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Journal

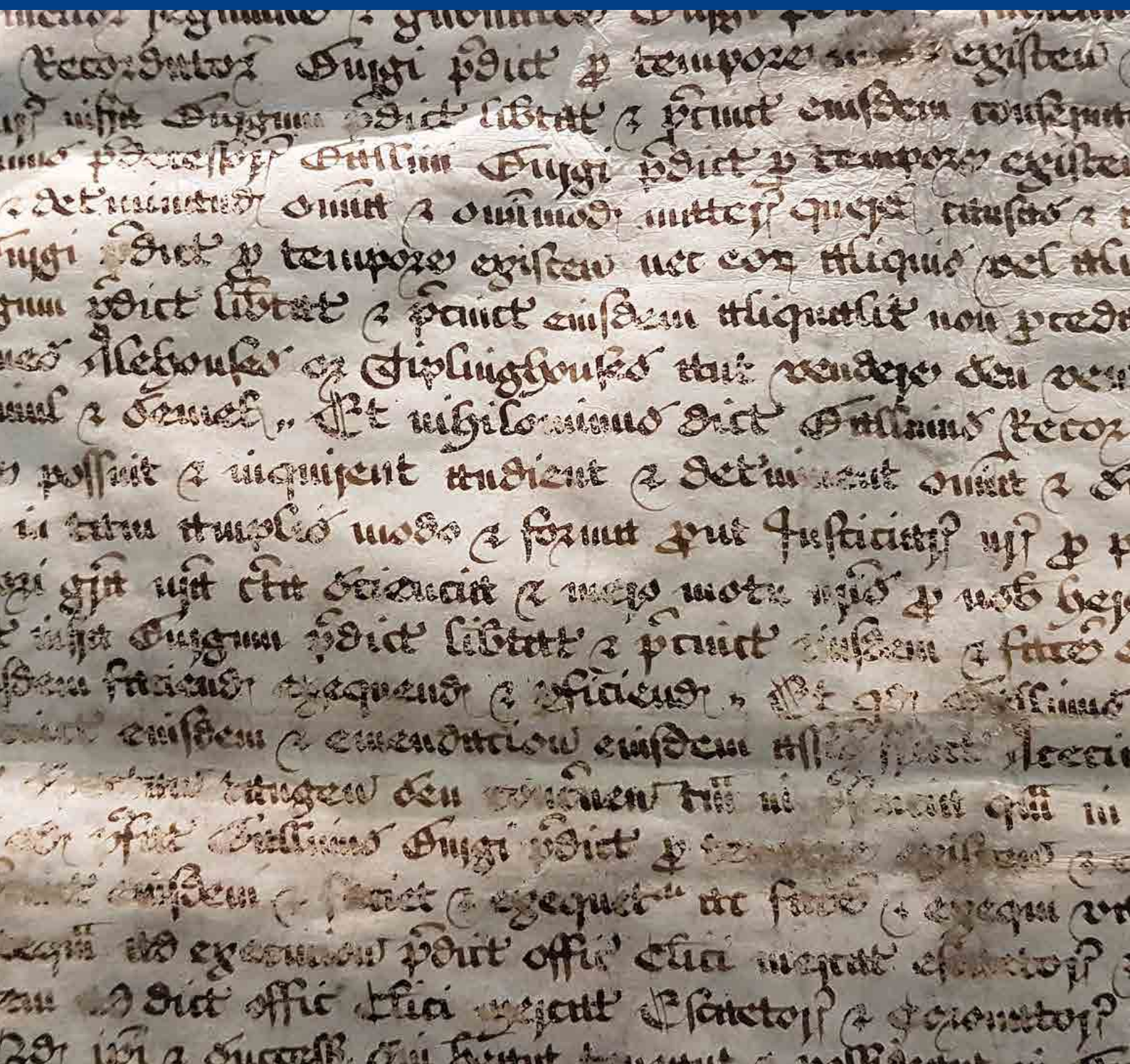
of One-Name Studies

The quarterly
publication of the

**Guild of
One-Name
Studies**

<https://one-name.org>

Volume 14 Issue 2 • April-June 2021



All the latest Guild news and updates



Founded 1979. Registered Charity No. 802048

<https://one-name.org>

The Guild of One-Name Studies is the worldwide centre of excellence in one-name studies and promotes the interests of both the individuals and groups who are engaged in them. Established in 1979 and registered as a charity in 1989, the Guild provides its members with the means to share, exchange and publish information about one-name studies as well as encouraging and assisting all those interested in one-name studies by means of conference, seminars, projects and other activities.

