

The world's leading publication for one-namers

# Journal

---

---

## of One-Name Studies



[www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org)

### Special Edition to Commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Outbreak of the First World War

***“They shall grow not old, as we  
that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the  
years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and  
in the morning,  
We will remember them.”***

*For the Fallen*  
by Laurence Binyon 1869-1943

All the latest Guild news and updates

Box G, 14 Charterhouse Buildings  
Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA  
Tel: 0800 011 2182 (UK)  
Tel: 1-800 647 4100 (North America)  
Tel: 1800 305 184 (Australia)

Email: [guild@one-name.org](mailto:guild@one-name.org)  
Website: [www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org)  
Registered as a charity in England and  
Wales No. 802048

#### President

Derek A Palgrave MA MPhil FRHistS FSG MCG

#### Vice-Presidents

Howard Benbrook MCG  
Iain Swinnerton TD. DL. JP MCG  
Alec Tritton

#### Guild Committee

The Committee consists of the four  
Officers, plus the following:

Karen Bailey  
Rodney Brackstone  
John Coldwell  
Peter Copsey MCG  
Bob Cumberbatch  
Stephen Daglish  
Paul Howes  
Stuart Pask  
Teresa Pask  
Roy Rayment MCG  
Colin Spencer

#### Sub Committee Chairmen

Executive - Kirsty Gray  
Marketing - Kirsty Gray  
Seminar - Rodney Brackstone

#### BB-Forum Administrator:

Colin Spencer

#### Data Manager:

Ken Mycock

#### Education Liaison Officer:

Bob Cumberbatch

#### Forum Manager:

Wendy Archer MCG

#### Librarian & Helpdesk:

Roy Rayment MCG

#### Mentors Coordinator:

Steve Williams

#### Regional Rep Coordinator:

Paul Howes

#### Social Networking Coordinator:

Debbie Kennett

#### Stand Manager:

Stuart Pask

#### Webmaster:

Karen Bailey

## Guild Officers



#### CHAIRMAN

Kirsty Gray  
3 Wintergreen  
Chilvester Park  
Calne, Wiltshire  
SN11 0RS  
01249 821999

[chairman@one-name.org](mailto:chairman@one-name.org)



#### VICE CHAIRMAN

Ken Mycock  
Keepers Cottage  
Peddles Lane  
Charlton Mackrell  
Somerset  
TA11 6AQ  
01458 223575

[vice-chairman@one-name.org](mailto:vice-chairman@one-name.org)



#### SECRETARY

Jan Cooper  
Greenways  
8 New Road  
Wonersh, Guildford  
Surrey, GU5 0SE  
01483 898339

[secretary@one-name.org](mailto:secretary@one-name.org)



#### TREASURER

Cliff Kembell  
168 Green Lane  
Chiselhurst  
Kent  
BR7 6AY  
0208 467 8865

[treasurer@one-name.org](mailto:treasurer@one-name.org)



#### REGISTRAR

Stephen Daglish  
113 Stomp Road  
Burnham  
Berkshire  
SL1 7NN  
01628 666464

[registrar@one-name.org](mailto:registrar@one-name.org)



#### EDITOR

Teresa Pask  
167 Oyster Quay  
Port Way, Port Solent  
Portsmouth  
Hampshire PO6 4TQ  
02392 321878

[editor@one-name.org](mailto:editor@one-name.org)



www.one-name.org

## Guild information

### Regional Representatives

The Guild has Regional Reps in many areas. If you are interested in becoming one, please contact the Regional Rep Coordinator Paul Howes:

106 Auburndale Drive,  
Ponte Vedra,  
Florida FL 32081  
USA  
+1 904 342 0881

#### Email:

[rep-coordinator@one-name.org](mailto:rep-coordinator@one-name.org)

### Forum

This online discussion forum is open to any member with access to email. You can join the list by sending a message with your membership number to:

[forum@one-name.org](mailto:forum@one-name.org)

To email a message to the forum, send it to: [goons@rootsweb.com](mailto:goons@rootsweb.com)

### Guild Bulletin Board

You can register using your guild membership number and your one-name.org email alias at:

<http://bb.one-name.org>



Find us on  
**Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/guildonename](http://www.facebook.com/guildonename)



Follow us on  
**@guildonename**  
[www.twitter.com/guildonename](http://www.twitter.com/guildonename)



*The Journal of One-Name Studies is published quarterly by the Guild of One-Name Studies and printed by Flexpress Ltd, 6 Coal Cart Road, Interchange, Birstall, Leicester, LE43BY*  
ISSN 0262-4842

© Journal of One-Name Studies

## MAIN ARTICLES

- 10** LASTs in World War 1 by Simon Last
- 13** The Family Historian's Dilemma by Gillian Barnes
- 16** One-Name Searches on a Battlefields Tour by Margaret Spiller
- 18** Internet Resources for Historical Military by Rennison Vayro
- 22** Manchester Grammar School Boy Scouts in World War I by Michael Stonehewer
- 25** The War Graves Photographic Project by Michael Stonehewer
- 26** Soldiers, Sailors and One Airman: WW1 in a Study of the ASTRIDGE Name by Ann Williams
- 28** The Halifax Explosion by Peter Rushen
- 30** Lt Charles Earsham Cooke MC by Richard Cooke

## GUILD REPORTS - NEWS - EVENTS

- 7** Off-line Membership List by Colin Spencer
- 8** A Review of Custodian 4 by Anthony J. Mingay
- 20** WDYT YA-Live Photographs
- 33** When is a Website Not a Website? by Anne Shankland
- 34** The Guild Library – Almost As Old As The Guild by Roy Rayment
- 35** The Guild Library: The Way Forward by Anne Shankland
- 36** First Impressions – One-Name Studies: The Next Generation by Jennifer Metcalfe
- 38** The Guild of One-Name Studies Seminar – Perth by Ann Spiro
- 39** Forthcoming Seminars

## REGULARS

- 4** From The Chairman's Keyboard by Kirsty Gray
- 5** Marriage Challenge Update – Become an Expert of your District by Peter Copsey
- 6** DNA for your ONS: Tips and Techniques by Susan C. Meates

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.

Copyright of the material is to the Editor and Publishers of the Journal of One-Name Studies and the author. No material may be reproduced in part or in whole without the prior permission of the publishers.

The views expressed in the Journal are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the committee of the Guild of One-Name Studies.

The distribution list for this Journal is based on the information held in the Guild database on the first of the month preceding the issue date.





# From the Chairman's Keyboard...

By Kirsty Gray

**W**hat a busy quarter this has been, with many of our volunteers putting in more hours than a normal working week on Guild matters. Much of the work goes on behind the scenes, ensuring that the organisation runs smoothly and my **thanks go to the enormous team** of Officers, Committee members, postholders, project managers and representatives who work so hard on behalf of you all – the members.

By the time this journal hits your doormat, you will have had the opportunity to vote for the new Committee for the forthcoming year. We were delighted to receive **twenty valid nominations** for Committee membership having last held a ballot in 2007. The results of the ballot will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 12 April, during the conference weekend at Ashford International Hotel. The programme includes **internationally-renowned speakers** as well as lectures focussing specifically on tips for one-namers and break-out workshops provided by three major data provider organisations: FindMyPast, Ancestry, and My Heritage/WorldVital Records. With many **first-time attendees** at conference this year, I am looking forward – as always – to meeting up with long-standing Guild friends as well as meeting many new ones.

**Improved visibility** of the Guild across the globe has been a key focus for the past few years, with the aim of building awareness of who we are and what we do in Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada in particular. These countries appear to have caught the genealogy 'bug' and our representatives have been arranging **exciting opportunities** to engage with members and non-members in their regions – some of which are vast! On page 38, Ann Spiro reports on a very successful **seminar in Perth** and the Guild was represented at all the **Unlock the Past** shore tour seminars, run by **Gould Genealogy/Unlock the Past** cruises. On my trip 'Down Under', I was delighted to meet up with some Guild members in Melbourne at the Celtic Club – see right – as well as many members on the ship. More details on the cruise will be included in the next edition of the JoONS.

At the time of writing, we have 100 new members since the start of the year with a large portion of those members joining at the recent **Who Do You Think You Are? Live event** at Olympia. A substantial and dedicated team of Guild members, managed by Stuart and Teresa Pask, manned the stand for the three days – this year, from Thursday to Saturday. It was noticeable that this year's attendees were more knowledgeable than in the past, with many people knowing what the Guild was all about before starting up a conversation with us.

Other new membership applications have come from the increased publicity provided by the **webinars on Legacy**

**Family Tree** in January and February as well as several **lecturers on the Unlock the Past** cruise. We are aiming to participate in several of the large conference events across the globe in 2014/2015 in order to educate people about one-name (surname) studies and promote the studies our members undertake.

Following the results of the IT survey, **redevelopment of the Guild website** will be well underway by the time this reaches you. We hope to unveil the new designs at the Annual General Meeting and in the Guild Google+ Hangouts of the following weekend. If you feel that you have the time and skills to assist the web team in any way, please do get in touch with [chairman-itsub@one-name.org](mailto:chairman-itsub@one-name.org).

The Seminars Subcommittee are another team who are busily working behind the scenes, planning and organising events well into 2015. The recent **One-Name Studies: The Next Generation** event at Telford Innovation Conference Centre, showcasing the talents of Guild members **aged between 16 and 40 from two continents**, was a great success and the first seminar which has been recorded with one of the lecturers delivering her talk from Whitehorse in the Yukon (Canada). Technology worked beautifully and there have been a huge number of views of the video on the Guild YouTube channel. A full report is available on page 36.

The future of the Guild is exciting as well as a lot of **hard graft!** I am looking forward to working with the many new Committee members in the forthcoming year, if elected! ■



Our Chairman was pleased to receive such a warm welcome from members in Australia both in Melbourne (pictured above at the Celtic Club with Libby Shade, Ann Collins, David Evans, and Frank Whillans) and in Hobart by Barry Chapman and Brian Austen.



# Marriage Challenge Update – Become an Expert of your District

By **Peter Copsey**  
(Marriage Challenge Coordinator, Member 1522)

**W**hen you perform a Marriage Challenge your main task is to find and transcribe marriage records to help fellow members. But there is a second benefit which is often overlooked. You become very knowledgeable about the District you have selected for the Challenge. This is particularly relevant for the urban areas.

One task that is usual in a Challenge is to identify all the Anglican Churches in the District. The first place of call is the GENUKI website, [www.ukbmd.org.uk/genuki/reg/districts/index.html](http://www.ukbmd.org.uk/genuki/reg/districts/index.html) which will give the parishes and areas that made up the District, based to a large part on the census descriptions. For rural areas this will generally suffice but for urban areas, particularly urban areas that are fast growing, this is not enough.

When I did the first Romford Marriage Challenge 1837 to 1911, I needed to identify the newer Anglican churches in the District, like Chadwell Heath, Aldborough Hatch and Seven Kings. I was pleased to find one church, St James at Little Heath, which few people knew about; certainly the Essex Record Office could not help. The church had been demolished in 1933 or thereabout to make way for Eastern Avenue, the A12 east from London, and records were thought to have been lost. But I found that a transcription of the registers was held by the priest in-charge at St Peter's at Aldborough Hatch and I was able to extract marriage information.

The use of Cardinal Points will help to identify churches. Cardinal Points are the GRO page numbers for the first and last marriages for each church in a particular quarter. Any gap in the page numbering indicates that a church is missing.

I have now started my second stage of Romford 1912 to 1939. The gaps in the Cardinal Points are many and large. There are a lot of new churches to find. Some are relatively easy to identify such as where a new church has been built within an existing urban area such as St Martin at Dagenham and St Alban at Romford. But these fill in only a few of the gaps. I have found that Becontree is the place where most of the new churches have been built.

Becontree is a very large public housing estate built between 1921 and 1937 within the parishes of Ilford, Barking and Dagenham. It covered an area of 4 square miles and was reported to be the biggest public housing project in the world, totalling over 26,000 houses. I have identified eight Anglican churches in Becontree and only five have deposited their marriage registers at Essex Record Office. I suspect there is still one more church to find.

Complications arose in July 1939 when the District of Romford split into two and Ilford Registration District was created. Dagenham parish stayed in Romford District whilst Barking and Ilford went to Ilford District. Becontree

was split down the middle with some of its churches in Romford and some in Ilford Districts. One consolation is that today all of Becontree Churches are within one District, the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. I am intending to approach the Register Office; perhaps they can help me solve the remaining questions in my conundrum. With all the investigation I am doing, I am becoming an expert in Romford District.

The Marriage Challenges beginning in the coming months are listed below. All members are encouraged to send their requests to the Challengers by email, hopefully using the standard 'requests.xls' spreadsheet on the MC web-page. However some Challengers may accept requests in any form. Send the listing extracted from the GRO Marriage index (FreeBMD will give all of them) for the named Registration District between the years given (Year, Quarter, Surname, First names, Full GRO reference). Challengers will search for and often find your marriages in the deposited Church registers and then send you the full particulars.

Being a Challenger is rewarding and enjoyable and you will be helping your fellow Guild members with their studies. If you think you could become a Challenger, I look forward to hearing from you. Contact me, the Marriage Challenge Coordinator, on [marriage-challenge@one-name.org](mailto:marriage-challenge@one-name.org). ■

Registration District and Period	Deadline for Requests	Challenger	Challenger's email
Lexden (Repeat) 1837 - 1939	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2014	Marion Hopkins	hopkins@one-name.org
Newcastle upon Tyne Stage 2 1861 - 1880	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Phil Thirkell	thirkell@one-name.org
Swansea (Repeat) 1837 - 1870	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Jim Kimpton	kimpton@one-name.org
Bury St Edmunds (Repeat) 1837 - 1880	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Tanya Kimber	ridgeon@one-name.org
Ipswich 1837 - 1860	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2014	Lynn Lanigan	feaviour@one-name.org
Berwick (Repeat) 1837 - 1911	31 <sup>st</sup> May 2014	Sue Horsman	horsman@one-name.org

# DNA for your ONS: Tips and Techniques

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

## Genetic Groups

In the October 2013 Journal the topic of Genetic Groups for your DNA Project was introduced. As your project grows, each Genetic Group you establish will usually end up being comprised of participants from multiple family trees of the surnames in your ONS. This represents trees that are related in the time period between the adoption of surnames and the progenitors of the documented trees. The number of groups and the number of trees are a function of the frequency of your ONS surname, how it ramified, and the number of origins, as well as events such as illegitimacy.

In some cases a group of trees in a Genetic Group may share a mutation, such as all the Meates of Ireland sharing a mutation as compared to the result for the progenitor of the surname. This mutation indicates the Meates of Ireland all share a common ancestor between the progenitor of the surname and the start of the documented family trees.

When your project is in its infancy, and you are still building up participants, it is often difficult to determine who to group in a Genetic Group. This is especially true with haplogroup R1b. One step that is helpful is to validate each tree. This means to test a distant direct line male, who comes off the tree as close to the progenitor of the tree as possible. For example, if the progenitor of the tree had two sons, test a descendant from each son. This will validate the genealogy research, since the two results should match or be close.

If the results of the two distant direct line males are a close match, and not an exact match – there is no way to tell which man has the mutation(s), unless you have other trees that match, or you do further testing. If you reference the chart in the January 2011 Journal, on page 13 [[www.one-name.org/journal/pdfs/vol10-9.pdf#page=13](http://www.one-name.org/journal/pdfs/vol10-9.pdf#page=13)], you will see that by testing a descendant of a third son of the tree progenitor, the DNA Project was able to determine which of the two men had mutations, and were able to determine the ancestral result for the progenitor of the tree.

In looking at this table of results, I often get questions about the mutation for the result of a descendant of the son Jacob, the first line on the chart. The mutation occurred with marker DYS 464, which is a multi-copy marker. Most people have four, and if you have more than four copies, Family Tree DNA will report the results for each copy.

This marker is scored differently. The results are presented in order of low to high, not the actual order. So for these three men we have:

15 15 16 17  
15 15 17 18  
15 15 17 18

It is clear that the last two men match. In comparing the first man to the other result, the 16 is the mutation, since the other results both have two 15s and one 17. If you want to know the actual order of the results for the marker, you can order the 464x test under Advanced Tests.

Once you know the ancestral result for the tree progenitor, as shown in the above referenced example, this helps in grouping R1b results, as you compare the results of the tree progenitors, since you are eliminating some or all mutations from consideration.

With haplogroup R1b, the challenge of determining relatedness in a genealogical time frame and placing the people in Genetic Groups becomes more difficult the higher the frequency of your surname(s). A more frequent surname usually indicates more origins, and therefore usually more different R1b results.

With haplogroup R1b, it is often helpful to wait to put a participant in a Genetic Group, until you have at least two validated trees that match. The reason for this is that you can have what appears to be a match, yet they are related prior to the adoption of surnames. Haplogroup R1b comprises over 40% of Europe, and many men had the same or a close Y-DNA result at the time of adoption of surnames, and adopted different surnames. They belong to the same haplogroup, or major population group, and are related at some point, so their results tend to be close. Sometimes two men who are in the same haplogroup and related prior to the adoption of surnames, both coincidentally adopted your ONS surname, yet come from different surname origins.

The second factor impacting R1b results is convergence. An example is where there were two 37 marker results at the time of adoption of surnames which had a genetic distance of three, and over time, mutated so they are now a 36/37 match.

To handle the haplogroup R1b participants where you are waiting to find a participant for validation or participants from another tree to match, you can manage the situation by establishing some special Genetic Groups, such as:

Genetic Group 990 Needs Validation

Genetic Group 991 Needs a Match to another Tree

The problem with interpreting and putting R1b results into Genetic Groups can be addressed through various approaches, including validating trees, waiting for two or more trees to match, testing more markers, determining the ancestral result for each tree, and combining the results with surname distribution mapping and early recordings. The latter approach is an area to address when you have built up a sizable pool of participants for your ONS.

## Want to Get Started?

When you are ready to add DNA to your one-name study, the DNA Advisor is here to help, including setting up your project with proven marketing material. Simply write: [DNA@one-name.org](mailto:DNA@one-name.org). You will receive a completely setup project, that you can modify, along with an easy to follow 20-step Getting Started email, and a sample recruiting email and letter. ■



# Off-line Membership List

by **Colin Spencer (BB-Administrator, Member 5927)**

**F**or WDYTYA-Live in February, I was requested to provide a off-line Membership List for use on a tablet, or smart phone. We felt this may be of use to other members.

