b 1876) and Percy John Jacques (b1877). However, the husband, Jacques Samuel, started an affair with his wife's younger sister, Katherine Jane STRICKLAND. The affair seems to have been common knowledge within the family and was ignored, but matters came to a head in 1878 when Katherine became pregnant and the wife, Emma, sued for divorce. Jacques Samuel FEAR

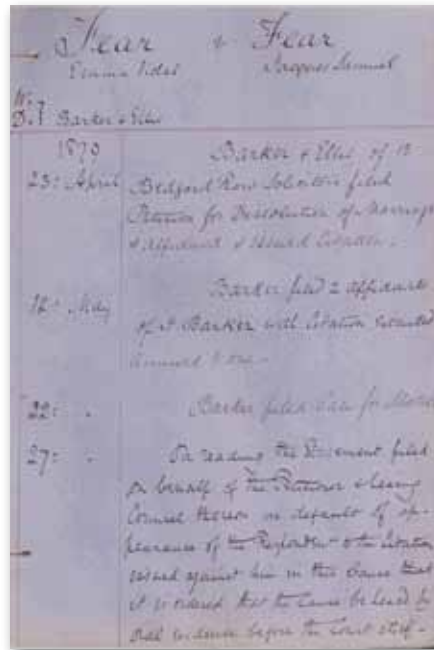


Fig. 1 - Part of the Divorce Proceedings and his pregnant lover, Katherine STICKLAND, fled to Tours in France, and Jacques did not appear in Court to defend the divorce petition (see fig 1). He was found guilty of adultery and incest in his absence and the divorce was granted in 1879. Jacques and Katherine stayed in France where their child, was born that year. His then ex-wife Emma remained in England living with relatives to bring up her two children. Both children married well and left descendents. The divorce appears to have been hushed up and it was only reported in a small piece on the inside page of the local newspaper (fig 2).

A Change of Name

The trail then went cold, and we had assumed that Jacques and Katherine

had stayed abroad. Nevertheless, the line of research was left open, and a chance find in the English Census of 1891, while searching for children born in France, identified a Dorothy MARTIN born in France in 1879. The child's mother was Katherine Jane MARTIN stated to be 'living on her own means'. Could this be the same mother and child? Where did the surname MARTIN come from? Where was the father? More surprising there were two more children, Margaret (born 1880 in Guernsey) and Hugh (born 1881 in Bognor). The children's birth certificates should have been easy to find, especially that of Hugh who was born in England, but no – both were missing. There then followed a mass of negative searching trying to rule out the possibility that this was a completely different family, but no earlier reference to the group could be found. It was all very strange – too many coincidences and too many questionable details. Eventually we decided to continue the search forward in time to see what more details about the group we could find.

Katherine Jane MARTIN could not be found in the 1901 census, but two of the three children were identified. Dorothy was boarding in Weston Super Mare, giving her profession as 'Teacher of Phonography' and Hugh was lodging in London giving his profession as 'Journalist'

With the opening of the 1911 census we could go further. Dorothy was then known as 'Sister Dorothy' and was a nun at St George Augustinian Convert, Ditching, Sussex. While

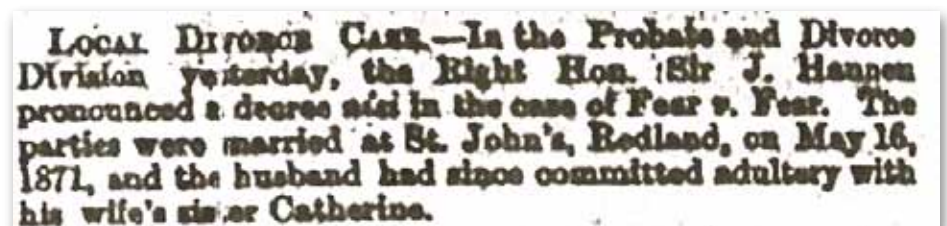


Fig. 2 - Daily Bristol Times & Mirror Nov 14, 1879 page 6

Hugh was still a journalist and living in London with a married woman, Adeline ROADNIGHT. Adeline had declared two living children on the census return, but they were not with her.