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Journal

of One-Name Studies

Vol 14 Issue 2:
April-June 2021

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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, LE4 3BY.

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

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



We note that some members think we are employed by the Guild and expect instant responses to emails and requests. Less than 4 percent of members help to keep us ticking over. If you think you could contribute, we have someone in post who deals with volunteers and would be delighted to get more help. We have a document about how we expect to be approached.

After many years at RootsWeb, and a few at genelists.uk, the Guild mailing list is moving. We're changing to [Groups.io](https://groups.io), which is also host to many of the other ex-RootsWeb lists. Those subscribed to the current mailing list will be moved to the new list without needing to do anything. Others in the Guild will be very welcome to subscribe via the mailing list page on the Guild website. Posts may be made in formatted text, and images or extracts may be included, if for example you are requesting transcription help. Some subscribers may like that the posts can be read on the web, in a forum mode. Another advantage will be that the posts will be searchable.

We are thinking of seeking professional help with the change of charity to make us an incorporated organisation, and we are just about to look at draft E of a new constitution. It has passed between the steering group and the review team five times. We feel that we need someone who has worked in the charity commission for over 20 years and has set up a company to help organisations get through what we are attempting. Once they have looked over the document, we will post it on the website for you to comment on.

Once that has happened, we will be holding a ballot for you all to approve the change.

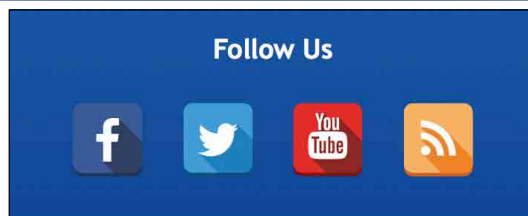
A remarkable result at RootsTech in February: we had over 250 visitors to the chat room we set up and over 70 visitors signed up to our mailing list.

We are looking at joining the New England virtual conference similarly and at a very reasonable fee. We will be looking for members to man our booth to answer visitors' questions. The event date is 3 April 2021, and it will be in place for 61 days, according to the information we have received.

- Utilising Exhibit Hall technology, reservation allows for all-day access.
- People, as at an in-person event, may stop in for a few minutes or may linger longer throughout the day.
- Link your website, Facebook page, Instagram, YouTube channel.
- Choose your chat times as this will allow you to interact with conference participants potentially interested in what your group offers in the way of information, programs and research sources.
- Your Society and chat times will be placed on NERGC's website, published in the weekly newsletter, and listed in the Exhibit Hall.
- What an excellent opportunity to network and attract new members!

We seem to be moving out of the virus situation, and I am sure we are all looking forward to getting out and about with our studies - and maybe our first in-person Seminar later this year.

W. Paul Featherstone MCG



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

DNA for your ONS:

Y-DNA Most Distant Ancestor

by Susan C. Meates MCG (3710)

Y-DNA

The Personal Page for each test kit provides the ability to enter the Most Distant paternal Ancestor for the participant. This information then displays on reports, such as the Y-DNA genetic reports. This information also displays on the match page, for those who match the participant.

As a Project Administrator, you can enter the information if the kit is set to Advanced access. If the kit is not set to Advanced, you must get the participant to enter the information. This is one of the reasons why it is best to encourage all your participants to be set to Advanced.

You can see the access status of each participant on your Member Information Report, in the column labeled Access Granted.

When you purchase a test kit, or when one of your participants purchase a test kit through the Guild, the kit is joined to your project and the access is set as Advanced. This is covered in the email that is provided with the login credentials for the kit. In addition, when setting the access level, there is the option to also set the access level for future Administrators. For kits bought through the Guild, this access is also set to Advanced for future Administrators. This is important, since your DNA Project is a legacy you leave with the discoveries you have made. In addition, perhaps you take on a co-Administrator someday, their default status on all the kits would be Limited Access, which would limit their ability to function as an Administrator. They have the option to contact each member to update the access for them, though they couldn't do anything with deceased members who have not set a beneficiary. By setting the access to Advanced for future Administrators, this problem is solved.