## 1. Prerequisites

The membership list is supplied as a PDF document. As a result a PDF reader application is required on the device that will be used to access the device. Acrobat Reader from Adobe available for Windows, MAC, iOS and Android is the recommended application to use. It is available as a direct download from <http://adobe.com/>, or from the Apple Store, or Play Store, accessible directly from the tablet or smart phone.

## 2. Obtaining The List

This list will be a self-service item on the website. As the design and build of the new website for the Guild will be commencing shortly this functionality will not be implemented on the existing website.

As an interim solution, the list will be made available on email request to [lefever@one-name.org](mailto:lefever@one-name.org). Please quote your membership number when making the request for a new or updated list.

## 3. Installation of the List

### 3.1 Windows, or Mac Computer, or Laptop

Copy the membership.pdf file that you receive by email to the location of your choice on your computer. The My Documents or Documents folder is the usual location.

### 3.2 IOS Device

The membership.pdf needs to be loaded onto the tablet or smart phone. There are two ways to do this:

1. Open the email with the membership.pdf file attached on the device, select the attachment and then select the 'Open With' option and open it with Adobe Reader.
2. Store the membership.pdf file on your normal computer and then attach the tablet or smart phone and open iTunes. The membership.pdf file then needs to be 'sideloaded' into Adobe Reader. See [www.adobe.com/devnet-docs/rm/readers/en/open.html](http://www.adobe.com/devnet-docs/rm/readers/en/open.html) on the Adobe website on this option and how to do it.

### 3.3 Android Device

Loading onto an Android device is similar to an iOS device above. Please see <http://screengrab.me/2013/06/06/how-to-get-pdfs-into-google-play-books/> as I don't have an Android device to test it on. If anyone with an Android device can write this section of the instructions I would be most grateful.

## 4. Using the List

Finding a registered study name in the membership list makes use of the inbuilt search function of the Adobe Reader application.

- To access the search function on Windows / MAC select the edit menu and then Find or ctrl (cmd) F and then type the name you are searching for into the search input box. If the name is registered then you will be taken to the first occurrence of that name in the list, if the name is not registered then a dialogue box will pop up saying 'No Matches Found'
- On an iOS device tap the centre of the screen and a popup top menu bar will appear. Press the magnifying glass icon then type the name you are searching for into the search input box. If the name is registered then you will be taken to the first occurrence of that name in the list; if the name is not registered then a dialogue box will pop up saying 'Not Found'
- On an Android device it should be very similar to the iOS device above.

The list contains the details of all registered names and variants at the time of the list creation.

### The off-line Members List on an iPad

Lidstone	81	Ann Lidstone	lidstone@one-name.org
Lidys	3676	Everett Leeds	leeds@one-name.org
Leabody	2233	Esther Galbraith	lightbody@one-name.org
Leede	3676	Everett Leeds	leeds@one-name.org
Leedes	3676	Everett Leeds	leeds@one-name.org
Leeds	3676	Everett Leeds	leeds@one-name.org
Leemin	3210	Tony Leeming	leeming@one-name.org
Leeming	3210	Tony Leeming	leeming@one-name.org
Lier	5491	Frances Radford	anring@one-name.org
Liene	5491	Frances Radford	anring@one-name.org
Leether	1594	Simon Leather	leather@one-name.org
Leaworthy	389	Valerie Norris	culverhouse@one-name.org
Lefever	5927	Colin Spencer	lefever@one-name.org
Lefebune	5927	Colin Spencer	lefever@one-name.org
Lefebvre	5927	Colin Spencer	lefever@one-name.org
Lefever	5927	Colin Spencer	lefever@one-name.org
Leflen	5927	Colin Spencer	lefever@one-name.org
Legal	765	John Moore	lefflen@one-name.org
Legal	6337	Joselin Le Gall	legall@one-name.org
Legal	6337	Joselin Le Gall	legall@one-name.org

## 5. Suggestions / Problems

If you have any problems with the use of the list or any suggestions for improvement please email me at [lefever@one-name.org](mailto:lefever@one-name.org).

### Editor's Comment:

This method provided an excellent off-line up-to-date membership list at WDYTYA-Live. The off-line version was published a few days before WDYTYA-Live. Both the helpers, and interested public, were impressed that we had used modern technology to make this available.





## A Review of Custodian 4

by **Anthony J. Mingay (Member 1985)**

The latest version of the well known database has recently been released, and as a user of Custodian since its early days I thought a brief review would be in order.

For those who have never used Custodian before it has been specifically designed for people who have a One-Name Study, basically a collection of data entry forms covering all the major sources used by family

historians. The main advantage is that it will 'hold in custody' any unconnected data which is particularly useful to those who gather every reference associated with that study.

This latest version further enhances the features in the previous version (Custodian3). There are some 18 main changes, some major, others less so but put together as a whole they make it well worth upgrading. The areas concerning data input have been greatly improved and I believe simplified. Another area enhanced is that of Finding, Sorting & Filtering; again really they feel comfortable to me already. Modification to the Import & Export of data has been made but I have not fully tried them out. Lastly there is a complete revamp of Family Tree Building, Tree Printing and the Exporting of the trees facilities.

There are so many new changes that not all will be reviewed in this article, mainly because of space.

Upon opening the program one is presented with a new version of what is called 'the navigation bar'. This in itself contains a new amendment bringing together all the tabs into one place. In the illustration shown the Data Navigation Tab has been

opened, showing a list of some 22 titles. Clicking the + sign will reveal further titles, as shown with the Census & Civil Registration Indexes opened. I immediately noticed the increase of the number of countries now covered. Attached to each title, country in this case, is a further + sign, which when used will open up another set of choices, finally revealing the appropriate data entry form.

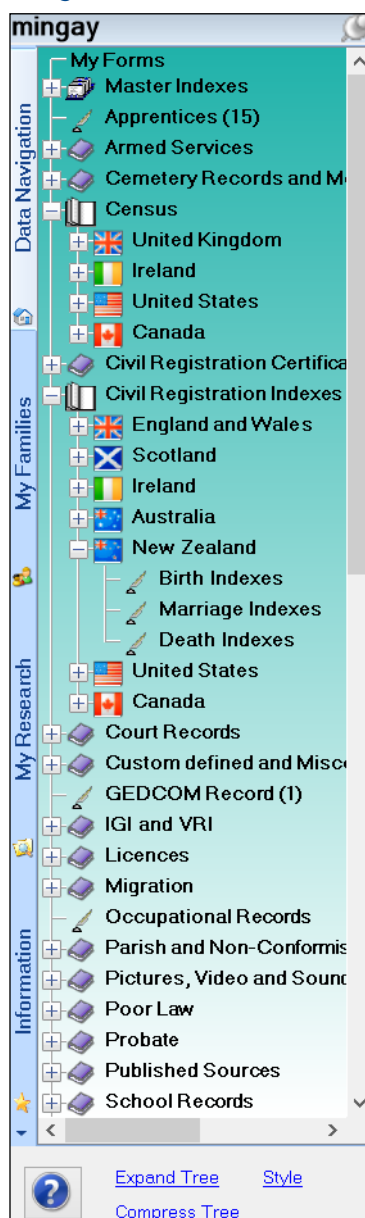
Those really on the ball will see that Australia & New Zealand do not appear in the Census list. This is not an omission as neither allow public access to their returns, in fact it is believed that they are not even kept after a certain period of time. Whilst writing this review it was noted that totals of data entries appear alongside the name of the entry form, i.e. Apprentices (15), a neat touch.

So in my opinion this latest version of the Navigation Bar is a great improvement with a great deal of thought being given as to how it is used.

Now let us turn our attention to the Filtering & Sorting. Here again they get the 10/10 grade.

Below is a section taken from the Army Rolls of my database. Clicking on the title of a column (green arrow) will

### Navigation Bar



	Forename(s) (Main)	Surname (Main)	Regimental Details	Rank	Number
1	William Wallace	MINGAY	Machine Gun Corps	Private	10421
2	William P.	MINGAY	Hampshire Regiment	Private	16220
3	Walter L.	MINGAY	South Lancashire Reg.	Acting Corporal	43108
4	William J.	MINGAY	Grenadier Guards	Private	14802
5	William H.	MINGAY	London Regiment	Private	2665
6	William E.	MINGAY	Labour Corps	Private	458852
7	Walter	MINGAY	Gordon Highlanders	Private	S/8931
8	Thomas John	MINGAY	South Staffordshire R.	Private	42887
9	Thomas	MINGAY	Army Medical Corps	Private	M2/49351
10	Sidney J.	MINGAY	Suffolk Regiment	Private	16200
11	Sydney C.	MINGAY	Suffolk Regiment	Private	19637
12	Squire	MINGAY	Northumberland Fusili.	Private	17077
13	Samuel	MINGAY	Suffolk regiment	Private	13179
14	Reginald W.	MINGAY	Royal Army Medical C.	Private	57498
15	Robert M.	MINGAY	Royal Field Artillery	Gunner	53541
16	Robert George	MINGAY	Royal Horse Artillery	Private	177031
17	Albert	MINGAY	Suffolk Regiment	Private	35058
18	Albert	MINGAY	Royal Garrison Artillery	Gunner	39870



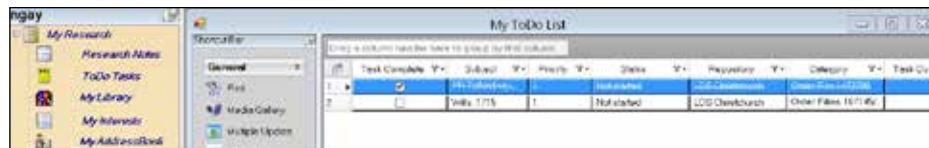
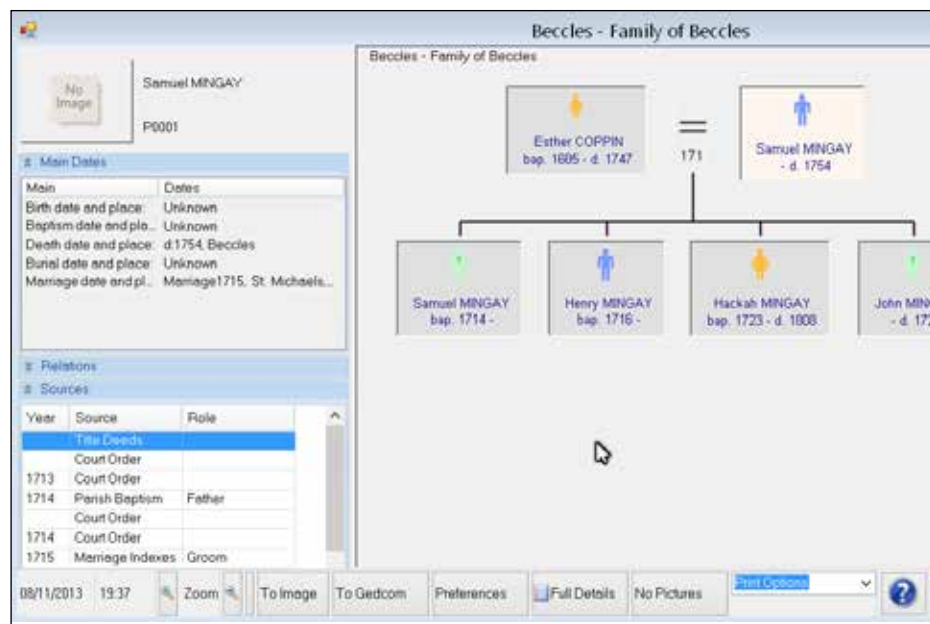
sort the data form into alphanumeric order (reverse alphanumeric as shown below) - no change here but so useful. However if the 'funnel' symbol (under blue arrow) is clicked a mini-window appears presenting a list of data entries within that column, and simply by clicking on any one of those so given will produce a new data list containing only the item selected. A by-product of this is that the mini-window will contain all one's typos, like Jonh or Jhon when it should be John etc.

A more powerful sort routine (red arrow) can be found in the 'shortcut bar'. Right-clicking the sort 'button' one is given the 'sort manager' which contains many options for sorting, such as by forename, or in the example, date of Medal Awarded. All filters and/or sorts can be applied several times to obtain the desired result. I believe that the previous use of SQL and/or Boolean Algebra has been abandoned or maybe simplified in favour of applying all filters and/or sorts several times to obtain the desired result. If I can understand the methods, believe me they are easy to use.

Note also in the shortcut bar the Source Details; this has an added feature which is the 'paste button', so useful when the same source is repeatedly used.

The next and to me by far the biggest change within the program is to the 'My Families'; this is opened by clicking the tab so marked in the Navigation Bar. Here a warning must be given, its power can only be used if each 'data entry' has been allocated a Family Reference, so new

#### Beccles – Family of Beccles



#### My ToDo List

users be warned. For those upgrading from C3 there are some snags for it to encompass all of C3 data, but that is not the end of the world. In fact to me it has been a wakeup call 'get your references consistent'. For those of us involved in a one-name study it can highlight the separate family groups within our study, sometimes called 'islands' in other programs.

By a series of right clicks one is shown a list of all one's family references where by choosing one a family tree can be built. The illustration is the start of my 'Beccles' family which links all the ancestors of a Samuel MINGAY who once resided in Beccles, Suffolk.

I am not aware of any other database which has the ability to gather together and present ALL data relating to one person, again details of Samuel MINGAY are shown. Notice one of the 'tabs' below diagram is the export to/as GEDCOM. This in my opinion is a great bonus: database to GEDCOM all in one program. I am led to believe that this section has an ongoing program of improvements: I cannot wait to see where they will lead.

The tab labelled My Research will open up access to further sub menus. Shown above is the 'ToDo Task' opened. The other tabs expose forms appropriate to the sub menu chosen and again this is

so simple to use but vital in one's Study. Tucked away in the top task bar under 'File' lies yet another powerful tool, 'Create Forms', enabling one to create a data entry form to suit one's own study. For example a baptism in another country not already specified can be so made to suit the local rites.

Improvements to the Export & Import of Data have been made but great care is needed to do either with good results. Export into various formats including CSV, Excel, Access, PDF and HTML but not (yet) GEDCOM. Nevertheless there is a great deal of choice, remembering that data in Excel can be put into GEDCOM if so desired. Importing can be carried out from Excel, Access & Text types of data. It should be noted there is a GEDCOM tab in the navigation bar which will import a complete file but a large file will take a long time.

For those upgrading from previous versions of Custodian, data importing/transfer can be carried out by the use of a supplied program called Migration. This is so easy to use in moving data in C3 to C4 – magic!

What else comes with the program? Firstly superb support direct from the authors, secondly a forum upon which issues can be discussed. An online manual is freely available but a printed version can be purchased; if you want this, it's best to do so when buying the program.

Pricing varies, a straight-forward download over the internet is £24.95, and it was surprisingly fast in my case. If one requires a the CD version then that's £29.95 + p & p (shipping), but see the web-site for more details and up to date pricing.

I am sure that this powerful program will be offered through the GOONS Sales service if this is not being done already.

In conclusion, this new version is a must, there are so many subtle changes which makes life so much easier than before. To anyone who has not used Custodian before, it is a necessity for a One-Name Study. ■



# LASTs in World War 1

by **Simon Last, Regional Representative for Essex & East London (Member 5258)**

It is all too easy to take War Memorials for granted as they become part of the town landscape, surfacing only at Remembrance. Even then, as the names of the Fallen are read out, they remain, for most listeners, just names. It is however important to recognise the men who fought and died in World War 1 as individuals and not as 'faceless names'. This is never more important than now in 2014, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War.

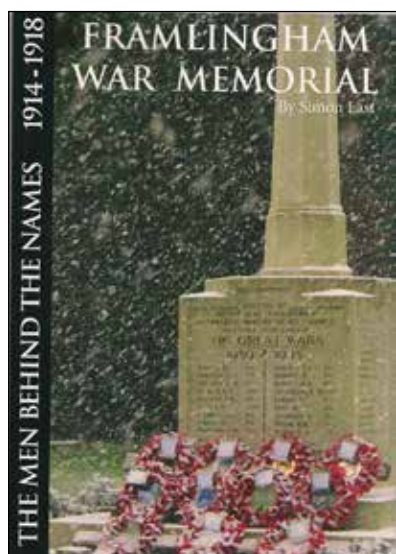
The impact of World War 1 on the small towns and communities in England and across the world was enormous and it is very difficult nowadays to realise and to comprehend what it must have been like suddenly to have had so many young men taken away from their work, homes and families to serve their country in France and Belgium. It was even harder for these towns when they started receiving the news that many of their young men would never be returning home, due to their loss in action and that their only lasting memorial would be their names listed on a town plaque or monument. These men were of course more than just that!

So following research into the World War 1 names on the War Memorials in Framlingham and Aldeburgh in Suffolk and the publication of books on the subject to raise money for the Royal British Legion, I became intrigued about any LASTs that were also killed and set out on a new project of discovery.

On the initial research into their names and regiments and looking at the dates when they were killed, it started to emerge that many of them joined up together, fought together and died just days apart.

The project discovered more about the personal and military backgrounds of the men called LAST who gave up their lives in

World War 1 and focused on the men by exploring and recording details of their lives, families and their military service histories leading up to their loss. The project has used historical documentation, personal family recollections, military records, online resources, newspapers, war diaries and journals to gain this valuable insight and records for posterity their ultimate sacrifice for future generations.



The story of each LAST man researched has proved fascinating and on various trips to France and Belgium and whilst visiting cemeteries and memorials I have found myself taking photographs of any graves or monuments that showed my One-Name Study surname.