Forum Members Unite

Who was Adeline? Investigation showed that Hugh had been sharing lodgings in 1901 with a family called SKINNER (also in the newspaper trade) and that their daughter, Mary Adeline SKINNER had married a Francis ROADNIGHT in 1911 and they had had two children, Francis Vernon and Eric William. Was history repeating itself? Anyway the trail, even if it was not a false trail, was completely cold. At this point I asked for help on the GoONS e-group on the Internet.

The e-group members produced a mass of interesting information about Hugh MARTIN, who turned out to be a well-known journalist and author, but none of this helped in understanding his origins. However, one e-group member (I do not know whether to thank him for helping me or hate him for the extra work he caused to FEAR Single Name Society) produced Hugh's obituary in the Times. The obituary did not help much, but it did give his date of death (1948) and that led to his Will.

The Will held a surprise in that the beneficiaries were his sister, the nun and his wife 'Mary Adeline ROADNIGHT also known as Mary Adeline MARTIN'. The lady who was with him in 1911 and he were still together. A codicil to the will in 1939 left his estate to Francis Vernon ROADNIGHT should Adeline predecease him – so they were still together in 1939. When Hugh died it was Adeline who proved his Will – so they had stayed together for his life.

All this was interesting but it did not help show his relationship, if any, with Jacques Samuel FEAR - but one word

in the Will did. He had signed the Will Hugh Samuel Langton MARTIN - the first time that name had appeared. So it was back to the 1881 census of England. There was Hugh Langton MARTIN under one month old and born in Bognor.

The rest of the family were there too, but hidden. They were all listed with their initials and the Christian name 'Langton'. Jacques Samuel FEAR was listed as the head of the household but his name was given as J S Langton MARTIN, and his place of birth was given as Newcastle on Tyne, Northumberland, when in fact he was born in Bristol. We had finally linked the FEARS and the MARTINs. It just goes to show that we cannot believe all we read in census returns, but at least now we could find baby Hugh's birth registration.

Nothing in genealogy is ever that easy – baby Hugh's birth was not in the BMD Indexes. There was, however, a John Samuel Langton MARTIN registered in Bognor in October 1818. Where did he fit in? The coincidence was sufficient to warrant obtaining his birth certificate. It was in fact Hugh's birth, registered five months late and with the wrong name!

The certificate (fig 3) was so much in error it is worth running through it section by section :-

1. The date of birth, '16th March 1881', is presumably correct as this agrees with the child being 'under one month' in the 1881 census.
2. The name 'John Samuel Langton' was incorrect as the child had been listed as Hugh Samuel Langton in the 1881 census and he called himself 'Hugh' throughout his life. (John was the name of Jacques first legitimate son)

3. The father's name was given as 'Jacques Samuel Langton Martin' and we know he was actually 'Jacques Samuel FEAR'
4. The mothers name was given as 'Katherine Jane Vidal Martin formally Vidal' (sic) and we know she was actually 'Katherine Jane STRICKLAND' ('Vidal' was her mother's maiden name)

It would seem that we cannot believe all we find on birth certificates either!

The Search Goes On

Jacques story ends in Southampton in 1906, where he died and in death he was registered as 'Jacques Samuel L Martin'.



Fig. 4 - The Times, Thursday Sep 23, 1948

Is that the end of the story? No – genealogical research never ends. Where was Jacques between the 1881 census and his death in 1906 (If he was not the JSF in the Asylum)? What happened to Katherine Jane STRICKLAND alias MARTIN after the 1881 census? What happened to Margaret Langton MARTIN after the 1881 census. We are still looking. ■

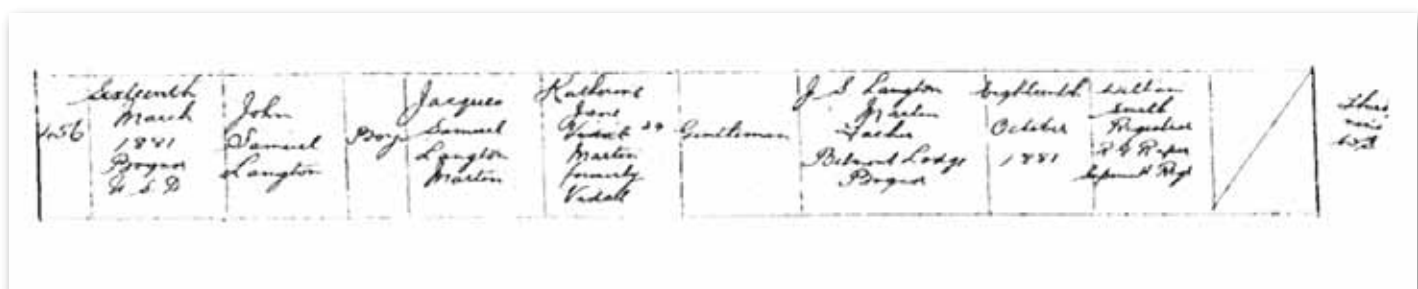


Fig. 3 - "Hugh" Martin's Birth Certificate



A View From The Bookstall

By
Howard Benbrook

Details, Details...