Most Distant Ancestor

The information provided about the paternal Most Distant Ancestor (MDA) is important both for you as the Administrator evaluating results, as well as for participants, in terms of understanding their matches.

Here are just a few of the items that can be done with the information:

- Study the evolution of the surname
- Identify individuals in the same documented tree
- Identify the location of the progenitors of each documented tree
- Identify the earliest documented events for each tree
-

It may not seem important when you are getting started to enter the MDA information, since you remember this information for the participant. In time, as the project grows, having the information display, and not relying on memory, becomes more important. Plus, the participants can see the information when they have a match, and on the Y-DNA Results page.

If you let participants enter the information, then you cannot be certain they apply a strict standard of providing the most distant documented event and ancestors. We have all seen wishful connections, as people keep extending their tree without sufficient documentation.

Another reason for you to enter the MDA information, or to provide it to the participant to enter, is that you can set a standard and make sure it is maintained. This will provide you with useful information. In addition, if you establish a standard format, it is easier to read the information.

Below are some MDAs entered by participants

- james Ricketts b. 1776
- David Ricketts b.1762 d.1842
- john rickett b1742 d1796

In the above examples, it is not clear if there is solid evidence of the birth, or the births should be circa. No locations are provided, which would be very useful information. There is also no indication whether different surname forms were used during their life. Overall, the information provided doesn't tell you much.

Setting a Standard Format

Only 50 characters are provided for the MDA field. To maximize the amount of information in those 50 characters, I established a standard format and standards for the quality of the information. First, and most important, the information must represent the earliest documented information for the progenitor. Secondly, I assign a tree label, to identify each separate documented tree. This could be a number, or some alphabetic coding you already use.

When I am ready to set the MDA, the first step is to evaluate the information on the progenitor, and then this information is coded into the standard format, using Chapman Codes where available. The specifics vary of what information is available on a progenitor, so the information in the MDA field varies.

After the tree label, I put surname, first name. This gets all the surnames to line up, so it is easy to see in a Genetic Group if there has been surname evolution. If there is more than one surname form used in their life, the surnames are listed in order of occurrence, separated by slashes. If more than one first name, and the spelling is relevant, both are provided separated by a slash.

The basic format is:

Tree Label Last, First Event Year of earliest event Date of earliest documented event Location.

The location is shown from major to minor, such as country down to the smallest location available, such as county or parish. When a location within a county is not known, it is not

shown. In the USA, if the state is known but not the county, only the state is shown. In the UK, if the county is known, but not the parish, then only the county is shown. If the full name of the parish wouldn't fit, as much as will fit is entered. For the UK, if there isn't room for the country, such as ENG, it is left out. When there is space available, you can put what is unknown.

Examples

Here are a variety of examples, depicting different situations. These were randomly selected from the Y-DNA results page. You can see that a lot of information is packed into the format.

UK Examples

- T002 Ricketts, Robert d1737 HAM Basingstoke
- T081 Ricketts, Christopher m1772 WIL Broad Blunsdon
- T006 Ricketts, George m1775 OXF Woodstock
- T053 Ricketts, James son b1808 ENG SRY Bermondsey
- T047 Ricketts, Joseph bc1790 WOR m1817 St Clements
- T025 Ricketts, Thomas bc1801 ENG SOM
- T075 Ricketson, Charles son bp1749 SOM Thorne Coff
- T048 Ricketts, Charles son b 1846 ENG GLS Bristol
- T049 Rickett/s, Mark m1808 ENG GLS Winterbourne
- T051 Ricketts, John son bp1816 ENG DBY Bonsall
- T079 Ricketts, Joseph bc 1780-1791 HEF Leominster
- T026 Ricketts, Henry m1753 DOR Sturminster Marshall
- T080 Ricket / Rickett, William bc1787 BDF Turvey
- T809 Rockett, William son bp1729 ENG DEV Musbury
- T050 Ricketts, Benjamin bc1792GLS m1818 Tewkesbu
- T031 Ricketts, William Henry b1879 WLS MON Abersyc
- T004 Rickett, George bc1817 ENG d1887 CAN ONT