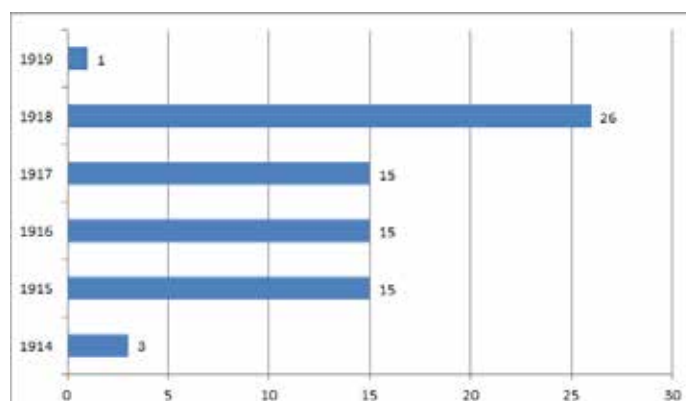
I then decided that to take my research further as I needed to find out exactly how many LASTs were killed in World War 1, their ages, where and when they died and where their families originated.

On examining the Commonwealth War Graves website [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org) I found that 75 men with the surname LAST had made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives during the Great War.

I then looked at the ages of those LASTs killed (where known) and saw that the age group with the highest number of casualties was 19, with the youngest being aged 16 and the oldest 47.

Next I decided to break this down further to see which year of the War had had the highest number of LAST casualties. Knowing that 1916 with the Battle of the Somme had been a horrific year for fatalities I assumed (wrongly!) that it would be this.

However on closer examination, I discovered that the highest number of my LAST men had been killed in 1918 with a total of 26 compared to 15 in each of the preceding years 1915, 1916 and 1917.



WW1 LASTs by year of death

I also wanted to discover how many of the LASTs had connections back to Suffolk where our surname originated and by building a family tree for each LAST soldier discovered that through parents or grandparents over 60% had proven roots and links back to the county.

Thankfully as I had no immediate LAST ancestors that had been killed I decided to examine my own wider LAST family tree and discovered Peter LAST who was my first cousin three times removed. Peter was born in 1885 in Parham in Suffolk and was the son of George and Fanny LAST (née Goodchild). Peter married Annie Ashley in 1909 in Maldon in Essex and they had one son Percy born on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1910.



Peter LAST served as a Staff Sergeant in the Army Service Corps and was injured on the front line and was brought back to England. He died from his injuries on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1914 aged 30 and was buried in Woodbridge Cemetery in Suffolk.

Sadly I then discovered that Annie Last (née Ashley) had died in 1924 in Chelmsford Essex aged only 39.

As we all know when doing our own family research the same Christian names are passed down through each generation making the tree more complicated to follow and whilst undertaking this LAST research I discovered that there was a limited number of names that had been used with the most common names (where known) being Frederick (6), Henry (5), Alfred (4), Arthur (4), George (3), Albert (3), Herbert (3) and William (3).

Knowing also from my own family tree how in previous generations some of my Suffolk families had emigrated to Australia, New Zealand or Canada, I wanted to see how many LAST casualties also had these connections and I found that four were Australian and that three were Canadian.

Using my LAST One-Name Study database and websites such as Ancestry and Genes Reunited I looked up these Australian and Canadian LASTs to see if I could find mention of them in any existing family trees.

I quickly found a connection to Leonard William Glandfield LAST who had been killed on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1916 aged 23 and sent a message to Ivan, the tree owner.

I received a prompt reply from Ivan with information who confirmed that his grandmother was first cousin to Leonard and subsequently he sent me an email with a photograph of Leonard and copies of his Attestation papers to the Australian Imperial Force and his Active Service Casualty Form.



Leonard William Glandfield LAST,

Upon receipt of the photograph of Leonard it brought him very much to life seeing how young he was and made him more than a name on a piece of paper or a database and I felt that I knew him more as a person.

It was also sad to learn that Leonard's father (also called Leonard) had committed suicide in 1915 aged 55 according to the research that Ivan had already done and

therefore Leonard's death during the war would undoubtedly have been a terrible further blow to his mother and sister under those circumstances.

#### Leonard William Glandfield LAST 's Active Service Casualty Form

Leonard William Glandfield LAST's  
Attestation Papers

Report		Period of Casualty	Period of Casualty	Period of Casualty
Date	From whom received	Period of Casualty	Period of Casualty	Period of Casualty
22-5-16	H.T. Tunstall	Ench. with Arty. Details for	Alexandria	22-5-16
9-6-16	THE 10TH DIV.	Discharged	Warwick	9-6-16
15-7-16	do.	Taken on strength	do.	15-7-16
18-8-16	do.	Applied as a Serjt. with pay.	do.	18-8-16
18-8-16	do.	Transferred to Serjt. D.A.O.	France	18-8-16
18-8-16	do.	Reported to permanent rank of	do.	18-8-16
20-8-16	do.	Quar. on marching out of base	do.	20-8-16
20-8-16	do.	Depot to join Serjt. D.A.O.	do.	20-8-16
20-8-16	do.	Transferred to Serjt. D.A.O.	do.	20-8-16
20-8-16	do.	Taken on strength of Serjt.	do.	20-8-16
20-8-16	do.	10th Battery.	do.	20-8-16
24-12-16	O.O. 20 F.A.B.	Killed in action.	In the field	24-12-16



Whilst in France during the autumn of 2013 I was able to visit Delville Wood Cemetery in France where Leonard is buried to take a photograph of his grave, which I was subsequently able to email to Ivan so that he could see his relative's final resting place.

It was also interesting to find a soldier called William Simon LAST who died on 2nd March 1916 (with my own name being Simon!) and to be able to order copies of soldiers' wills online I ordered a copy of William's.

Once it arrived I found that it contained his Informal Will and also a handwritten note dated 26th October 1914 which read:

*'In the event of my death I give the whole of my effects to my wife Elsie Kate Last of Brettenham, near Ipswich Suffolk with the exception of my two watches, which I leave to my son Henry and one to Billy - Pte W Last 9359 2nd Suffolk Regiment France'*

LARVER, Private, ...
LARSON, Private, ...
LARVIN, Lance Corporal, ...
LASCELLS, Lieutenant, ...
LASENBY, Second Lieutenant, ...
LAST, Private, EDWARD SAMUEL, 27296, 6th Bn., Somerset Light Infantry, 23 August 1917. Age 37. Husband of Elizabeth Last, of 11, Little Gipping St., Ipswich, Suffolk. Panel 41 to 42 and 163A.
LATCHFORD, Private, ...
LATCHFORD, Private, ...
LATHAM, Private, ...

Cemetery Book showing  
LAST. Private Edward Samuel 27296, 6th Bn.,  
Somerset Light Infantry. 23rd August 1917 age 37.  
Husband of Elizabeth Last of 11 Little Gipping  
St, Ipswich Suffolk. Panel 41 to 42 and 163A

When visiting any cemeteries or monuments in the UK or Europe I always look in the index of names to see if any LAST Commonwealth War Graves are listed and then once knowing the panel or grave number search for their name, as in the case of Edward Samuel LAST below who served in the Somerset Light Infantry. I was able to find out that he had been married to Elizabeth of 11 Little Gipping Street, Ipswich in Suffolk.

In 2013 I was in France on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November something I have wanted to do for several years. I was able to be present at the ceremony of Remembrance at the Thiepval Memorial where seven of my LASTs are commemorated.

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20<sup>th</sup> March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

[Thiepval Memorial](#)



The memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was built between 1928 and 1932 and was unveiled by the Prince of Wales, in the presence of the President of France, on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1932.

It was interesting to experience the remembrance from a French perspective and to be in the places that many of my LASTs were killed and spent their final hours.

The impact of World War 1 'The Great War' was obviously felt in England and around the world and this was echoed throughout all the villages, towns and cities across the land. The loss of these young men had a lasting effect on all aspects of life in the towns as there were children left without fathers, wives left without husbands and employers left without their employees and colleagues. It is therefore important that future generations are aware of the sacrifices and the lives that these men left behind to ensure that the country remained safe and free.

It is always a moving experience to see the Commonwealth War Graves when visiting France and Belgium, as they are prominent reminders of the enormity of the loss of life that resulted and whilst War Memorials were erected as a monument to the local men lost, somehow the memory and perhaps the importance of the sacrifices made are not as relevant in today's society, unless projects such as these, bring to the forefront the relevance and knowledge of the men 'behind the names'.



# The Family Historian's Dilemma

by Gillian Barnes (Member 5487)

**A**t first, in researching family history, finding even something as simple as your grandmother's maiden name is exciting. Finding new great-uncles and aunts, their occupations and their comings and goings puts depth into your research. But, sooner or later the family historian is going to find the skeleton in the closet. And there's one in every family. I don't mean to brag, but I think I've got three.

I don't mind sharing the first with you because the information is there for all to read in the records of the Old Bailey and in the pages of the London Gazette. I'm not very proud to admit that, yes, that chap is one of my direct ancestors and no, he wasn't in prison for too long, just three months. I can explain away the circumstances and blame the banks of the time for not lending money to budding entrepreneurs – he never actually stole the money, did he? And lots of others did it too.

Should I share the second skeleton's secret? It's written on the marriage certificate so it was certainly in the public domain at the time. But my grandmother wanted her divorce kept quiet in 1915. It really wasn't the done thing to admit to eloping and having children out of wedlock and I think my maternal grandparents would have been very dismayed at having their private life revealed for all and sundry to see and wonder over. Such details provide good pickings for a professional biographer; for them, every skeleton brings good sales. But usually the family historian is not in that kind of market and so our skeletons raise tricky dilemmas. Should curiosity and research be tempered with a little respect for one's ancestors? Should it be our duty to share it?

What about the third? Great-uncle Bertram was always described as the black sheep of the family. But I thought that was a romantic thing to be. I couldn't understand why the non-Conformist branch of the family was so cross when he married a Catholic girl. Surely that couldn't make him a black sheep? Why, he and I shared some family resemblance – he couldn't be *all bad*. I just admired the rebel in him. And then I found out more and, although I'm glad I found out, I just wish I hadn't. In fact, I'm quite embarrassed about it because I am of the generation that was brought up to respect older family members and I never knew I was going to find out about my great-uncle's sexual diseases when I started to research our family history. But the more I researched the more I sympathised with his plight. Bertram Robinson wanted to be a soldier in the Great War and volunteered to serve his country. His career shows that he had an adventurous spirit and his family background gave him a very good idea of the privations endured by an ordinary soldier, but in the end he couldn't meet the demands the war made on him. I would like to share his story now for it reveals a less glorious aspect of a soldier's life during the Great War.

Bertram Emmerson Robinson was born to a British Army family in Meerut, Punjab, India on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1880, the eldest of a family of eight living children. His father, Henry Emmerson Robinson, started work as a youthful loom-minder in a Leeds mill but quickly decided to enlist, falsifying his age and after a few months' training being sent to serve in India where he stayed for most of his army life. His military record in the Royal Artillery was exemplary and photographs show a stern-looking man who may not have been too easy to live with. Perhaps the young Bertram found his own maternal grandfather more approachable; certainly, George Woolner's long military record in India shows a constant string of promotions and demotions during twenty years' service.

The 1891 census shows the family in the New Barracks in Throxenby, Yorkshire and in 1901 they are established in Wellclose Terrace, Leeds. Bertram's father is a County Court Bailiff and Bertram, aged 20, is a manager in a grocer's shop. Marriage to Florence Louise Gibbs on 31 October 1903 at St Ann's Catholic Church, Park Lane, Leeds is the first upset, perhaps not entirely unexpected since some of his cousins still in India are Catholic. This marriage was witnessed by Mary Lucy Robinson and Thomas William Marston who were themselves married in June 1904<sup>1</sup>. Mary Lucy Robinson's father is a grocer but appears not to be a relation. Bertram is a manager with the Co-op.

In March 1905 Bertram's parents and younger siblings left for Winnipeg, Canada sailing on the steamer *Parisian*<sup>2</sup> leaving Bertram and his wife in Leeds. A seemingly uneventful life so far.

By 1911 Florence Louise is lodging with her sister and brother-in-law, Amy Holt French and George French, in Lambeth who both work on the music-hall circuit. I have not found Bertram in the 1911 census but passenger lists show that he may have visited his family in Canada at the time.

In 1913 Bertram writes at length several times from Kinshasa to his sister-in-law Mabel Robinson, my grandmother, enclosing photographs and sounding as though he is enjoying the life out there. He writes that he and his colleagues are called 'Palm Oil Ruffians'. The Lever Archives indicate that Sir William Lever, representing Lever Brothers Limited, had entered into treaty with the Belgian Government and on 14 April 1911 a convention was signed with the colony of the Belgian Congo which brought into existence 'La Société Anonyme des Huileries du Congo Belge'. The supply of palm oil to the Lever Company was now established and the first bar of Palmolive 'Ivory' soap was soon presented to the King of the Belgians.

The conditions were not ideal – the native labour was 'poor, underfed, ravaged by sickness and inter-tribal warfare, and



all were cannibals'<sup>3</sup>, while the white staff were lodged in temporary quarters 'of varying degrees of discomfort'<sup>4</sup>. By 1914 the indiscipline in the company in the Congo was such that a manager wrote: 'I fear the conditions there are very much like anarchy; there seems to be a great deal of discontent and strife amongst the white staff.' Bertram survived these conditions but it was a very demanding environment, both physically and mentally and he must have been affected by it. Shortly after the outbreak of war Bertram decided to go to Australia and worked his passage as an able seaman aboard 'Themistocles'<sup>5</sup> departing London on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1914.

Bertram signed his attestation papers on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1916 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. He is described as an African Trader, in height 6'1", chest 36-40" with brown hair and grey eyes and Bertram declares that he is not married.<sup>6</sup> The Certificate of Medical Examination completed for each soldier declares him free from 'scrofula, phthisis, syphilis . . .' and six more lines of other uncomfortable medical conditions. However, after his medical he is declared fit for active service to last the duration of the war plus four months. He is assigned to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Howitzer Brigade<sup>7</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Reinforcements and embarks *Medic* at Melbourne on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1916.

As Gunner 22532 he disembarks in Portsmouth on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1916. He joins the 3<sup>rd</sup> Divisional Ammunition Column<sup>8</sup> on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1916 and they undertake further training at Larkhill on Salisbury Plain. On 25<sup>th</sup> September 1916 Bertram is promoted to Driver. Then the sorry tale begins of going Absent without Leave (AWOL), of being charged by District Courts Martial (DCM) and being sentenced to periods of detention.

Bertram goes AWOL from Larkhill on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1916 for two days and is sentenced to 14 days detention. In September the first men from 3<sup>rd</sup> Division were drafted to other divisions already in France. He goes AWOL again from 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1917 until 11<sup>th</sup> July 1917 and is then admitted to hospital until 6<sup>th</sup> November with symptoms of gonorrhoea. His records show the daily symptoms and treatments that he received and it must be believed that he really does have gonorrhoea. Every VD patient was supposed to be interviewed to establish how he was infected<sup>9</sup>. His admission that he first contracted it 17 years before, from an 'amateur'<sup>10</sup>, may be a reason for the supposed failure of his marriage. While in hospital he is found guilty by the DCM and sentenced to 98 days detention

1917 Medical Papers - Page 49

Name	Rank	Reg. No.	Age	Service	Service Abroad	Disease
ROBINSON, Bt. Gunr		22532	37	19/12	16/12	GONORRHOEA
WARD						
Date of Admission		Disposal		Date of Discharge		
1st 14.7.17		Unit		7.11.17		
2nd						
3rd						
First Attack on Discharge Had Gon 17 years ago.						
Where contracted London from amateur when 4 wks.						
Prophylactic Treatment Yll treated himself with sandalwood oil.						
NUTRITION 5 days. weight 168.						
White discharge						

1917 Medical Papers - Page 50

on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1917. From 16<sup>th</sup> January 1918 he goes AWOL from Heytesbury. On 12<sup>th</sup> February 1918 a Court of Inquiry was assembled at Heytesbury to investigate the absence of Bertram and his kit. The typewritten findings show that he appears to have taken every piece of clothing and equipment he had been issued with. Every item is costed and the total is £9 14s 5d. <sup>11</sup> He is subsequently apprehended by the civil police at Cornbeeton Hill, Kidderminster on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

By being AWOL he has missed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division's action in France and Flanders.

On 20<sup>th</sup> April 1918 the DCM held at Codford sentenced him to 130 days detention in Devizes Detention Barracks to run from 29<sup>th</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> September; this was confirmed by Major Gen. The Hon Sir JW McCay with a total forfeiture of 224 days' pay. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1918 he is marched to Lewes detention barracks and, quite amazingly, he is charged by the DCM of being AWOL from 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1918 to 28<sup>th</sup> March 1919. It is not surprising that he wanted to escape from Lewes Detention Centre, it had an appalling reputation and, because the Australian government refused to sanction the death penalty for disciplinary problems, there were hundreds of Australians incarcerated in detention in England and France. But how did he do it? Where did he go for over 8 months? Bertram was apprehended by the civil police at Bradford on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1919 and a DCM was held at Sutton Veney on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1919. Bertram pleaded guilty, making only the following short written statement:

*I was suffering from acute pyrrhia (probably pyorrhoea, a discharge of pus<sup>12</sup> and perhaps a euphemism for gonorrhoea) and though the medical officer was sympathetic I could get no alteration in my diet. The pain affected me so much that I did not know what I was doing and went absent. I have served since Jan 1916. I have not yet been to France.*

Bertram was found guilty and sentenced to 17 months detention on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1919 but with eight months remission on the orders of the presiding Major General (name illegible). On Army Form B178 Medical History the note dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918 declares him to be fit. He is discharged from Lewes detention barracks to embark SS Barambah as a disciplinary case on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1919. Question 20 on his accompanying Medical Report dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 1919 declares his



medical classification to be A Class and fit for general service. He arrived in Australia on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1919 and was finally discharged 9<sup>th</sup> November 1919.

There are over 50 pages in his army record. I read them all and afterwards didn't want to connect my relative with this soldier and his dishonourable record. The typewritten précis of his service record for the Medal Board is officially stamped 'Automatically forfeits' and understandably, Bertram is denied at least three medals.

I knew no more about Bertram's life and career until I idly typed in his name in the NSW Registry site<sup>13</sup> and found the record of his death. The death certificate tells me that he died in St Vincent's Catholic Hospital in Lismore, NSW in 1929 but there was no family member at his side. Cause of death 'chronic nephritis' i.e. inflammation of the kidneys. Then more newspaper archives came online and I found the notice of his funeral: this was the first intimation that he had not been totally forgotten.