"It's the little things". "The devil is in the detail". "Look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves". Who is it that first says these things? Well, I certainly don't know but, whoever it was, I reckon they must have been running a Bookstall, 'cos they certainly all apply to me! To give you an idea, take this scenario: my wife, on the occasions when she's sitting in the Guild Van's passenger seat, on our way to some fair, will gently say: "Now, have you got everything?", or perhaps I may say, already 50 miles into our journey, "I have this horrible feeling I've forgotten something". Sure as eggs are eggs, back comes the predictable advice: "You really ought to have a checklist, so that you won't forget things"...

I won't reveal my tetchy response to this homely advice when I'm halfway down the motorway with several thousand pounds worth of stock in the boxes behind me in the van, but I really would prepare a checklist, honest, if I thought it would help; the problem, though, is that the checklist would be different each time I left for a fair. I'd spend all my time updating it.

It all seems so straightforward, in many ways, and it's certainly not rocket science. You buy in stock at a discount and sell it on to gain a small margin that goes into Guild funds. Simple, yes? But - it's clear; the devil is unmistakably in the detail. I suppose I really should try to find the time to set down some of the things I do. After all, I can't run the Bookstall for ever, and my successor will probably appreciate some written guidance, no matter how much 'entrepreneurial flair' they might have. But where do I find the time to do that? It's a task that has a permanent place on the 'To Do' list...

The Family History Event

I see from Wikipedia that a barbican was originally a fortified outpost or gateway, long before it ever became a City estate or a concert and exhibition hall. Well, the fortifications were down when I pointed the Guild Van toward the Barbican in the City during the May Day Holiday weekend, which is just as well, because that was where 'The Family History Event' was being held and I was a part of it.

This event, you may recall, was a direct reaction by a number of family history societies to the decision by Brand Events to move their show 'Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE' to a date earlier in the year. The contrarians felt that, after so many years, the early May date for a fair was a well-established and important one on the family history calendar and they were determined to fill the gap. And fill it they did; very successfully, in my view. What I found particularly impressive was the number of societies there. There couldn't have been many counties in the UK (and places outside the UK) that were not represented. If you needed information about a part of the country that you simply couldn't get to, help was on hand.

Mind you, that played hell with the Bookstall takings because, with all that competition, there were lots of alternative sellers for the stock I was holding (note to self: make sure you have more unique things to sell!) (Oh! And, perhaps, note to Committee: please can we have some Guild products to sell, like other societies?). But nevertheless, it was a good day, I felt, and I'd like to think that it will be repeated. No-one fell asleep in either of my talks, either, so I'm enthusiastic to be back there next year.

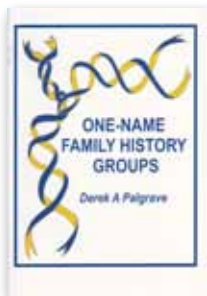
Vote Guild!

We often worry about our marketing in the Guild, but it's funny how the simplest things can help to promote a cause and I was reminded of this during the recent elections here. One of the candidates for the county council called at the door and my wife, Pam, answered. The candidate, of course, hoped for my wife's vote, but he then said: "May I ask you, just what is the Guild of One-Name Studies"? He'd seen the Guild Van on our front drive, in its full livery. Pam explained, directed him to the Guild website and sent him on his way, clutching a Guild leaflet! Of course, I don't know if Pam voted for him...