The FUNERAL of the late BERTRAM EMMERSON ROBINSON will move from the R.C. Cathedral THIS DAY (THURSDAY), at 11 a.m., for the R.C. portion of the Lismore Cemetery. WILL RILEY and SON, Undertakers. Returned soldiers are invited to attend the FUNERAL of their late comrade, DRIVER BERTRAM E. ROBINSON, late 3rd D.A.C., to leave R.C. Cathedral at 11 a.m. THIS DAY. A. V. TAYLOR, Hon. Secretary R.S.S.I.L.A.<sup>1415</sup>

I believed that he was buried and that was that, until I found, through the 'Trove' website, a further item from the Northern Star newspaper of Lismore, NSW. The act of kindness reported in that newspaper showed that whatever a soldier did, foolish or otherwise, it could not hide the fact that he had signed up to fight in the Great War: in volunteering a soldier forged a bond with his comrades that rose above any other consideration. Bertram was the recipient of this generosity of spirit and comradeship.

#### CANADIAN SOLDIER'S GRAVE

About a year ago a Canadian ex-soldier named **Bertram E. Robinson** died in Lismore, and was buried in the Lismore cemetery with military honours, thanks to the local branch of the Returned Soldiers' League. The deceased had no relatives in Australia, but an appreciative letter was subsequently received from his father in Canada. It was last night proposed to open, a subscription list for the purpose of placing a headstone over the grave, and Col. Board, Messrs. S. W. Hodge, E. Fisher, F. W. Hayley, and C. A. Wilson each subscribed half a guinea toward the cost. It was pointed out that had the ex-soldier died in France his grave would have been marked. Further subscriptions may be forwarded to Mr. S.W. Hodge manager of the Lismore office of the A.M.P. Society.<sup>16,17</sup>

Well, I've shared my skeletons, whether they liked it or not because it's a tricky area that does need discussion. I also know a lot more about an aspect of a soldier's life in the Great War. Should I have told you the details? Should I have researched the details in the first place? Of course, this rather sad history might be of use, it might inform a person's lifestyle decisions so that they vow never to tread the path of the black sheep. So be it, researching and publishing could do some good.

But, have you got a family secret or hidden past? Do you want *your* secrets and skeletons brought into the light of day in the future? That's the family historian's dilemma. ■

#### Sources & Citations

1. Jun quarter Leeds 1904 ref: 9b 1107
2. Upon arrival in Halifax harbour The Parisian was rammed by the German steamer MV Albano but there were no casualties. Source The Halifax Herald 27 March 1905.
3. Charles Wilson The History of Unilever p.174
4. ibid p.178
5. A vessel later used for transporting Australian troops.
6. The National Archives of Australia bar code 1902920.
7. The Howitzer Brigades at Divisional level were broken up during May 1916, and the sections allocated to join the field gun Brigades, usually of the same Division. Brigade Ammunition Columns disappeared in May 1916, when they were reorganised into Divisional Ammunition Columns. Source www.1914-1918.net
8. 3rd Divisional Ammunition Column, Royal Field Artillery served with 3rd Division. In 1916 they took part in The Actions of the Bluff and St Eloi Craters then moved to The Somme for The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin helping to capture Longueval, The Battle of Delville Wood and The Battle of the Ancre. In 1917 They were at Arras, seeing action at Battles of the Scarpe and The Battle of Arleux. They moved north to the Flanders and were in action during The Battle of the Menin Road and Battle of Polygon Wood during the Third Battle of Ypres. Then moved south and were in action at The Battle of Cambrai. In 1918 They were in action on The Somme, in the Battles of the Lys, the Battles of the Hindenburg Line and the Battle of the Selle. After the Armistice 3<sup>rd</sup> Division advanced into Germany as part of the Occupation Force.
9. *Bad Characters, Sex, Crime, Mutiny, Murder and the Australian Imperial Force* Peter Stanley
10. Since brothels were illegal in England prostitutes were usually found on the streets and were called 'Amateurs', partly because many were part-time housewives or shopgirls and not professional prostitutes.
11. Page 37 has a complete list of all his equipment and the cost in 1918.
12. The concise Oxford Dictionary
13. www.bdm.nsw.gov.au
14. The Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia in 1916, became the Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia in 1940, and became the Returned Services League of Australia in 1965.
15. Northern Star, Lismore NSW Thursday 29 August 1929.
16. Northern Star, Lismore NSW Friday 13 June 1930.
17. The Australia Mutual Provident Society formed in 1849.

#### Do You Have Names Beginning with A? The following surnames have been registered:

Ab Adam, Ab Adham, Abbate, Abbershaw, Abbeshaw, Abbet, Abbishaw, Abbit, Abbot, Abbott, Abbotts, Abershaw, Abishaw, Abrathat, Abrathett, Abrathut, Abayat, Abthorpe, Acherley, Ackehurst, Ackers, Ackhurst, Ackres, Acorn, Acre, Acrea, Acree, Acres, Acrey, Adaman, Adamthwaite, Adaway, Addaway, Addeman, Addice, Addick, Addiman, Addis, Addiss, Addyman, Addys, Ades, Adshade, Adshead, Adwick, Adwicke, Adys, Aerton, Affleck, Afflect, Afflick, Afleck, Agambar, Agombar, Agombard, Agomber, Agonbar, Agutter, Aierton, Ainley, Ainscoe, Ainscough, Ainscow, Ainsley, Ainslie, Aireton, Airmyn, Airmyne, Airtion, Aish, Aishe, Akass, Akehurst, Akers, Akess, Akhurst, Akre, Akres, Akrie, Akurst, Al-Qanawati, Alabaster, Alanach, Albut, Albutt, Alcroft, Alderman, Alders, Aldworth, Alefounder, Alesbury, Alfounder, Alington, Alkinton, Allaker, Allan, Allanach, Allane, Allard, Allary, Allbrook, Allbrooke, Allbut, Allbutt, Allcoat, Allcot, Alleary, Allen, Allery, Allington, Allnatt, Allsbury, Allsop, Allsopp, Allsup, Almand, Almwick, Alnewicke, Alnewick, Alp, Alpe, Alph, Alps, Alsbury, Alsop, Alsope, Alstead, Altham, Amesden, Amesdon, Amsden, Amsdon, Amston, Anerdale, Angof, Angoffe, Angove, Aning, Anly, Annal, Annald, Annall, Annals, Annandale, Annel, Annesley, Anning, Anninge, Annyng, Annyng, Ansley, Anstes, Anstess, Anstice, Anstis, Anstiss

continued on page 33.



# One-Name Searches on a Battlefields Tour

by Margaret Spiller (Member 1204)

In September 2012 a friend and I went on a Battlefields Tour called 'All Quiet on the Western Front' with Leger Holidays. Before setting out, I read up on the First World War on the Western Front so that I had some idea of the battles and when and where they took place. I then decided that, as a One-Namer, I must find and photograph as many of the memorials to men bearing the name I study – Pook and variants – as I could. I therefore downloaded a list of all First World War soldiers with this name, a total of 34, from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Website ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)). Of these, two died in Italy, two in Turkey, one in Germany and two in the UK, leaving a total of 27 memorials to search for.

Some years ago I had been through a list of CWGC memorials and tried to work out who the men were. I therefore cross referenced this with the new list and annotated it so that I knew which family they came from. Not all of my original analysis was correct as newer sources have altered some family groupings. The 1911 Census proved to be a great help in identifying men I had not been able to trace before and I only had to resort to buying a certificate in one instance. The only soldier I was unable to identify was Karl Pooock, the sole German soldier in the list, who died at the very start of the war.

The first day of our tour was spent in the 'Ypres Salient' which saw a great deal of action throughout the war. Our first cemetery was Tyne Cot, near Passchendaele, the largest British Military Cemetery in the world, with nearly 12000 headstones, three quarters of which are dedicated to unknown soldiers. At the rear of the cemetery is a Memorial Wall to the Missing with the names of almost 35,000 soldiers who have no known graves; amongst them was my first Pook of the tour, Arthur Edward Pook of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, who went missing on 16 August 1916. He was 34 years old, married with two children and he came from Devon.

Tyne Cot Cemetery, near Passchendaele



Thomas Pook – Hooge Crater Cemetery



The next cemetery we visited was Hooge Crater Cemetery located on the Menin Road, a stretch of land much fought over during the war. It was here that I found the only Pook headstone in any of the cemeteries we visited during the

tour. This headstone was dedicated to Thomas Pook of the Devonshire Regiment who died on 26 October 1917 during the Third Battle of Ypres. He was 37 years old, married with no children and came from Tedburn St. Mary in Devon. It took some time to find his headstone, as the cemetery was quite large, and I was very glad to have the CWGC printout with me as it gave the reference to the grave: without a reference, I doubt we would have found it given the limited time we had there. These memorial references were to become even more significant when we visited some of the huge memorials built after the war.

Our next port of call was the Ploegsteert Memorial, at a place known by the British as 'Plug Street', which is in Belgium on the French Border. The Memorial commemorates 11,000 men killed in both Belgian and French Flanders, among them George Douglas Pook aged 40, a sapper with the Royal Engineers, who came from Wartling in Sussex and who died in 1918.

Clifford Thomas Pook – Menin Gate

HARRINGTON M	PARRISH A	THOMAS J TIES
HARRIS A	PARRY F S	THOMAS J F
HARRIS A J	PARRY W	THOMAS R
HARRIS C	PENCOCK T	THOMAS P G
HATHAWAY F	PERACE W C	THOMAS Z
HAYARD T B	PERLIN A	THOMAS W C
HAYMOND T	PHILLIPS D J	TINDALL J
HERBERT T	PHILLIPS J	TREW I
HERRINGTON F	PODGE C T	TURNER W J
HILL A	POPE A J	VAUGHAN J
HILL W D	POUCH W C	VIRBALL C
HILLMAN J	POWELL D W	WARD G
HILLMAN T J	POWELL E J	WARDMAN E
HOBBS C W	POWELL B	WATKINS H J
HOGAN W I	PRICE B	WEBER C H
HOLBROOK R G	PRICE D W	WHEELS A
HOOPER A L	PRICE F	WHEBET A
HOOPER A W	PRICE F E	WYNDHOUSE W A
HOWELLS J M	PRICE I	WHAYMORE A
HOWELLS W	PRICE W A	WHITE J W
HUGHES R	PRICE W J	WHITE A

After this we drove to Ieper (Ypres) and had our first glimpse of the Menin Gate. This is a huge monumental gate built on the site of the Ypres Town Gate through which British and Commonwealth soldiers marched on their way to battle. The Gate has the names of 55,000 soldiers missing in battle in the Ypres Salient, arranged by regiment and then by rank. Armed with the CWGC memorial reference I was able to locate Clifford Thomas Pook a rifleman with the Monmouthshire

Regiment, in one of the upper galleries of the gate, although it did take us some time to work out how the memorial inscriptions were laid out.

Our second day of the tour was spent in France, in the area of Arras. The battle of Arras, about which I knew very little beforehand, took place in April and May 1917. The Arras Memorial has the names of just under 36,000 soldiers missing in action, among them Harold Alfred Pook, of the Royal Fusiliers and Frederick William Pook of the Cheshire Regiment; I was lucky enough to have found the latter's Service Record amongst the 'Burnt Records' on the Ancestry website ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)). Whilst here I discovered that books listing all those commemorated and a visitors' book are held at all CWGC memorials. From this time on, I took the opportunity to enter my name, that of the Pook I was visiting and my Guild email address in all the Visitors Books, just in case any family member were to drop by.

#### Thiepval Memorial



Our last port of call in this area was the Vimy Ridge Memorial dedicated to over 11,000 Canadian soldiers who went missing in the War. This is a huge memorial which had recently been restored and shone very brightly in the sunshine. With some difficulty we managed to locate Edward Pook aged 22 from Manitoba, the son of Frederick Pook, an emigrant from Molland in Devon. I had been photographing the headstones and monuments as I went along but this was particularly difficult as the sun was shining directly on it.

Our final day of the tour was spent on the Somme, scene of the horrendous battle in 1916.

We visited an excellent museum in the town of Peronne, the 'Historial de la Grande Guerre' ([www.historial.org](http://www.historial.org)), which had an exhibition dedicated to the life stories of men who went missing on the Somme and are commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. There were no Pooks in the exhibition but it was fascinating nonetheless as family members had donated personal objects to illustrate their relatives' lives.

After visiting cemeteries and memorials dedicated to soldiers from Wales, Ulster, Newfoundland and South Africa, we finally arrived at the largest of them all, the Thiepval Memorial. This was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was dedicated in 1932 and commemorates over 73,000 soldiers who died on the Somme and have no known grave. The only Pook commemorated here is Frederick William Pook, a private from Whitechapel in London who served in the Royal Fusiliers. His name is inscribed high up on one of the walls of this very tall monument and was quite difficult to see although I did manage to photograph it with my zoom lens; a pair of binoculars would have been handy at this memorial!

During the tour, I managed to find eight of the twenty eight men I was searching for. The others on my list are buried in smaller cemeteries and these are widely scattered in North East France and Belgium. The CWGC publish a book entitled 'Cemeteries and Memorials in Belgium and Northern France' which lists all the cemeteries with British and Commonwealth graves and memorials in these areas and shows their locations on maps. Some of these are at a considerable distance from the front line and could well indicate that the soldier had been injured and then died either at a dressing station or at hospital well behind the lines. ■

#### References:

*British and Commonwealth War Cemeteries* by Julie Summers  
*Cemeteries and Memorials in Belgium and Northern France* – CWGC publication.  
*The Great War on the Western Front: A History* by Paddy Griffith

#### Guild Stand at Fairs April-June

A Guild Stand is planned for the following Family History Fairs in April-June. Further details are available at [www.one-name.org/events.html](http://www.one-name.org/events.html). If you need to contact the Stand Organiser look in the Members Room at [www.one-name.org/members/stand/standorganisation.html](http://www.one-name.org/members/stand/standorganisation.html).

Date	Fair	Date	Fair
1-4 May	Ontario Genealogical Society Conference	31 May	Gloucestershire FHS Family History Fair, Gloucester
10 May	The Family History Day, Pudsey Civic Hall	14 Jun	Gwent FHS Open Day, Newport, Gwent
17 May	AFHSW Family & Local History Fair, Aberystwyth	21 Jun	Wiltshire FHS Open Day, Civic Centre, Trowbridge
17 May	Sussex FHG Family and Local History Fair, Fishbourne Centre, Chichester	28 Jun	The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX





# Internet Resources for Historical Military

by **Rennison Vayro (Member 4347)**

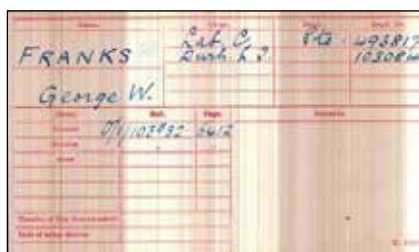
**T**here will be few families without a relative or ancestor who served in conflict of some sort, like the Spanish Armada, Napoleonic War, Crimea, Boer War, or more recently in the Falklands or Iraq.

In the case of these last two full details are still 'top secret' and the records will not be available for some time.

In a year when we will be celebrating the 100 years since the beginning of the Great War I have attempted to put together a range of resources and records to be found on the Internet that can be consulted for information on those who served in the Great War of 1914 to 1918, and also the Second World War 1939 to 1945.

The National Archives in Kew, Richmond Surrey hold many military records for WW1, but it makes it much easier if you know the regiment, battalion and service number for your relative, because these may give you access to the medal mards and their service records.

The medal rolls index cards for WW1 can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/bjynthf> (PPV) and on <http://tinyurl.com/b7cg3bn> you can search for the Pension Records of the British Army soldiers in WW1 (PPV).



Medal Card for Maternal Grandfather George Wm Franks

<http://tinyurl.com/nog5s4g> and have produced these as digitised copies of the original records.

Unfortunately some records were completely destroyed in the blitz of WW2, but it is worth persevering because I located images of both my paternal and maternal grandfather's service records with the Durham Light Infantry in WW1, with a little help from a couple of Guild members.

Alternatively <http://tinyurl.com/kjtoql9> has a similar good selection of military records including pensions but also available on subscription (PPV).

Graves for the soldiers who tragically were lost in both World Wars may be found on the Commonwealth Graves website at [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org).

**PROTECTION CERTIFICATE AND CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY**  
(SOLDIER NOT REMAINING WITH THE COLOURS).

Regt. No. 10007 Rank 1st Lt  
Unit 5th Bn Regt. or Corps 1st Lt  
I have received an advance of £2.  
(Signature of Soldier) 1st Lt 10007  
The above named soldier is granted 28 days furlough from the date stamped hereon (month) (day) (year) 10 FEB 1919  
Medical Category B1  
Place of re-joining in case of emergency Northern  
Specialist Military Qualification 1st Lt 10007  
Date 10/2/19 Office of Issue 10007 Policy issued 10007  
(3)

'Burnt Document' WW1 Service Record for Paternal Grandfather Thomas Vayro

The International Headquarters of the Red Cross at Geneva in Switzerland on <http://tinyurl.com/4t3p5pl> is presently transcribing the records of thousands of servicemen and women who were captured and served as Prisoners of War in both World Wars. They will do a search of these records but for a fee.



WW1 Medals Grandfather Thomas Vayro

The main site for Veterans UK is a good source for records for MOD Second World War soldiers at [www.veterans-uk.info/index.html](http://www.veterans-uk.info/index.html) It is possible for relatives to access the records of soldiers who served in WW2 at the Veteran's Agency on <http://tinyurl.com/48kehv>.

It is also worth visiting [www.forces-war-records.co.uk](http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk) and [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records) that both have access to four million forces war records.

The Data Protection Act of 1998 gave former soldiers and officers from WW2 a statutory entitlement to access to the information about them held by the Ministry of Defence, including personnel records. If the veteran soldier still survives then it will be necessary to enclose proof of his/her identity e.g. a copy of their driving licence, passport or a utility bill, and details of their regiment and service number. However if you have a deceased relative that was a former member of the Armed Services in WW2 and wish to be provided with copies of their service record you can apply on behalf of the widow or spouse with proof of relationship and kinship, to the following address:

Army Personnel Centre, MS Support Division  
Parliamentary & Disclosure Branch  
Historical Disclosures Section  
(Data Protection Cell)  
Mail Point 555  
Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street  
GLASGOW G2 8EX  
Telephone 0845 600 9663

Further details can be found on the Army Personnel Support site at [www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support/23212.aspx](http://www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support/23212.aspx).

The link below gives access to printed forms and guidance information for requesting Service Records of an individual. <https://www.gov.uk/requests-for-personal-data-and-service-records>.



Durham Light Infantry Cap Badge

So the first starting point is the actual regiment in which your ancestor served. If you live in the North-East of England as well as the Durham Light Infantry, other local regiments may be the Green Howards, the East Yorkshire Regiment. Also don't neglect those further afield like the Seaforth Highlanders who in WW1 had strong connections to D.L.I. An initial enquiry for the DLI Museum in Aykley Heads, Durham City DH1 5TU can be made on <http://tinyurl.com/kzdlo8c> or by telephone to 03000266590 or by email to [dli@durham.gov.uk](mailto:dli@durham.gov.uk).

For more information on the Museum and location of their archives in the welcome pages at <http://tinyurl.com/n3f4c5m> or even their section on the Long, Long Trail to be found at [www.1914-1918.net/dli.htm](http://www.1914-1918.net/dli.htm) with records of the Durham Light Infantry and British Army in the Great War.

For details of most of the other British regimental museums who may be able to assist try [www.armymuseums.org.uk](http://www.armymuseums.org.uk) as sponsored by the Ogilvy Trust.

If you happen to be looking for Australian or Canadian Service Personnel then you should try <http://tinyurl.com/kuqfwpx> for Anzac Records and <http://tinyurl.com/l2ja9pu> or alternatively [www.collectionscanada.ca](http://www.collectionscanada.ca) with access to the Service Records of WW1 Canadian Forces.

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

In my own case I was fortunate to have several photographs of my grandfather Thomas in a soldier's uniform so knew that he had served in the Great War; but for those who do not, you may be lucky enough to spot your relative on <http://tinyurl.com/qj9qjyx> or at least find an image of his regiment and places where he fought.



DLI Reunion at Brancepeth Castle  
Crook and Willington Division 1958

If your relative happened to be Australian and fought in WW1 then a recently opened site on 'Flickr' gives superb portraits of South Australian soldiers, sailors and nurses at <http://tinyurl.com/kj2qq8v>.

I have attempted to pinpoint important websites mainly for both World Wars but these are not meant to be fully exclusive and there are numerous other websites that can be found on the internet.

Without going into detail as to what these sites include you could search for terms such as 'Boer War', 'Behind the Wire', 'Shipwrecked Mariners', as well as 'Royal Air Force', 'Royal Navy', 'Fleet Air Arm', and 'Imperial War Museum' all of which will be found on popular search engine sites like Google and Yahoo.

And finally if you want details of current Army, Navy and Air Forces then you should visit [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk) for Ministry of Defence military information.

If any colleagues are aware of any other websites for Historical Military Records that are available, could you please post them on the Guild Forum or send them to me direct at [john.vayro@sky.com](mailto:john.vayro@sky.com). ■



# Who Do You Think You Are - Live 2014





Photographs by Peter Hagger, Debbie Kennett, and Teresa Pask





# Manchester Grammar School Boy Scouts in World War I

by [Michael Stonehewer \(Member 3407\)](#)

My attempts at putting this article into print started with obtaining a photograph of my Uncle's WWI War Grave in France. This aim was reinforced by a photograph taken at the beginning of WWI seen in a family history society journal, and in turn by my first contact with the archivist at Manchester Grammar School.

So where do I start? My original reason for writing this article was to raise the profile of The War Graves Photographic Project and in the main, it still is! The TWGPP voluntary work is done in co-operation with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. To illustrate its work I thought that I would do this with reference to my uncle, Samuel Stonehewer, who was killed in France during WWI.

During my younger years I knew that I had had an uncle who was killed in a battle on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916 during last days of the Battle of the Somme. In the final act of the Somme Offensive, Beaumont-Hamel, known as a fortress village, was assailed by the 51<sup>st</sup> (Highland) Division on that day, hence opening the Battle of Ancre.

He was a private in the Gordon Highlanders and you can see him in uniform in the adjacent photograph. My father said he had been told that Samuel had been killed by sniper fire, and that he had some War Office paperwork indicating that Samuel's body had been moved twice before finishing up in his final resting place at the Ancre War Grave site. As I grew up I heard snippets which indicated how much Samuel's death had affected his family; indeed my brother (older than myself) was named after him.



[Samuel Stonehewer](#)

Whilst conducting my family's family history research I found that most of the British casualties that fateful November day were indeed by sniper fire — it seems it had been a very misty start to the day so fire across the site was on an opportunity basis, and a letter of condolence from Sam's Sergeant, shown on the next page, confirms that Sam died early in that battle. What puzzled me was why Sam — a lad from Manchester — was in a Scottish Regiment? It seems he joined a Territorial Regiment and whilst he was old enough to have gone to France in 1914, his Regiment travelled to France in 1915. (Interestingly this is confirmed in a second letter of condolence written by a friend of Sam's also from Manchester Grammar School).



The picture of a ship shows the Gordons disembarking in France in May 1915. (This picture is taken from a book written by Captain Robert B. Ross who was the Adjutant to the Regiment.) Captain Ross's book, "*The Fifty-First in France*" appears to be a compilation of notes that he sent home and were subsequently illustrated by Jessie K Ross (perhaps his wife?) — (unusually it does not have publication date, nor is it copyrighted). A journalist from Scotland in the years before the war, he sent articles home for the Scottish Press. It was unnerving to discover that not only did the book start on the day that my uncle went to France, but ends on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916 — the day Sam was killed. The Adjutant was also injured on that fateful day hence the book ceases on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916. Whilst Captain Ross does not mention the other ranks by name, he closes his book with the following paragraph:

*"All victories are won at a price. In numbers indeed our casualties were not disproportionate to the magnitude of the venture, Captain Merson fell early that day. The two Robertsons lay dead upon the field. The murderous fighting of the day exacted a heavy toll of casualties, although perhaps the percentage of killed was low. But who shall compute the loss of even a small number of such MEN? Their breed is invincible."*

## Where do the Scouts Come into this Story?

For many years I have known that my father, Ellis George, and his elder brother, Samuel, went to Manchester Grammar School, and have a picture (see next page) of Samuel taken on the school steps before going off on the annual Scout Troop Camp. Sadly it is undated and damaged, but probably taken during 1911 to 1913 but it is obviously pre WWI.

As Samuel was born in 1895, and at Manchester Grammar from 1911 to 1913, before working for the National Boiler and General Insurance Company, it would seem he was one of the early Boy Scouts that Baden-Powell had started just a few years earlier. Samuel's brother, and my father, Ellis George was born in 1901 and at MGS from 1913 to 1917.





Samuel is on the second row from the front – the fourth scout from the right and appears to be wearing his school cap?

The dates for their MGS attendance came from the temporary School Archivist, Joanna Badrock, and her research has revealed that the School Magazine, called the 'Ulula', during the First World War included memorials written re the school boys

killed in action and has recently found memorial inscriptions from a close friend of Samuel and one from his sergeant. These are moving accounts telling us more about my Uncle, and are shown below.

Private S. Stonehewer, of the 1/7th Gordon Highlanders, was killed in the fighting on the 13th November, quite early in the advance.

His old friend S. Almond writes:—

"He left the classical side of the School to go into business with the National Boiler and General Insurance Co., of Manchester. He enlisted at the early age of 17, and had been in France about 18 months when he was killed. He was a cheery little fellow, with the instincts of a thorough sportsman. 'Sammy,' as he was universally called, won his way into the hearts of all who knew him, and his cheerful smile and good humour never left him. He died nobly, keeping up the traditions of his School and his Regiment."

Whilst recording my late Uncle Samuel's life I came across an article written about the MGS Boy Scouts in Paris at the commencement of WWI. This story, "The World War 1 Experiences of a Manchester School Boy, Gilbert Waters Hyde" was written in two parts by Sue Hyde Fielding and published in the North Cheshire Family History Society Journal, The North Cheshire Family Historian, in their February and May 2009 issues. (I am grateful for the kind permission of the North Cheshire FHS and Sue Hyde Fielding to publish extracts here).

Sue's father, Gilbert was born in July 1897, and was with Manchester Grammar School Scouts in France in August 1914, aged 17. 'On the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, the day they arrived in Paris, the troop was photographed with Gilbert as standard-bearer.' In a letter written by Gilbert to his sister Annie, sent from Paris, where the scouts were on their way to the Massif Central, he wrote to say how exciting it was to see the troops on the way to the front and for the scouts themselves to be cheered, and that "There is no danger but the idea of the sensation is scrumptious." He went on to add that the buses had been taken over by the government to take the troops to the front. In reality this meant that the scouts had to return home, but without the buses they had to walk along the Seine to Rouen and Le Havre for the crossing back home! (Gilbert was the leading standard bearer in the photograph on the next page).

Not long after Gilbert reached the age of 18 he left home for school but instead of going to school, he signed up and joined the Scottish Horse Brigade. (Another Manchester 'Lancashire Lad', MGS student, and Boy Scout, who joined a Scottish Regiment!).



Gilbert in the uniform of the Scottish Horse Brigade

268

THE WAR.

His Sergeant writes:—

"If dear little Sam had been my own brother I could not possibly have felt his death more."

"He worked as assistant for me," writes the Company Quartermaster Sergeant, "and a finer lad I never met. I could leave him in charge of all my work, and when I returned, everything would be all correct. We were nearly always together, and if he had been spared I am certain we would have been close friends for life. Many a time Sam and I waded through the roughest of weather to the trenches in the dark. But Sam, poor lad, was always at it; he did more work in a day of his own free will than most lads accomplish in two when asked, and never did he grumble. Fear was a word Sam did not know; he only smiled and joked at shell fire. I could write a book on Sam's life while he was with me. The only consolation you have is that he was killed in a gallant regiment that wrought one of the greatest and most glorious advances yet known."





Manchester Grammar School Band – Gilbert was the leading standard bearer, next to the drummer

Sue tells me that his attitude, like many others changed with his experience of war and said in his own words that ‘but for God’s grace, which brought him back to the UK, to train and join and be trained for a commission in the R.E. Signals, I should have certainly have met my end at Paschendale in the winter or spring’.

By coincidence when driving to see the RAF Band playing, an ex RAF colleague mentioned on passing Manchester Grammar School that his father, Ernest Holden, went to MGS – needless to say I asked if his father was in the scouts – the answer was yes and he also was one of the scouts to be trapped in Paris! He also wrote home from France to say of his experiences whilst walking from Paris to Le Havre saying that the French girls seemed to like the boy scouts!!!

One of those questions I will never get answered is that whilst my father would have been 13 years old in 1914, and hence not quite old enough to serve in 1918, I also know that he had been camping in Kent during the war – but I do not know if he went to camp in France with the scouts in August 1914!!

Regrettably I do not have a picture of Ellis when he was in his teens, but the picture below shows him in the mid twenties with his fiancée – my mother to be.



## Finally re MGS Scouts in this Article

We know that Samuel was killed in action in France in November 1916, and that his brother Ellis George was too young to join, but Gilbert left school aged 18 and signed up in November 1915 – but survived the war. For so many in this war, survival was very much the luck of the draw.

## Where Next?

Sue Hyde Fielding has recently told me that at she was able to collect a great deal of information on Gilbert and the MGS boys, particularly information regarding those who were MGS scouts. This is material that she aims to write more about and she is now also in touch with the Archivist at MGS. As for the Scout Troop itself, as a retired local Scout Leader, I hope to use my contacts to trace any history and names we can find of the MGS Boy Scouts! – watch this space!

## Scout Association Archive:

Whilst completing this article I came across the website [www.scoutrecords.org](http://www.scoutrecords.org). This contains a mixture of historical records and under ‘Catalogue’ it has the ‘First World War Roll of Honour’. It takes a while to search through as it is laid out loosely in chronological order (not alphabetically). My search did not find my Uncle Samuel, but I did find two other MGS Boy Scouts. They were listed as follows:

**2nd Lt Harold Simmonds**, killed 31 July 1917, Manchester Regiment, Late Assistant Scout Master 5th Grammar School Troop, died of wounds.

**Gunner Brian Latimer**, killed 6 April 1918, R.G.A., Late Assistant Scout Master, Manchester Grammar School Troop.

## MGS Archive:

As you have seen, I have been lucky with what I have learnt by my contact with the archivist at MGS – I can only say if you have any family connection there then do email her at [archives@mgsc.org](mailto:archives@mgsc.org). At present Joanna Badrock is in the archivist role, and as I have already indicated is most helpful! You may be interested to note that she aims to have a project under way where the current students research the history of those who served in WWI.

## Acknowledgements:

My thanks are due to Sue Hyde Fielding, Joanna Badrock, the North Cheshire Family History Society, Robert Ross, and Terry Holden – without whose help this article could not have been written!

## Editor’s Comments:

I hope that you have enjoyed all of the nine articles relating to WWI in this journal.

It is not too late if you want to include a similar article. Write to me at [editor@one-name.org](mailto:editor@one-name.org). I will provide guidance, and advise you of the deadlines for the remaining journals in this commemorative year.

Alternatively, individual narratives can be included on <http://ww1.one-name.org/>.

### Continuation of Michael Stonehewer's Research Information

You will recall on page 22 that this voluntary organisation is where I started from!

A few years ago I found a reference on-line regarding an offer to have a WWI grave photographed in northern France and I thought that if I was not able to visit Uncle Samuel's grave, then I would ask this volunteer to do it for me.

More recently I thought that I would try and track this source down and put my plan into action. In so doing I discovered how much the idea of photographing these war graves had expanded and become the respected organisation that it is today. Discovering their website I was soon able to order a photograph of my Uncle Sam's grave and three photographs arrived on line just a couple of days later. The results are shown below and include a general view of the Ancre War Graves Site plus two of my Uncle's grave – one taken after it had rained, and one of cleaner grave stone in the sun – both were clearly readable, and all three photographs can be seen below.

The following gives an explanation of the work done by The War Graves Photographic Project (the TWGPP) – an organisation which has deservedly received the President's Commendation of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (the CWGC), and in turn, deserves our support and thanks! (You can order copies and either receive them online at £3.50, or by post at £5).

There will be very few readers who are not familiar with the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). It is not so well known that working in association with them is The War Graves Photographic Project (TWGPP), a voluntary group whose aim is to extend the work of the CWGC by photographing every war grave and memorial worldwide. This joint venture was formally announced in November 2007 with the TWGPP website going live in February 2008.

The ethos of TWGPP is very simple:

to enable families and researchers to obtain, via its website, a photograph of a grave or memorial which many cannot personally visit.

Initially the project's brief was confined to Commonwealth graves or memorials for WWI and WWII but the scope has

now widened to include all nationalities and all conflicts providing the casualty died in service.

Currently the website contains well over 1.78 million images from 23,000 cemeteries or memorials in over 150 countries. Photographing the beautifully maintained CWGC cemeteries is one thing. Tramping through the undergrowth of often neglected churchyards or vast corporation cemeteries looking for a single – or scattered headstones – is another story altogether as volunteers can testify with many a frustrating or amusing story.

The project has over 1000 volunteers worldwide from all walks of life. All that was required was motivation, a digital camera and the CWGC location data supplied by the project's coordinators. It is probably a fair assessment to say that this is a project which owes its ultimate true worth to modern technology: the facility to download from camera to computer to website with comparative ease and speed.

Requests are dealt with daily by Project Request Co-ordinator Sandra Rogers; the success rate is high given the numbers in the archive and the numerous letters of thanks are both poignant, heartwarming and in many instances heartbreaking. These can be viewed on the site's 'Thanks' Tab <http://twgpp.org/thanks.php>.

With the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WWI many local societies and schools are utilising the facility to prepare exhibitions and local publications to remember the men and women that are commemorated on local memorials. It is hoped that many families will discover this vast archive and find relatives who may have faded into obscurity.

Adding images to the website is an ongoing task and revisits to many cemeteries are being conducted by new volunteers to update the archive. Ultimately, when complete, the archive will form a lasting record of all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Further information about the project, can be viewed at [www.twgpp.org](http://www.twgpp.org).

If you wish to contact the author please email [stonehewer@one-name.org](mailto:stonehewer@one-name.org). ■





# Soldiers, Sailors and One Airman: WW1 in a Study of the ASTRIDGE Name

by Ann Williams, Canada (Member 1580)

**T**he small Astridge one-name study (248 entries in the 1881 census) confirms some well-known precepts:

- WW1 was a people-mixer: An American, an East Indian, a Channel Islander, two Canadians, four Australians and seven New Zealanders served in WW1. Of those that came to Britain, the American and a New Zealander left with British brides and at least one Astridge woman left Britain as a war bride.
- WW1 devastated some families: Of three brothers that enlisted, two were killed and the other taken prisoner; two brothers were killed at the naval Battle of Jutland; of four brothers and a cousin that enlisted, three were killed.
- WW1 was a crippler: The figure given for British WW1 casualties is 47% (which is possibly a little high as some were injured more than once)<sup>1</sup>. The figure for the Astridge study is almost 43% killed, injured or discharged as medically unfit.

As part of the one-name study, I maintain a Roll of Honour and on the next page there are some WW1 extracts.