What's New

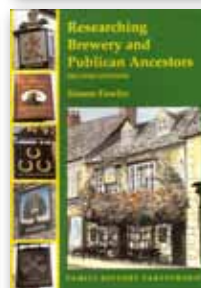
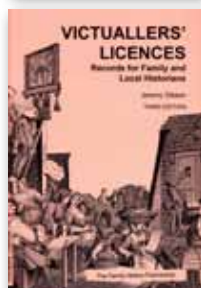
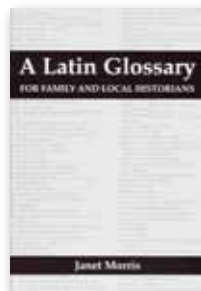
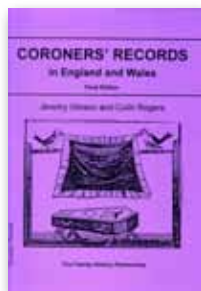
Unforgivably, I missed, in my last article, a new booklet by our esteemed President, Derek Palgrave (sorry, Derek). It's called **'One-Name Family History Groups'**, and is a completely new edition of the book, originally published by the Federation Publications unit, called **'Forming a One-Name Group'**. If you're looking to expand your surname research by joining with others, priced at £2 to Guild members, Derek's little book gives sound advice on how to start.



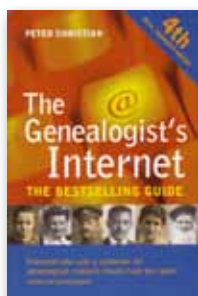
DNA projects are increasingly popular in the Guild and I've recently bought in more stock of another small book by a Guild member: **'DNA for Family Historians'**, by Alan Savin. Alan was one of the earliest researchers into the use of DNA to support family history and I think his book, at a members' price of £3.60, still offers the best value-for-money for anyone looking for an introduction to the subject.



The Family History Partnership continues to grow its publication list and has new editions of three popular titles that I've taken: **'Coroner's Records'** by Jeremy Gibson, £4.05 (and Kathy Chater's talk on the same subject at the Conference demonstrated that they can be a significant source), **'Researching Brewery & Publican Ancestors'** by Simon Fowler (£5.35), and, something of a companion, **'Victualler's Licences'** by Jeremy Gibson (£4.45). I'm also pleased to have copies of the reprint of the handy booklet **'Latin Glossary for Family and Local Historians'**, by the late Janet Morris, at £3.15.



Peter Christian has also now released a 4th edition of his very popular book **'The Genealogist's Internet'**. It's a lot bigger than the previous edition, and the Guild price is £13.50.



I'm pleased to see that, under their new owners, Shire Books seem to be as active as ever. From their latest catalogue, I see there are some interesting titles due for release shortly and I hope to bring you these next time, but I've recently added stock of a couple of their **'Industrial History'** titles: **'Rope, Twine and Net Making'** by Anthony Sanctuary (£4.50), **'Straw and Straw Craftsmen'** by Arthur R. Staniforth (£4.50).



All prices quoted exclude postage costs.

Where We've Been, Where We're Going

Since the last Journal, and with a little bit of help from our friends, we've managed to visit the Barbican, of course, but also Doncaster, Maidstone, Bideford, Swindon and, by the time you read this, Ron Woodhouse will have been at the big fair at the Racecourse in York.

And I'm sorry if you popped in to the fair at Worthing, expecting to see us there, but it just proved too difficult to organise something while I was also at the Guild Conference.

The next few months will see us at the places show below:

Many Thanks

Without these and lots of other helpers, I really couldn't be doing all this, so a whopping big thank you to: Anne Algar, Judy Cooper, Ken Toll, David & Brenda Horwill, David Probett, Cliff Kemball, Chris Braund, Janet Few and Corrinne Goodenough. Please forgive me if I've forgotten anyone. Some special thanks are due to Anne Algar again and to Ann Lillywhite who kindly helped me out of the underground car park and across the road with my stock at the Barbican. What would I do without you all? ■

Event	Place	Date
South West Area Fair	Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare	Sat 11th July
Bucks FHS Open Day	Grange School, Aylesbury, Bucks	Sat 25th July
Guild New Members Seminar	Amersham, Bucks	Sat 8th August
National Family History Fair	Gateshead	Sat 12th September
Hants GS Open Day	Horndean, Hants	Sun 20th September
Oxfordshire FHS Open Day	Woodstock, Oxon	Sat 26th September



Seminar Report - Non-UK Sources for One-Namers

Hampsthwaite, Harrogate, May 16th 2009

By **Sue Horsman**

Saturday 16th May saw 52 Guild members and non-members gathered at Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall near Harrogate for a day of lectures packed full of useful information.