## Key to Family Branches:

- (1) Descendant of Thomas AUSTREDGE and Elizabeth Dore married 1780 Kingsclere, Hants
- (5) Descendant of Aaron ASTRIDGE and Mary Smith married 1759 Overton, Hants
- (6) Descendant of Aaron ASTRIDGE and Mary Ells married 1806 Dummer, Hants
- (7) Descendant of John ASTRIDGE and Ann Goater married 1793 Winchester, Hants
- (10) Descendant of William ASTRIDGE and Mary Rogers married 1795 North Hayling, Hants

## Summary

Force	Australian	British	Canadian	NZealand	Total
Army	3	47	3	7	60
Navy/ Merchant Navy		5			5
Marines		2			2
Air Force	1				1
TOTAL	4	54	3	7	68
Killed	1	7	1	3	12
Wounded / Sick		15	1	1	17
TOTAL	1	22	2	4	29

## Abbreviations and Sources:

ANZ (Archives New Zealand) Military Personnel Files  
[www.archway.archives.govt.nz/](http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/)

British Army WW1 Medal Rolls Index Cards 1914-1920  
([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com))

British Army WW1 Service Records 1914-1920  
([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com))

British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920  
([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com))

British Mercantile Marine WW1 Medal Cards  
(The National Archives) <http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/>


CEF (Canadian Expeditionary Force) Service records  
[www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/cef/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/cef/index-e.html)

CWGC (Commonwealth War Graves Commission)  
[www.cwgc.org/](http://www.cwgc.org/)

SWB (Silver War Badge awarded to those discharged for wounds or illness) (UK Silver War Badge Records, 1914-1920) ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com))

<sup>1</sup> World War 1 Army Ancestry 4th Ed. (Norman Holding revised and updated by Iain Swinnerton), pub FFHS 2003



Name	Family	Service	Details and Sources
Astridge, Ernest J.	(7) b. 1881 East India to British parents	British Army Private	<b>1911</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn Dorset Rgt. Poona, India (UK census) <b>1914-18</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Bn Dorset Rgt. taken prisoner western front. Awarded Silver War Badge (WW1 medal card & SWB Records)
Astridge, John 	(6) b. 1885 London. Emigrated to Canada	Canadian Army Private	<b>1915</b> 19 Aug enlisted Canadian Mounted Rifles <b>1916</b> 30 Jan arrived France (CEF) 12 May "Killed by bullet wound through the head fired by a sniper ... Sanctuary Wood" (23 Jun letter to his father in England from Canadian Record Office, London).  Memorials: Maple Copse, Belgium (CWGC), Wall Street United Church Brockville, Ontario; Book of Remembrance St. Anselm's, Hatch End, Middlesex.
Astridge, Norman 	(10) b. 1894 Levin, NZ. One of four brothers in NZ army	NZ Army Trooper	<b>1915</b> Auckland Mounted Rifles (ANZ) 17 Apr sailed for Gallipoli ( <i>Levin Chronicle</i> ) <b>1916</b> 12 Aug killed Egypt; 19 Aug parents notified by telegram ( <i>Levin Chronicle</i> )  Memorial: Kantara War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. (CWGC); listed (with photograph) <i>Auckland Weekly News</i>
Astridge, William 	(5) b. 1894 Bromsgrove, Warwickshire. Emigrated to the United States	Canadian Army Private	<b>1916</b> 12 Oct crossed the U.S border to enlist in Toronto, Canada <b>1917</b> 1 Feb arrived France <b>1918</b> 5 Jan 14-days U.K. leave <b>1919</b> 25 Jan received permission to marry; 9 Feb granted U.K. leave; 15 Mar married Chingford, Essex; 15 May sailed SS <i>Scandinavian</i> 21 May demobbed Quebec (CEF)
Austridge, Basil 	(5) b. 1886 Tunworth, Hampshire	Royal Navy Yeoman of Signals	<b>1916</b> 31 May died Battle of Jutland on the battle cruiser <i>HMS Queen Mary</i> which sailed from Rosyth on 30 May. The next afternoon the ship went into action and was hit about 16:26, exploded and quickly sank.  Memorial: Portsmouth Naval Memorial (CWGC) <i>HMS Victory</i> (hatband) was partly used for recruit training
Austridge, John 	(5) b. 1883 Tunworth, Hampshire	Royal Navy Chief Petty Officer Telegraphist	<b>1916</b> 31 May died Battle of Jutland on the destroyer <i>HMS Tipperary</i> which sailed from Scapa Flow on 30 May. About 3 a.m. on the 31 <sup>st</sup> she was attacked by three German ships. In less than a minute she was hit, on fire and sank.  Memorial: Portsmouth Naval Memorial (CWGC). <i>HMS St. Vincent</i> (hatband) was a training establishment in Gosport
Ostridge, William 	(1) b. 1897 Burghfield, Berkshire, son and grandson of British soldiers	Royal Marine Light Infantry Private	<b>1916</b> 31 May died Battle of Jutland on the destroyer <i>HMS Malaya</i> . Salvoes were falling around her at the rate of six a minute hitting her twice below the waterline. She was listing when a heavy shell burst inside her causing the death of 65 men.  Memorial: Portsmouth Naval Memorial (CWGC); Holy Trinity, Grazeley, Berkshire (internet)



# The Halifax Explosion

by Peter Rushen (Member 2637)

In the quest for all who were Rushen, one of the sites on the Internet that I searched was the Commonwealth War Graves. Amongst the Rushen soldiers killed in the First World War was a lone seaman, 234241 Leading Seaman Claude Eggleton Rushen. He died on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917, aged 28, his ship was *H.M.S. Highflyer*. A note was added that he was commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon. Who was Claude? How and where did he die? Perhaps the Internet could help again. Type "Highflyer" and the date into the search engine, hit 'Search'. Onto the screen comes "Halifax Explosion", what was that?

Steaming out of the Halifax inner harbour on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917 was the Norwegian ship *SS Imo* bound for New York. In 1917 the *Imo* sailed as a charter ship for the Belgian Relief Commission, it was neutral and sailed alone. Painted on its side were the words "Belgian Relief", to protect it from German submarines.

Coming from Gravesend Bay, New York was the *SS Mont-Blanc* loaded with two thousand three hundred tons of picric acid, two hundred and fifty tons of TNT and sixty-two tons of gun cotton. Stacked on her decks were two hundred and forty six tons of volatile benzol in barrels, as were about three hundred rounds of ammunition for her 90mm and 95mm guns.

Both ships collided in the narrows. *Imo* sliced into the hull of the *Mont-Blanc* at the number one hold. While the damage to the *Mont-Blanc* was not severe, drums broke loose and flooded the deck with benzol, which caught fire, flames quickly rose to a hundred feet. All hands were ordered to abandon ship and they pulled towards the shore. The *Mont-Blanc* drifted ablaze until she came to rest against pier 6 in the harbour. *HMS Highflyer* was at anchor by the Halifax Dockyard, about a mile away from the stricken ships.

At around 9.05 am the *Mont-Blanc* exploded. This explosion killed over sixteen hundred people and flattened two square kilometres of Halifax. Was this how Claude Eggleton Rushen lost his life?

Armed with Claude Eggleton's service number, 234241, I headed off to the Public Record Office. With the help of the leaflet on finding personal Navy records I tracked down Claude's record in ADM188. He joined the Royal Navy as a boy and then on the 23 July 1907, his eighteenth birthday, he signed on for twelve years. The names were given of all the ships and shore establishment on which he served and although he spent nine days in the cells over a period of three years his conduct was always very good. Towards the bottom of the page was the information I was looking for. First was the entry, "Missing believed drowned", which was crossed through. This was followed by, "Killed as the result

of an explosion at Halifax, Nova Scotia on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1917." Then finally, "M017842/18 Conveys 2nd Lts. appreciation of this man's conduct on the occasion of the above explosion, to his mother".



Claude Eggleton Rushen was the son of Alfred and Emily Rushen and was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1889 at Birch, in the county of Essex. At the time his father was a police constable who served at Birch from 1889 to 1894. Police Constable Rushen resigned from the Force in October 1897 due to ill-health, possibly caused by a blow to the head during a disturbance on a bonfire night, and was removed to the Brentwood Lunatic Asylum.

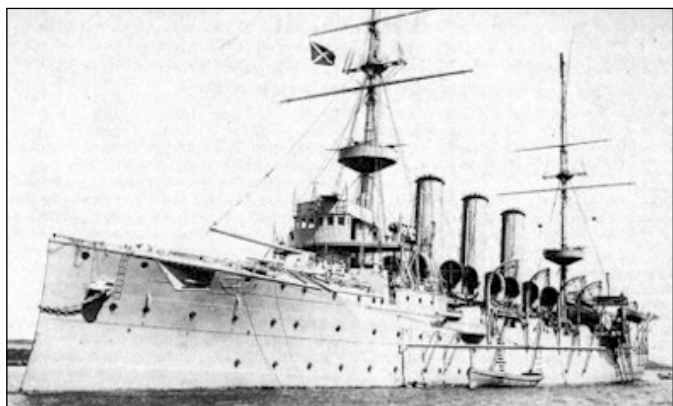
By this time Claude Eggleton Rushen, his middle name being his mother's maiden name, had two younger brothers, Horace George and Edgar. Their life together was to be short lived as by 1901 Claude and Horace were to be found at the Provincial Police Orphanage at 117 London Road, Reigate, whilst their mother Emily was working as a cook at the Orsett Union Workhouse. Elusive Edgar was next to be found as part of a party of children aged thirteen to fifteen on board the ship *Tunisian* which sailed from Liverpool and arrived at Quebec, Canada on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1909. A year later, he was to be found on a farm outside of Toronto with his brother Horace.

Meanwhile Claude Eggleton Rushen joined the Royal Navy as a boy sailor on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 1905 and trained at *HMS Impregnable* and *HMS Vivid*. On his eighteenth birthday in 1907 he signed on for an engagement of 12 years and became an Ordinary Seaman.

During the following years he served aboard several Royal Navy ships including, *Hogue*, *Hibernia*, *Hood*, *Monmouth* and *Cumberland*. Whilst serving on *Hannibal* in 1909, he was promoted to Able Bodied Seaman. In 1915 he was again promoted, this time to Leading Seaman. In January 1917 he passed the professional part of the exam for promotion to Petty Officer, this was two months before he joined *HMS Highflyer* on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1917.

On 26<sup>th</sup> October 1914 Claude's younger brother Edgar, aged twenty-one years and eleven months had enlisted in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force. Horace George was also to register for draft on 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1917 but not in Canada as he was now living with a wife and child in New Jersey, United States of America.

In 1917 *HMS Highflyer* was transferred as the flagship to the North America and West Indies Squadron. This was the period of unrestricted submarine warfare, and it was eventually decided to operate a convoy system in the North Atlantic. On 10<sup>th</sup> July 1917 *HMS Highflyer* provided the escort for convoy HS 1, the first convoy to sail from Canada to Britain.



*HMS Highflyer*

On the morning of 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917 anchored in the outer harbour at Halifax, Nova Scotia, was *HMS Highflyer* a Hermes class cruiser carrying out escort duties.

When the Captain of *HMS Highflyer* was informed of the collision of *Mount-Blanc* and *Imo* he at once sent a boat to see if anything could be done to prevent loss of life. The whaler crew with Lt. Commander Triggs in charge, rowed towards the pier and the burning *Mont-Blanc*. On board the whaler in addition to the officer were six seamen, one of whom was Claude Eggleton Rushen.

A tug and the steamboat of H.M.C.S. *Niobe* were seen going there at the same time. Commander Triggs boarded the tug, and finding it was impossible to do anything for the *Mont-Blanc*, decided to endeavour to get the *Imo* away from danger, giving directions accordingly to the tug. He returned to the whaler, and was pulling towards the bows of the *Imo*, which was about three hundred yards from the *Mont-Blanc*, to pass a line from her to the tug, when at around 9.05 a tremendous explosion occurred, *Mont-Blanc* had blown up. Lt. Cmdr. Triggs and all but one of the crew of the whaler were lost. Able Seaman Becker, was rescued alive on the Dartmouth shore, to where he had swum. Claude Eggleton's body along with others from the whaler was never recovered and he is commemorated at the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon.

The explosion also killed three onboard the *Highflyer*, and 50 were injured. Although built for battle, the ship sustained significant damage.

The explosion killed over sixteen hundred people and flattened two square kilometers of Halifax. While *Highflyer* underwent repairs, the crew provided rescue and relief assistance on shore. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, *Highflyer* escorted the first convoy to leave Halifax following the explosion.

The London Gazette 26<sup>th</sup> March 1918 (from the Admiralty, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1918)

6 December 1917 - (1) Lieutenant-Commander Tom TRIGGS RN (posthumous), Able Seaman William BECKER, (2) Leading Seaman Thomas DAVIS RNR, Able Seaman Robert STONES, Halifax Harbour fire and explosion.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the posthumous award of the Albert Medal in gold for gallantry in saving life at sea to Lieutenant-Commander (acting Commander) Tom Kenneth Triggs, R.N., and of the Albert Medal for gallantry in saving life at sea to Able Seaman William Becker.

It is clear that after communication with the tug, Commander Triggs and the rest of the boat's crew were fully aware of the desperate nature of the work they were engaged in, and that by their devotion to duty they sacrificed their lives in the endeavour to save the lives of others.

### Postscript

After researching the story of the Halifax Explosion, I added elements of it to my web page, The Rushen Family History, where I include biographical details of Rushens who have served in the military.

A week after I placed the story on the web I received an email from a descendant of Claude Eggleton's brother, Horace George Rushen. Horace had emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1914, married and had six children. At some point the extended family in the U.S.A. had been given the correspondence concerning the death of Claude Eggleton and to make matters even more exciting, they had his service medals and memorial plaque. On our next family visit to Indiana, the next-door State to Kentucky, we went and visited the family and held and photographed Claude's medals.



The family also helped fill in what happened to Claude's mother and brothers. At the beginning of the story it seemed that Emily had deserted her sons and left them to their own devices. Maybe not, as at the age of eighty-one, thirty years after the death of Claude, she sailed from Southampton to New York to join her son Edgar in Toronto. Emily died in Toronto in 1964 aged ninety-eight.

The Halifax explosion was officially the biggest pre-nuclear explosion before the two Nuclear Bombs that hit Japan in the Second World War. ■

### Editor's Comment:

Don't forget there are more individual narratives available on <http://ww1.one-name.org/>.

For more information on the Guild's WW1 Centenary Website, see the article on page 24 of the previous journal – Volume 11 Issue 9, January–March, 2014.





# Lt Charles Earsham Cooke MC

1896-1917

1/9th Battalion Manchester Regiment (Territorial)

by Richard Cooke (Member 4543)

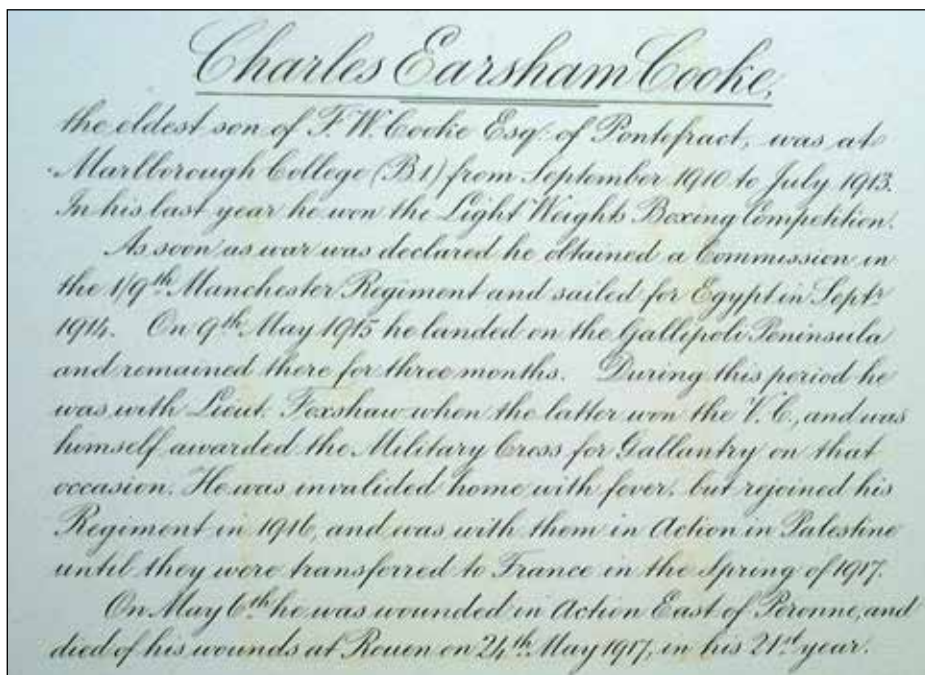
**M**y uncle Charles Earsham Cooke was the elder son of Frederick and Emma (Brentnall) Cooke. He was born in Nottingham, and at the age of four the family moved to Pontefract where his father, one of twelve children of a successful Norfolk tenant farmer (800 acres and breeder of hackney horses) took over the running of W J Robson & Co Ltd, Maltsters.

Charles who was known as Earsham, a name adopted from his great grandfather's family of Turner of Old Buckenham, Norfolk, was educated at Marlborough from September 1910 to July 1913.

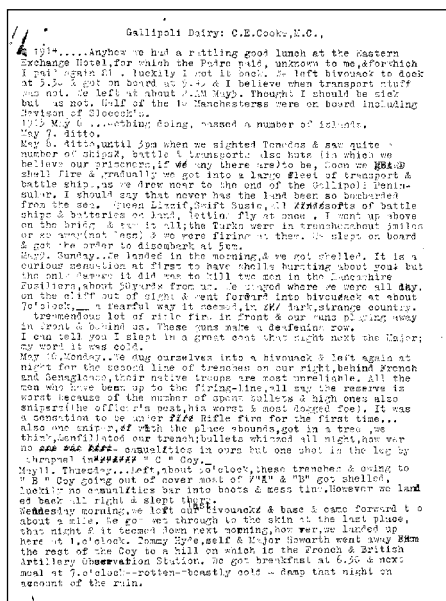
Marlborough College has a Memorial Hall on which the names of 747 Marlburians killed in WW1 are recorded. 157 boys joined the school in 1910 and no less than 42 were killed including Earsham. The College has a Roll of Honour Book in which there are photos and a brief citation of all those boys killed.



Charles Earsham Cooke



Roll of Honour Book from Marlborough College



Gallipoli Dairy Lt C E Cooke MC

Earsham wrote a diary in 1915-1916, the following are entries from the diary:

May 5<sup>th</sup> 1915—We sailed for Gallipoli and landed on May 9<sup>th</sup> in the morning and got shelled. It is a curious sensation at first to have shells bursting about you but the only damage it did was to

kill two men about 50 yards from us. We went forward to bivouac at about 7 o'clock. A tremendous lot of rifle fire in front and our guns playing away in front and behind us. These guns make a deafening row.

May 10—We left at night for the second line of trenches on our right. All the men who have been up in the firing line all say the reserve is worst because of the number of spent bullets and high ones also snipers. It was a sensation to be under rifle fire for the first time.