On arrival we had time for refreshments, to browse the book-stall, and of course renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

India

Too soon, we had to take our seats for the first of two lectures by **Michael Gandy**. His first topic was **Records of the British in India**. Michael first set the scene for our research, namely that anyone who went to India went on official business of some nature; people did not emigrate there. For this reason there would be a paper trail. He briefly explained the information held at the British Library, namely the records of the east India Company, the Church of England in India and official publications. However, not all records are in London – there are a lot in India. Michael also corrected the incorrect belief that all BMD records for Europeans in India are indexed, and now on-line. This is untrue, as there is nothing between 1820 and 1920; with only 300,000 out of 6 million records being indexed.

It is impossible to fully report this fascinating talk, and it certainly provided food for thought.

Following a brief break, we returned to hear **Gordon Adshead** telling us



about **Sources on the Guild WIKI**. Gordon expanded this talk to encompass other Internet sources for non UK research. Cyndi's List is perhaps the most well known. For Guild Members, the WIKI and members Forum are also places where we can discover useful sites.

Ireland

Our final lecture before lunch was again by **Michael Gandy**, this time discussing **Irish Records**. Michael began by telling us that most Irish are not traceable before 1800/1820, and then told us why this was so, by giving a brief overview of the Irish way of life. He also explained how the Irish Census records had been destroyed, before telling us what records did actually exist.

Sadly we had little time to ask many questions, as our excellent buffet lunch was ready. Fortunately, Michael joined us for lunch, and we were able to ask him questions which we had brought with us, or which had arisen through his lecture.

His answer to my question put paid to a proposed trip to Dublin to help a cousin with her Irish Ancestors. As

the later Catholic Records are still at the churches he said that it would be better to just write a letter (with a donation) to the priest.

Europe

Our lunch break flew by, and soon we were seated again, to hear **Peter Towey** explain the pitfalls which we would encounter in **Research in European Countries**. Whilst there are no BMD indexes in European countries, many of them have other excellent records, although in most instances you do need to know the place of birth.

US

Following tea and cakes, our final speaker was **Bob Young**, who had arranged his trip to the UK so that he could speak to us. His topic was **New England and US Sources**. Bob explained that Vital records are managed at state level and as such there are 56 different types of information, and rules and regulations. The US Genealogical Project is www.usgenweb.com and this is the nearest equivalent to GENUKI.

By 4.30pm the seminar was over, and it was time to say farewell to new and old friends, and to leave Yorkshire in a torrential downpour.

For those who were unable to attend, there are some notes from Peter and Bob's talks in the member's room. ■



Forthcoming Seminars

21st November 2009

FINDING FURTHER ONE-NAME SOURCES

Less Used Sources at the National Archives, Kew. This Seminar aims to shine a light on a variety of less familiar records held at TNA of interest to One Name Studies. Topics include Hearth Tax, Sequestration papers, Chancery databases and Finding aids. We have also arranged a behind-the-scenes tour.

20th February 2010

DNA SEMINAR

DNA Developments at the National Star College, Ullenwood, Cheltenham. This Seminar will build on the previous DNA discussions with much emphasis on practical experience and the interpretation of results.

15th May 2010

MAPS AND MAPPING SEMINAR

Maps and Mapping Seminar at the Helsby Community Centre, Lower Robin Hood Lane, Helsby, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 0BW. This seminar will cover all aspects of maps and mapping for your one-name study starting with a talk on digital mapping by Paul Newman, Senior Archivist, Cheshire Record Office.

The Art of One-Name Studies, 8th Aug 2009 (New Members Seminar)

**Amersham Free Church Hall,
Woodside Road, Amersham, Bucks. HP6 6AJ**

Programme

- 10:00 - 10:25 Registration and Coffee
- 10:25 - 10:30 Welcome to the Seminar
- 10:30 - 11:15 Introduction to One-Name Studies - Peter Walker
- 11:15 - 11:30 Comfort Break
- 11:30 - 12:00 The Many Variants of a Surname - Derek Palgrave
- 12:00 - 12:30 The Guild Bookstall - Howard Benbrook
- 12:30 - 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 - 14:30 The Guild Online: What do we offer? - Anne Shankland
- 14:30 - 15:15 The Thrill of the Chase: Is the Internet killing it?
- Jeanne Bunting
- 15:15 - 15:30 Tea and biscuits
- 15:30 - 16:00 The Guild Journal - Keith Bage
- 16:00 - 16:30 Any Questions?
- 16:30 Close of seminar

On Saturday 8th August 2009 we are holding a seminar in Amersham Free Church Hall just north east of Amersham town centre.

The programme will give new and prospective Guild Members guidance in starting a One-Name Study and the benefits of becoming a Guild member.

Applications are welcome from Guild members, family historians, genealogists, and members of the general public having an interest in starting a One-Name Study. The closing date for applications is 31st July 2009

Amersham Free Church Hall on Woodside Road is 10 minutes walk up Chiltern Avenue from Amersham Railway Station, which is at the end of the Metropolitan Line of London Underground. Catch northbound Metropolitan line trains from central London. Directions from the M40 and M25 motorways are available on the Guild website.



The cost of the seminar will be £10 per person including drinks and a light buffet lunch. There will then be an opportunity to chat with other delegates and browse the Guild Bookstall. There will also be interesting posters, books and indexes to study during the breaks.

To reserve a place please complete the Booking Form or go to the Guild website at www.one-name.org where you can book on-line and pay using PayPal. The site gives more details of the Seminar, including a map showing the location of the venue and the ability to download a further copy of the form.

Booking forms may also be obtained by phoning the Guild Help Desk
Tel: 08000-112182.



Marriage Challenge Update

By Peter Copsey

Marriage Challenges Become More Popular

As many readers will know, I am in the middle of a Repeat Challenge for West Ham Registration District.

The initial Challenge began in February 2006. I was amazed by the large number of requests that I received - over 3000. With such a large number I enlisted some help and carried out the Challenge in three stages, giving myself a break between each stage. The Challenge was not completed until July 2007.

So when I decided to do the Repeat Challenge, I thought that the number of requests would not be very many, believing that most interested members would have sent in their marriage requests to the first Challenge. How wrong I was. I have received over 2000 new requests. Actually, if I had applied the little mathematical formula that I gave in the January Journal I would have realised that I would be getting another 1400. The fact that even this figure has been well exceeded is a demonstration how popular Marriage Challenge has become. And why not; it can provide you with so much useful information for your study - in effect, free marriage certificates.

Using FreeBMD

Thanks to FreeBMD, it is easy to compile a list of requests, even if you have not yet abstracted all the BMD entries from the GRO indexes. For marriages during the normal period of a Marriage Challenge, FreeBMD is now almost complete, the main omission being about half of Q2, 1887.

If you visit the FreeBMD Search page (freebmd.rootsweb.com/cgi/search.pl), select "Marriages" under "Type", select the Registration District for the Challenge, input your one-name under "Surname" and give the date range of the Challenge, usually Sep 1837 to Dec 1911, then click "Find", your request list will appear. There is a small "Download" button at the top (to the left of the Key) which enables you to copy and paste the full list into an Excel spreadsheet. Nothing could be easier,

Challengers would prefer you to rearrange the Excel sheet to suit the proforma given on the web-page. In particular, the quarters should be changed to 1, 2, 3, 4 rather than FreeBMD's Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec and your one-name should be changed to UPPERCASE. The two superfluous columns (Event and Flag) should be

removed. Lastly you should remove from the list any marriage where you already have full details. Better still, you should notify the Challenger of these marriages stating the church where the marriage took place; they could serve as markers to help locate other marriages.

Challenges commencing in the coming months are shown in the table below. If you would like to request a search for your marriages (registered names only for the period indicated) send the details from the GRO index (perhaps using FreeBMD as described above) to the Challenger either by e-mail or to his or her postal address given in the Guild Register. Also, keep a watch on the Guild web-page for Marriage Challenge as further Challenges are announced.

For more information about Marriage Challenge, what it comprises and how it works, see the article in the Journal (October - December 2005).

Anyone who would like to become a Challenger or would like to know more about what is involved please contact me, the Marriage Challenge Co-ordinator, on marriage-challenge@one-name.org.