May 13—Have been improving our dugouts. Have felt rather rotten with diarrhoea. One sentry sniped during the night, shot through the head. Two wounded. Shells and bullets whizzing overhead all day. You must understand that we did not arrive here until a fortnight after the first landing. We heard it must have been simply terrible, the landing, as the cliff is quite high and sheer and there is only one place to land. The Turks had a tremendous lot of barbed wire entanglements in the water and as our men landed they dragged the wire up

with our fellows on top and shot them. There is now the awful hill Ache Babe to take they allowed 9 days to take it and its now 19 days. Up to 2 days ago there had been 19000 casualties about 1000 a day.

May 16—A most terrific shelling of shrapnel by the Turks all day and half the night. Luckily most of it passed us and killed many men and horses on the beach.

May 17—A bullet shot round you, but quite enough to kill you, went clean between Tommy Hyde and self or just over us while we were breakfasting on an old ammunition box (we cannot have been more than a yard apart) and buried itself in a bank a few yards away.

May 20—One of the nicest sounds I have ever heard was last night when the French battery near us started firing four shots (4 guns) off every 15 seconds. My word they must have sweated, however for a time the Turks shut-up though they went on in the night. We can just hear them fire and get down quickly before they arrive. Its extraordinary the way men treat the shells, they laugh and joke about them and call them "Beecham's Pills".

May 21—At night 8.15 we went off to the trenches for the first time.

May 23—A man was wounded and his pal got up from next door and bandaged him up, then, he found he had no water and went for it and got shot through the head for his pains; his brains going all over the other man.

May 25—In firing trench all day. At night it rained at 7 o'clock and the trench became a duck pond. We sat in inches of mud from 7 am until 11.30 when we were relieved, and very thankful we were too. We landed back at bivouac at about 1.30 when we had rum. I discovered my bag and a dry suit of pyjamas, first time I have not slept in my clothes since we landed.

June 3—The 6, 7, 8, Manchesters charged, our first line taking the first, our second their second going over the first. It was sight but it was terrible to have to sit in the reserve trenches and do nothing. They got on fine for the first hour when R N D on the right paused and retreated like a flock of sheep leaving the Manchesters enfiladed. They have 147 left in the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Fearful casualties, captured tons of prisoners. They do look queer fellows, huge. All delighted to be captured.

June 8—We moved into firing line late Turkish 2<sup>nd</sup> line. The place is terrible. This trench was captured 3 days ago and they buried the dead in the floor of the trench which stinks horribly. Dead also buried in the parapet and also lying out all over the place just outside the trench, horrible, gaping wounds, inflated bodies, and flies all over. Last night we had men trying to bury a few, which they succeeded in doing, I am thankful to say. The previous people here had placed a mac over one body and were using it as a side board. Also in another part of a trench six bodies lay on top of each other unburied.

June 9—Wednesday morning at about 3.30 am, I felt sick as a cat through smell and fatigue. So at 4 o'clock stand easy I got down and slept till 10 when T Hyde got down, but one of us is supposed to be on duty always. We take it in turns one hour on and one hour off during the night. We are in a Turk trench at this end, they are at the other end, 20 yards away with a parapet of sandbags in between and over which bombs are thrown. What a thing war is, if only you could see what I have seen.

June 10—Still in trenches which stink abominably. The Manchester Brigade can not muster a Battalion, I believe, so terrible are their casualties. 10 officers (combatant) left in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 100 odd men in the 7<sup>th</sup>, ditto in the 6<sup>th</sup>. On Thursday morning a man brought across to me to put on the grave of his brother, who he said was just on the other side of the parapet. I did not know he was there bar the smell which we could detect as we of course dare not show ourselves during the day. Well I asked for volunteers at night and we buried him. Never in my life did I smell anything so positively awful, and when they moved him he gave the most awful sort of groan, it was ghastly. Dead about eight days in the sun.

June 11—Feel filthy but the gully is full of shrapnel and also water, very dirty, dead Turks. Rumour has it that they have stopped the mail at Alexandria as they don't want the men to know about the riots in Lancashire. Oh! I do wish the war was over. Another of my signallers gone; had his head blown off. That's 3 dead, 1 missing, 1 wounded, out of 18 with myself.

June 16—In a redoubt, really about the most vile and unsafe place in the whole Peninsular, by Brigade orders troops were to be in only 24 hours. Well it really was a place. Chock full of maggots arising from the dead. Dead in parapets, underneath, over, in fact every where. The trench faced the famous Nulla and was absolutely full of dead, stank of course.

June 17—We were there until 7.30 next evening when my platoon changed places with No 1 in the support, but owing to No1 having no officer I had to stay in the lousy trench. However, such is life.

June 18—C and B Coy attacked a trench and instead of finding less than 100 men in the trench, they found 450 Turks already to charge us; consequently they got it hot and had to return. What really happened apparently will never be known, sufficient to say the Turks took our trench and had to be forcibly removed. Much loss of life ensued. They still retain 30 yards however were ejected next day. The whole affair was a mixed up and there has been an enquiry (I was in the 24 hour trench 5 days and 5 nights).

I should say that on the previous night we gave the Turks from our trench a good lot for they exposed themselves most awfully. I shall never forget the Turk's reinforcements advancing across the open in a mass, simply mown down but our machine guns. It was a sight! They looked to me as if they were coming unwillingly.

June 20—Capt. Kershaw arrived today and looked very pale. Very nervous at first of course as I dare say we all were. Fancy, it seem very funny to us of course, but he would not realise it, asked me for a cigarette! I had been in the place for 6 weeks!! Funnily enough I had one! We had only been in the trenches 18 days then!!!

June 22—My birthday. I gave cigarette papers out in 1 and 2 platoons: most precious to the men as they have plenty of tobacco given out but no cig papers. We have been relieved after 19 days in the trenches an awful long spell.

June 23—We had a welcome bathe on X beach. I took down 50 men with Sutton. We were all crawling.

June 29—At about 7 or so the Asia people started, which they had been

doing all day I believe; however' their huge black 6 inch shells started and my word! landed in one of the men's dugouts, just in front of mine, full of men, 5 or so, lifted one about 30 feet in the air, killed him of course, and never touched another man bar knocking them down. It was absolute miracle that they were not all killed.

July 9—Got my drill down from base, distinct improvement also had a complete change, everything clean on also a bath in a bucket (canvas) felt clean, have not itched lately.

July 23—Owing to Turkish attack being expected we had slept in our boots and puttees over night, also had rifles and revolvers charged. This day we all had to remain in our dugouts as far as possible but this was rather knocked on the head by the new draft of 250 men and 5 officers which arrived about 6am. Of course they were all over the place in batches. Shells ensue. They won't learn till some have been killed.

July 30—Stomach like everyone else's, rotten.

August 7—Bombardment commenced at 8 to 9. Intense from 9 to 9.40, first attack 9.50, second 10, supports. Well the Manchester Brig. and Lancs Fus went over and caught it.

August 8—T Forshaw and No1 platoon; self with No 2 Platoon went up to Vineyard. Relieved Sunday 4.30pm. T Forshaw and 2 others did not come down till 10 on Monday morning when I again went up till 3 in the afternoon.

(Quote from VCs of the First World War Gallipoli by Stephen Snelling published by Alan Setton Publishing Ltd):

At the vital junction of the former Turkish trench G12 both sides knew it to be the key to the precarious British incursion...Forshaw had approximately 20 men armed with rifles and a plentiful supply of jam tin bombs... half the men were placed with 2/Lt Cooke. We could see the Turks coming on at us, great big fellows they were, and we dropped (threw) our bombs right amidst them.....

Their efforts between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> August fighting in the Vineyard trenches, Helles Sector, resulted in the former being awarded the VC, and Earsham the MC which was gazetted on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1916.

(Quote from the Regimental War Diary 9<sup>th</sup> August, available at The National Archives, Kew)

Lt Forshaw had by his personal example been the cause of the Vineyard trenches G12 being retained by us — he had been assisted by 2/Lt Cooke ..... The BG of 126<sup>th</sup> Brigade personally congratulated the commanding officer on the gallant behaviour of Lt Forshaw and 2/Lt Cooke and the two platoons under them.

August 10— ... T Forshaw went down to base a nervous wreck, also is affected in regions of chest from fumes of bombs. We remained in redoubt line.

August 11—...I had in the morning to go and interview Gen Douglas as a sort of eye witness of T Forshaw's gallantry for V.C. Willie very charming, even offered me a cigarette which I smoked: said he would be very pleased to recommend Forshaw for the VC.

August 19—Early in the morning was sick, feeling terrible all day, had to report to Major Churchill, camp Commandant. Had a touch of fever I think. I slept well next night though I did Vineyard repeatedly through the night again.

August 22—Church parade very small. Gen H there, after service he inspected his escort of 100 men (50 Australians and 50 of us) spoke to several men, very nice, said our Div had done damn well.

August 24—Walked about and lazed. Bathe in morning as usual, very windy. Rained very heavily, hail.

August 25—Had a bathe and good breakfast but then started to feel deadly rotten, ate nothing rest of day.

August 27—Milk diet.

August 29—Sunday went on Church Parade feeling awful. Dr says I should not have gone.

Sept 1—Doctor comes every day am deadly yellow.

Earsham returned to England with 'fever' and after a spell in hospital returned home to convalesce. He wrote to his brother Phil (my father) on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

*My beloved brother, How are you? I have now got as far as sitting up and feel much better.*

He ends by saying he has brought back 50 rounds of Turkish ammunition and a top of a shell!



The Cartoon depicting Earsham returning to war



Earsham in Egypt

Regiment returned to Egypt where Earsham joined them in 1916. In March 1917 it moved to France. No personal diary survives, but the Regimental War Diary records that on 6/7<sup>th</sup> May Earsham was wounded (in the legs) whilst establishing a rifle pit trench on the Quinmemont Farm Road, near Ronssoy, East of Peronne. He was taken to hospital on 7<sup>th</sup> May and died of his wounds on 24<sup>th</sup> May. He is buried in the Commonwealth War Grave at St Sever, Rouen along with 3,000 other casualties.

The family had a shock later when my father Lt Phil Cooke, aged 19 a pilot in the Royal Flying Corps, was shot down flying an SE5 in France in Sept 1918, and they feared he had been killed. He was taken prisoner and repatriated from Kriegsgefangenen Lager, Cologne in November 1918. ■

This is an abridged version of Earsham's diary. The full unabridged version, is available from Richard Cooke at [goshawks2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:goshawks2@tiscali.co.uk).





# When is a Website Not a Website?

by Anne Shankland (Indexes Administrator, Member 1554)

It is now a commonplace for any organisation – and many individuals – to have a website. Many Guild members have their own websites, often devoted to their one-name study and providing an effective and attractive shop-window to their research.

In many ways, a website is like a glossy magazine, presenting its content to the viewer as a collection of readable pages in just the same way as a magazine or journal does. Like its paper equivalent, a website will have been designed with a careful combination of images and text, using layout and colour to convey ideas and information in the most effective and most pleasing way, as in this Journal. But a website can potentially be far more than this.

For one thing, a website can be up to date in a way that a printed periodical can not – it can take just a moment or two to update a website, whereas a newsletter can go out of date even before it reaches its readers. And some websites or parts of websites can even be updated by the readers themselves, such as the Wiki on the Guild website.

But the most significant thing about a website is that, unlike printed papers, it can be *interactive*. The Wiki is one small example of the interactive principle on the Guild website, but there are many more. I could cite the Bulletin-Board at [bb.one-name.org](http://bb.one-name.org), or the Profiles and Archives pages which many one-namers generate using the facilities offered in the Members Room. I could also mention the e-commerce aspects of the Guild website, which allow members not only to renew their subscriptions online but also to book on seminars and conferences and to purchase various items such as books, software, or vouchers. Furthermore, as Indexes Administrator, I would naturally want to stress the various search facilities offered to our members by the various name indexes on the website, now represented by the items on the 'General Search' page at [www.one-name.org/indexes/](http://www.one-name.org/indexes/).

But that is by no means all. In addition, there is a wide range of interactive pages in the Members' Room which allow Guild members to check and update the information that the Guild holds about them, such as their contact details (post, telephone, email, or skype), and details of the progress of their studies and any publications, newsletters, websites or blogs associated with them; how they would like their studies to be represented in the online or annual printed Register, and whether they wish to receive the printed Register when it is published each summer; and even an indication of what they would like to happen to their studies when they are no longer able to pursue them. This information helps to ensure that the study-name search on the Guild's public pages continues to reflect the up-to-the-minute status of our members' studies.

Indeed, these facilities are perhaps only the tip of the iceberg, since the information maintained via the website also allows the appropriate Guild postholders to manage such tasks as the annual renewal of membership subscriptions (including the 5-year, 10-year, or life memberships introduced a couple of years ago), the maintenance of Guild email aliases, the quarterly circulation of the Journal and associated documentation, the production and circulation of the Register, the maintenance of Regional Reps' member lists and contact details, and a host of other similar facilities to ensure the efficient running of the Guild. This extends further, to statistical reports to assess the effectiveness of the Guild's services to its members (including usage of the website facilities) and of our recruitment and retention measures. Even though (rightly), the maintenance via the website of the Guild's database functions may be invisible to most of the membership, it is absolutely critical to the management of the Guild.

So when is a website not a website? In the case of the Guild, where the website is the interface to a system of web software maintaining the whole organisation of the Guild itself, the answer has to be:

**When it's a Management System!**

## Do You Have Names Beginning with A? Continued from page 15

Antobus, Antrebus, Antrobus, Antrobuss Anwick, Anwicke, Aolf, Ap, Ap, Apelford, Apethorpe, Appelford, Apperson, Applebe, Applebee, Applebie, Appleby, Appleford, Apps, April, Aps, Apse, Apthorp, Apthorpe, Archdacon, Archdeacon, Archdekin, Argal, Argall, Argant, Argell, Argent, Argenti, Argol, Aries, Arlidge, Armer, Armestead, Armin, Armine, Arming, Arminge, Armistead, Armitstead, Armstead, Armston, Arnat, Arnet, Arnett, Arnot, Arnott, Arpthorpe, Arpwood, Arthington, Asch, Asche, Ash, Ashbarry, Ashberry, Ashbery, Ashbolt, Ashbury, Ashe, Ashfield, Ashlea, Ashleigh, Ashley, Ashmall, Ashmil, Ashmole, Ashmoll, Ashmul, Ashmull, Ashpole, Ashpool, Ashpoole, Ashwell, Askwith, Aslett, Asp, Aspley, Asquith, Ast, Astbury, Aste, Astell, Asteridge, Astill, Astle, Astles, Astley, Astrage, Astriage, Astride, Astridge, Astwicke, Atcherley, Atcherly, Atherton, Attrill, Attersley, Attlesea, Attlesey, Attre, Attree, Attrell, Attridge, Attril, Attrill, Attryde, Attwood, Attwool, Attwooll, Atwood, Atwool, Atwooll, Aubery, Aubrey, Aubry, Auchenlech, Auchinleck, Audas, Auders, Audis, Audley, Audus, Augar, Auger, Augur, Aulph, Aulsbury, Austen, Austerberry, Austerbury, Austerbye, Austin, Austridge, Austwicke, Autie, Auty, Avanhand, Averell, Averill, Avril, Awsup, Awty, Axen, Axon, Axson, Ayer, Ayles, Aylesbury, Aylsbury, Aynsco, Aynsley, Ayre, Ayreton, Ayrmyn, Ayrrmyne, Ayrtton, Ayton.

# The Guild Library – Almost As Old As The Guild

by Roy Rayment (Guild Librarian, Member 1424)

**T**he Guild has maintained its own library for the majority of the time since its foundation in 1979. In the early years it consisted mainly of Guild Journals and a selection of Family History Society magazines that had been donated by members, together with publications covering specific One-Name Studies, a collection of microfiche, and a number of family history publications in general.

In 1986 Miss Elizabeth McDougall MBE was officially appointed the Guild's first librarian and the proceeds of the Frank Higenbotham memorial fund were used to purchase two purpose-built wooden cabinets that were then installed at the SoG (Society of Genealogists) new premises at Charterhouse Buildings in order to house the more important parts of the Guild's library.

Following Elizabeth's ten-year service as librarian, in 1997 John Witheridge took over and ran the library, trekking around various Guild events at each of which he set up a table bearing a display of One-Name Study newsletters written by different Guild members. In early 1998 he finished compiling a list of the contents of the library and this was included in an article that he wrote that year for publication in the April edition of the Guild Journal.

May 1999 saw yet another takeover of the library, this time by John Colloff, who enjoyed running the library until the Guild AGM in April 2003, at which time he found himself unable to carry on due to ill health. The variety of Family History Society magazines held in the library had, however, been greatly expanded as a result of the use of a system set up by the FFHS (Federation of Family History Societies) that enabled Federation members to exchange copies of each others' publications during FFHS meetings. These individual collections of publications were known by many of the FFHS members as 'Bumper Bundles', exchanges of which took place until comparatively recent times. Following the demise of this system, the various Societies began to exchange their publications by post but this proved costly and resulted in

far fewer exchanges taking place and so the number of new Family History Society magazines held in the Guild library decreased substantially.

Following John Colloff's departure, the library was officially without a librarian for several years until I took it over. Unfortunately my only experience in this field was that of running a small technical library belonging to the Institution of British Telecommunication Engineers in East London and so I had to learn rather fast! At this point in time the Guild library was housed in a number of different locations, including the SoG building in Central London and a commercial storage facility in Crawley, West Sussex, but I managed to persuade the Guild to move the latter to a similar storage facility in East London which had the benefit of easy access from the nearby M25 motorway.

Storing the contents of the library had always been a challenge because, with the exception of a small amount of previously-mentioned accommodation made available by the SoG in London, various parts of the library had been housed in diverse places outside the capital. No doubt the difficulties caused by this fragmentation have in no small part resulted in a marked decrease in the use of the library by Guild members in recent years. However, in 2005 under the chairmanship of Peter Walker and following a further review of the library material together with a trial with three different scanning companies, it was decided to proceed with full-scale digitisation of the library collection.

Soon after this, Guild member Colin Patrick was appointed as Guild e-librarian and he organised much of the on-going scanning effort, together with the necessary cataloguing, but in 2011 he had to give this up for family reasons and so Peter Copey (the Guild Archivist) and I took on the task between us. This was certainly not made any easier by Dectel of Basildon in Essex, the company that we had chosen to carry out much of the scanning work, going into liquidation, thus necessitating the search for a replacement organisation at rather

short notice. In addition to scanning by a commercial company, some of the scanning work has been carried out in-house following the purchase by the Guild of two A3-size scanners. Despite being labour-intensive, in-house scanning has inherent advantages in that more time can be taken in sorting the deposited material and deciding upon the appropriate file arrangement than is spent on doing the actual scanning. To carry out all of the operations at once is obviously time-efficient.

By January of this year, despite the fact that the digitisation work was still continuing relentlessly, the Guild store in East London had become completely full as a result of a growing realisation by Guild members of the importance of depositing the results of their One-Name Study researches. Consequently there was little or no option but to move to a larger store since One-Name Study collections were being received by the Guild at a faster rate than they could be prepared, scanned and processed. Although the new storage facility is more than twice the size of the old one, it is estimated that the new accommodation will only suffice until about the year 2019 unless the rate of digitisation can be substantially increased. On a lighter note, perhaps it is a sign of the growing maturity of the Guild that the total age of the three volunteers (Peter Copey, Cliff Kemball and myself) involved in transporting all of the material from the old storeroom to the new larger storeroom was 212 years!

Following another bout of ill health, last year I reluctantly concluded that, after fifteen years' service on the Guild committee, I should not stand for re-election in 2014 and so should also stand down from the post of Guild Librarian. Fortunately there are a number of Guild members more than capable of taking on this role and, whoever takes on the task, I should like to wish him or her well for the future. ■

# The Guild Library: The Way Forward

by Anne Shankland (Indexes Administrator, Member 1554)

Over the past 35 years since the Guild was founded, there have been countless changes not only in everyday life but also in the way we do our one-name studies. Computer use is now almost – almost but not quite! – universal, and although most of us still keep our research data in a combination of paper and electronic form, some of the Guild's members have succeeded in converting their studies to be totally paperless, relying entirely on digital data. Many studies and societies which issue newsletters have moved on from mailing out paper copies, with the exorbitant cost of printing and posting, and now rely exclusively on sending out email newsletters only. Even the Guild – although it still, happily, issues this glossy paper Journal each quarter – also provides the Journal in a range of electronic formats readable not only on computers but also on tablets, Kindles, smartphones, etc.

Accordingly it makes a lot of sense for the Guild also to transfer its Library from primarily a physical, paper-based one to being an electronic one. A physical, geographically located Library is hardly appropriate for the international organisation that the Guild has now become. Hard-disk storage space is now so compact and so cheap that data which in paper form would fill a small storage room can now be accommodated on a reasonably-priced, robust little drive that fits into a pocket. Furthermore, the contents of that drive can be copied precisely on to another drive, or several, so that the same data can be held in several locations for security and safekeeping, and 'lent' to some members without compromising its accessibility to all.

This, then, is the way that the Guild Library is now moving. We will not totally abandon the physical Library, but most of the future expansion will be in the electronic Library.

One of the most frequent requests received from members of the Guild is for some method of preserving their study data, and the Guild Library must be able to provide this resource. There are three routes to

storing members' one-name study data in the Guild Library:

1. If the member just wants to use the Guild (physical) library store as an off-site backup for their data, they can do so by sending a CD or DVD with the data on it to the Librarian, specifying that it is to be held in the Guild store until they request its return. They can replace their CD or DVD at any time, or have it returned to them at any time, on request. This can be useful where the member wants to make a record of the current state of their ONS, say perhaps once a year, and have this kept at a separate location from their main work place. Note that the Guild Librarian is not expected to verify the content or readability of the CD / DVD lodged by the member, nor take any especial precaution against loss or destruction (other than the obvious ones, to keep the disk cool, dry, and dark). Lodging a CD or DVD with the Guild in this way can be particularly appropriate where the disk contains data generated by a family-history program which would not be readable except by that program. It is recommended that members creating a CD or DVD for lodging in the Guild's physical library take care to use a 'gold' disk for the purpose, to ensure maximum lifespan; note that RW disks should definitely not be used as their lifetime is limited.
2. Alternatively, a member may wish to take advantage of the Guild Library's facilities for safeguarding and preserving his data, by sending the data (either on CD or DVD or even by email attachment) to the Librarian and specifying that it is for inclusion in the *Offline Library*. This means that the data will be copied to the Guild's 'Library Disk', which is actually a set of three hard drives which are continually being recycled between storage locations as new files are added. Since there are three copies of the data, it is protected against accidental loss or damage. Furthermore, since the data is held electronically, it can if wished be made available on request to other Guild members, as long as the

owner gives his permission for this to be done.

3. Finally, for data files which meet certain criteria, there is the *Online Library*, which in many ways is the ideal location for members' one-name study data, since it offers not only the security of electronic storage but also easy access and sharing of data with other Guild members. Files placed in the Online Library must be in standard formats such as PDF, Word or Excel documents or similar, JPG images or similar, or text files such as GEDCOM, so that they can be accessed by a browser through the website. The files are held on the Guild's webserver, which itself guarantees their safety since the website is backed up regularly and an offsite copy is also held by the Web Librarian. But in addition, the files are catalogued against the study name, and once uploaded to the Online Library are freely available to the rest of the Guild membership. Searches of the Catalogue can be made, to find material relating to a name of interest, and there is also a text search available to find references to names within the website documents.

The Online Library Catalogue can be found in the Members Room of the Guild website at [www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/library/search.cgi](http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/library/search.cgi). As the Online Library is available to Guild members only, members access it using their normal Members Room password.

If you would like to lodge your one-name data with the Guild, under any of the three schemes listed above, then you should contact the Librarian at [librarian@one-name.org](mailto:librarian@one-name.org), indicating how you would like to store your data - whether it should be held as a CD/DVD or whether it should be added to the Offline or Online Libraries. The Librarian will be able to advise you on the suitability of your data for the Online Library, and pass such material on to the Web Librarian. Note that members submitting material to the Online Library must indicate their willingness to share copyright with the Guild so that the members can have access. ■





# First Impressions

## One-Name Studies: The Next Generation Telford, Shropshire Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2014

by **Jennifer Metcalfe (Member 6524)**

**S**ix non-Guild members attended The Next Generation Seminar held in Telford on 15 February, after I had seen a notice about the event in a newsletter from the Federation of Family History Societies. Telford is only 30 miles from where we live in the West Midlands and the event looked interesting, so we decided to give it a go!

I work as a part-time tutor for Dudley Adult and Community Learning, running three classes for family history. I also act as group leader for the Stourbridge U3A family history group. The five who, with me, attended the seminar are all members of the family history classes, which meet during the Autumn and Spring terms at a Neighbourhood Learning Centre in Pensnett, Dudley. These classes cater for a wide range of family historians, from total beginners to those with many years' experience. We have the use of a room of computers, with internet access, free wifi and free access to one of the main family history resource websites. The

U3A group have a limited subscription to a different family history website for two hours a month when we have our group meeting, which again is held in a room with free wifi.

All six of us have been researching and recording our family histories for several years now and two or possibly three are interested in moving on to developing a one-name study of one of their family lines. Four of the six are also interested in developing their use of social media in relation to family history interests.

We found the presentations both very interesting and useful to us with researching and recording our own family histories. It was impressive and encouraging to have seminar speakers from the next generation of family history researchers, as so often it seems to be largely the preserve of the retired! I run an evening class, as well as daytime classes, so do have students who are still working, but I think the average age from my three

classes must be nearer 60 than 50 years of age. The U3A family history group is aimed at those "no longer in full-time employment" and the ages range from 50 to 80 plus.

The enthusiasm of the speakers was stimulating, starting with Jo Tillin's presentation "The Name Collector", which contained many useful pointers for family history research generally, not simply for a one-name study. One of our group has already followed up her suggestion of using Custodian software as an indexing system.

Members of the Pensnett, Dudley Family History Classes – Louise Walters, Joan Brookes, Susan Bowes, Jenny Gorman, Jenny Metcalfe, and Paul Wooddisse



Jo Tillin – The Name Collector



Kirsty Gray – Adding Value to your ONS: What to do with your data



Karen Bailey – A Blend of the Old and the New

The presentations by Kirsty Gray and Karen Bailey gave us plenty to think about and we are planning to set up a small self-help group for those in our classes who want to consider using social media for their family history.



Amy Smith – 'Murder She Wrote'

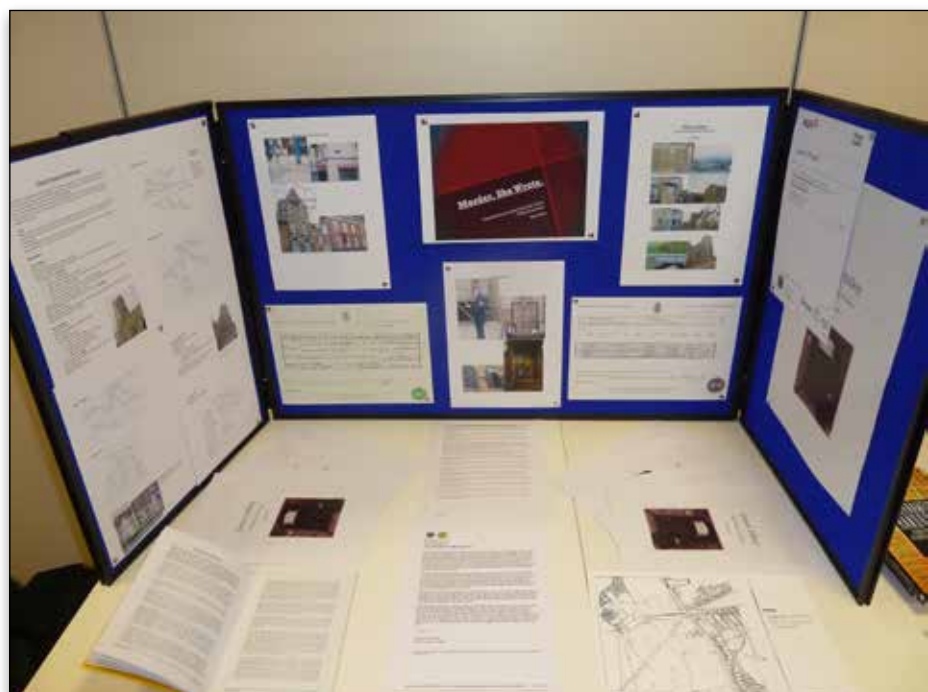
I think the highlight of the seminar was the presentation by Amy Smith 'Murder, She Wrote'. Not only was it stimulating to see and hear Amy describing her work, it was also encouraging to those of us who write up parts of our family history, but get a bit stuck when we are short of facts to use – showing how to make use of the creative writing element.



Rosemary Smith, by computer link from Canada – From Generation to Generation

The final presentation, conducted over a computer link from Canada, had some interesting features. I was particularly impressed by the fact that Rosemary Smith had passed on a family-related document to a museum/archive in Wales, where it could be available to others researching that area. We often have original documents from

'Murder she wrote' Display Boards



our families that have a wider interest and would benefit from being made available to others, after transcribing and scanning the originals for our own use and records. Her suggestions on preserving our research also struck a chord with several of us, reminding us that we need to decide where, or with whom, to deposit the fruits of our labours, so that they are not lost to future generations. Those in our group of six who are not overly keen on expanding their use of modern technology were delighted to hear Rosemary's comment that pencil and paper are still an excellent way of preserving our research!

The venue for the seminar was obviously very convenient for us, only a 30-minute drive, albeit with diversions through narrow lanes and tiny communities as a result of road closures. One fact, greatly appreciated by two of our group, who have problems with their spines, was the quality of the seating. Parking and other facilities were good and the lunch, although relatively simple, was of a good quality. All in all the day was excellent value for the £15 fee.

We found the opportunity to talk to those making presentations and to others attending the seminar useful and interesting. Alan Moorhouse and Kirsty Gray were very welcoming to a group of non-Guild members and we plan to attend other seminars in the future. As a group leader for U3A and an Adult and Community tutor for a local authority I would certainly recommend others in my groups to consider attending a seminar, and also to consider joining the Guild, even if they do not plan to start a one-name study themselves.

Two of our group of six have now joined the Guild and one has already registered the family name he is researching. We have found that only two of the principal names we are researching between the six of us have been registered as a one-name study and we will be contacting those members fairly soon I expect.

Altogether a very successful and highly enjoyable day. ■

#### Editor's Comment:

I had the pleasure of meeting Jenny at WDYTYA-Live. She has now joined the Guild.





# The Guild of One-Name Studies Seminar – Perth, Western Australia

by **Ann Spiro, Australian Representative (Member 5101)**

**T**he Guild of One-Name Studies Seminar held in Perth, Western Australia on 9-10<sup>th</sup> November 2013 was a success and we have gained five new members. Three joined the day after the seminar, and two more are about to sign up.

Ann Spiro, representative for Western Australia and Northern Territory, started the seminar with a PowerPoint introduction on the benefits of joining the Guild. This presentation was followed by David Evans (representative for Victoria and Tasmania) who gave further explanation on some of the points made during Ann's presentation which included the Marriage Challenge; Email Forum; JoONS and Guild Website to name a few.



**Ann Spiro and David Evans  
Australian Representatives**

Guild members Brian Croker and Gary Billingham each gave an overview of their ONS and described their preferred programs for data collection, storage etc. This prompted discussion from the attendees, who named their preferred programs.

Senior Archivist Tom Reynolds gave an in-depth presentation on the multitude of records that are available at the State Record Office.

Richard Offen, Executive Director of Perth Heritage gave a talk on the history of the Swan River Settlement.

This was followed by Helen Smith (representative for Queensland) who covered several topics, which included:

- English Parish Records
- English Apprenticeship Records
- Find My Past and
- They are Dead but Where are They Buried
- How to use The Surname Atlas.

The latest updates on Richard III were presented by Louise Carson, Secretary Richard III Society, WA Group.

It was a shame that we could not connect with Peter Bailey (Chairman of FIBIS) by Google+ Hangout to give his presentation on Researching British Families in India. However Sabrina Armstrong who stood in at the last minute did a wonderful job. Thank you Sabrina.

Somewhere in amongst all these wonderful presentations we managed to slip in Lou Macchia who gave us a quick demonstration on 'eBooks Australia', which is an independent eBooks publishing company based in Perth WA.

**Attendees during the seminar**



I plan to run a one-day conference in 2014 and hopefully by then our venue will have improved its Internet connection capabilities and we will be able to bring our members new and exciting presenters from Interstate, the UK, and USA. ■

**Group photograph of the attendees**





# Forthcoming Seminars

**2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014**

**One-Name Studies: Sources in the Medieval to Early Modern Periods**

Moving into Yorkshire, we will be holding a seminar covering sources during the medieval period which lasted from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> century and merged into the early modern period. Speakers and topics will be George Redmonds, the Borthwick Institute (Cause Papers), The Yorkshire Archaeological Society (Manorial Records) and England's Immigrants 1330-1550.

**Venue:** Fulneck School, Fulneck, Pudsey, Leeds LS28 8DS

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**One-Name Studies: The Next Stage**

Whether you're a beginner or well on your way toward collecting the core records for your surname, how can you improve your study? Join us for tips on keeping your study organised, analysing what you have, seeking the origins of your surnames and sharing with others. We'll bring together experts who can help you to become a better one-namer.

**Venue:** Martlets Hall, Civic Way, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9NN

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**One-Name Studies: Medical Records**

We look forward to the opportunity of meeting you at the Wellcome Library in London for a seminar focused on Medical Records for Family Historians with subjects based on occupational records, such as apothecaries, medical registers, and nursing, patient and asylum records.

**Venue:** Wellcome Collection, 183 Euston Rd, London NW1 2BE

**16<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**One-Name Studies: Hatches, Matches and Despatches**

Moving back to Lancashire, we are aiming to explore a number of interesting aspects related to the basic subjects of births, marriages, and deaths plus their partners, baptisms, banns and burials.

**Venue:** St Leonard's Church Halls, Marshalls Brow, Penwortham, Lancashire PR1 9JA

## Printed Sources Seminar

The Temple Centre, 44 Nottingham Road,  
Nuthall, Nottingham NG16 1DP  
09:30 for 10:00 am, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014



A return to the Nottingham area and the Temple Centre, last visited in 2009. This time we will be concentrating on 'Printed Sources'. This title covers a number of interesting areas, from old newspapers to libraries and a few really unusual items we trust will be new for your one-name study or general family history research.

09:30 - 10:00	Registration and Coffee
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome to the Seminar – <b>Dominic Johnson</b>
10:15 - 11:15	"All the news that's fit to read": The English Short Title Catalogue, The Police Gazette, Newspaper archives, and "The Proceedings" Printed Court Reports – <b>Richard Heaton</b>
11:15 - 11:30	Comfort break
11:30 - 12:30	"Heraldic Detective Work from Scratch" – <b>John Titford</b>
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	"Standing on the shoulders of giants": Printed genealogies in the Society of Genealogists – <b>Else Churchill</b>
14:30 - 15:00	Tea Break
15:00 - 16:00	"Poll dancing for beginners": Electoral Registers and Directories – <b>Dominic Johnson</b>
16:00 - 16:30	Question the Panel
16:30	Close of Seminar

Seminar cost, including refreshments and buffet lunch, £15.00

To make the day more interactive delegates are invited to bring along details of their studies for display and sharing. Pin boards will be available for your use and the seminar coordinator will liaise with you beforehand.

For more background information and booking on-line, see [www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org) and look under the 'Event Calendar' tab.

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

# Pictures from the One-Name Studies: The Next Generation Telford, Shropshire



Vol 11 Issue 10 April–June 2014

Main inset: Attendees enjoying the Friday evening event – including Rodney Brackstone, Brian Airey, Catherine Hughes, Mark Baldacchino, Kim Baldacchino, Pam Airey, Gordon Adshead, Ken Toll, and Jean Toll  
Top left: Attendees during the lunch break

Middle left: Lively discussions between attendees during the afternoon tea break – Nigel Brown, Ingrid Salkeld, and Keith Salkeld

Bottom left: Attendees during the Seminar

Bottom right: Alan Moorhouse's FARMERY display

Journal of One-Name Studies  
Quarterly publication of the  
Guild of One-Name Studies  
ISSN 0262-4842  
£2.00 when sold to non-members