Registration District and Period	Deadline for Requests	Challenger	Challenger's e-mail
Berkhamstead (Berkhampstead), 1837 - 1911	31 st July	Anni Berman	boustred@one-name.org
Thrapston, 1837 - 1911	31 st July	David Barrall	barrell@one-name.org
Hinckley - Stage 3, 1881 - 1911	15 th August	Joan Rowbottom	truslove@one-name.org
Ticehurst, 1837 - 1911	31 st August	Roger Goacher	goacher@one-name.org
Okehampton, 1837 - 1911	5 th September	Barbara Roach	gimblett@one-name.org

One-Name MAIL



Internet Is Not Essential

So Anne Shankland, the Guild's web-master, is surprised that over 40% of members haven't visited the Members Room on the website.

Anne does ask whyever not but clearly has not considered there are many good reasons for this: starting with the possibility that there are still many people who do not possess or wish to possess a computer. I personally know a number of people who possess a computer but who do not use the Internet. Questioning reveals various reasons ranging through affordability to security and others who have given it up because of the sheer time wasting it can involve!

I am reliably informed that 19% of UK members of the Guild do not list an e-mail address.

Lest it be thought I am a technophobe I should point out that over 30 years ago I was one of a team responsible for the introduction to my employers office of an on-line system which was one of IBM's top 5 show-case sites. Long before the introduction of the Internet I was sending e-mails to our branches. My own first PC in 1990 had just 100MB of memory!

I had occasion eight years ago to write in similar vein arising from a report that a member of the Guild had resigned because he didn't have a computer and the subsequent speculation as to whether others had resigned on the same grounds. I am saddened that there are still one or two members of the Guild's committee who in speaking or in writing give the impression that access to the Internet is vital to a one-name study.

Yours,

Brian Johnson

Keep It Green

I was astonished to read (John Coldwell, "Computing for ONS Beginners", April 2009 issue) that people are prepared to leave their computers running 24/7. At a time when climate concern is mounting, and we are being urged to switch off at the socket devices which used to be left on standby, this seems wasteful in the extreme.

Anne Shankland

Dictionary of National Biography- Oxford University Press. DNB & OUP.

Now available on-line are the 55,000 biographies of the famous, and their spouses' names, who put the 'Great' into Britain in the past millennium. The sixty volumes on most County Library shelves can now be scanned at home electronically in a few seconds to find, say, an obscure village or surname. Schools and colleges with famous old boys can reveal much of contemporary lives of one's forebears. There are probably over 150K persons mentioned, many with an associated place name.

All one now needs is a current local Library card number to access DNB and several other OUP publications. The search can be a surname or a place. Although some names feature in the one-name lists- many others do not. The purpose of this is to alert readers to a new source.

CAVEAT- anyone who is a compulsive obituary reader will find that there is, in DNB, a mine of such for the taking.

On the topic of yDNA the article by Swallow was a bit misleading – a lock of hair would not be usable – a tuft with roots might be better, if frozen.

Thomas Preston

Obituary: Fred W Hobson

Fred W Hobson passed away in hospital on 24 March 2009 age 74. He had been suffering from illness since Christmas.

Fred was born in Ecclesfield, nr. Sheffield and went to school there before moving on to Barnsley Technical College. He was unmarried and had lived in the same house for most of his life. He worked for the British Iron and Steel Research Association in Hoyle Street, Sheffield until the 1970's when he was made redundant and it closed (the steel industry having gone through some hard times in the 1970's).

After he retired from work he took up professional genealogy and travelled far and wide carrying out research for various people.

Fred was a founder member of the Sheffield Family History Society and had been a member of the Guild for many years (#70). He was also a member of the Society of Genealogists and a member of Sheffield Archives. He had indexed and published the marriages of St. Mary's church, Ecclesfield and was in the process of indexing the births.

Fred was also a keen sportsman and in his earlier years had played for many BISRA teams in cricket, football and various field events, winning many medals in the process. He was also a fan of his beloved Sheffield Wednesday FC where he was a season ticket holder.

Fred will be dearly missed by all his friends in the world of genealogy.

More Pictures from the Guild's 30th Annual Conference & AGM

Vol 10 Issue 3 July-September 2009



Main inset: David Horwill, Tony Bush, Graham Tuley & Philip Lloyd. **Top left:** Webmaster Anne Shankland. **Middle left:** Peter Walker delivers the Chairman's Report to the AGM. **Bottom left:** Eve McLaughlin, one of the conference speakers. **Bottom Centre:** David Gynes, one of the Guild's founder members with his certificate acknowledging 30 continuous years as a Guild member and **Bottom Right:** The congregation for the Guild's Ecumenical Service conducted by David Gynes (left).

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