USA Examples

- T018 Ricketts, Drewy/Drury b1796 USA NC Anson Co
- T042 Ricketts, AbrahamG b1824 USA TN Henderson Co
- T027 Ricketts, Ignatius b1781 USA MD Unknown Co
- T045 Rickett, Robert N bc1784 USA MD Then NC>KY
- T010 Ricketts, Samuel bc1780 NC m1800 NC Orange
- T058 Ricketts, James bc1803 VA 1860census MO
- T028 Ricketts, David bc1853PA Liv1880 PA Cumberland
- T056 Ricketts, John Robert b1874 USA MD Unknown Co
- T038 Heffner, C.L.had son Ricketts b 1929 NC Anson

Other Country Examples

- T008 Ricketts, William d 1700 Jamaica
- T055 Ricketts, Hendrick son b1938 RSA Jamestown

Conclusion

Entering the Most Distant Ancestor information for the paternal line of Y-DNA participants is very important. This information will be seen by participants on their match page, as well as on the results reports. The most value is to the Project Administrator, as the project grows, and you analyze the information. You will have established Genetic Groups which share a common ancestor. Most likely a Genetic Group represents one surname origin. You can then easily see the different surname forms that evolved, the number of different documented trees, and where the progenitors were located. You can also easily see if you have progenitors in the UK and in other countries.

Setting a standard format, regardless of the format you choose, will assist you by providing standardized information. Setting a standard by basing the information on the documents for the progenitor means that you are analyzing utilizing solid documented information.

If some or all of your participants are set to Limited Access, you can either ask them to change your access to Advanced, or provide them the information to put in the MDA field.

To access the MDA field, you log into a kit, either with a kit and password, or for Advanced Access, by clicking on a kit number on one of your reports. Then under the participant's name, click Account Settings. Then click Genealogy, and click Earliest Known Ancestors. If you are keeping a chart of Tree label and your coded MDA information, simply copy and paste the MDA information into the line below Direct Paternal Ancestor. Else type the information. Be sure to click Save down the page

To ask a participant to change your access to Advanced. They must log into their kit, then under their name, click Account Settings, then Project Preferences, then click the pencil to the right of the relevant project name, and follow directions.

Susan is the Guild DNA Advisor and is studying the surname Meates with variants Mate, Mates, Mayott, Meat, Meats and can be contacted at dna@one-name.org

Getting started with a One-Name Study

How did you get here?

We know from our members that most of us initially consider a One-Name Study because of a family interest. You may have a brick wall you want to work around.

You might have multiple instances of the name in your background. You may have gathered a lot of information about a surname already. In the sections that follow, we are going to run through some of the key considerations you might have in taking on and starting a One-Name Study. You don't have to read it - many members just jump in with both feet and get started - but for others we hope it helps

Taking on a One-Name Study requires you to make two main commitments:

- you must respond to all enquiries if you have registered your study with the Guild of One-Name Studies; and
- you agree to collect all instances of that name wherever it is found, though you can work at your own speed with your own priorities.

Those commitments are serious.

Marriage Challenge Update:

GRO Index - Are there errors?

by Peter Copsey MCG (1522)

When a Challenge begins a Marriage Challenger, they ask Guild members to send them a list of their marriages to be found, using the GRO indexes as a basis for the list. The GRO Index is easily and quickly available from the FreeBMD website which can be searched and the results downloaded. When the Challenger is finishing the Challenge they might find that there is a marriage on the search list that has not been found but the GRO page number for the entry indicates it ought to have been found in one of the deposited marriage registers. The Challenger then asks themselves - have I missed it or could it possibly be an error?

Errors may come from several sources. The Guild member may have not copied the GRO listing correctly; even the Challenger may have made an error in preparing the search list. Has FreeBMD transcribed the index incorrectly? This may be due to the poor handwriting or poor reproduction of the index pages (the indexes were hand-written before 1866). Lastly, could it be an error in the initial GRO Index?

There are many reports of errors in the GRO indexes. There is a book written on the subject: "A Comedy of Errors" by Michael Whitfield Foster (published 1998). There are examples of parishes being incorrectly named and placed in the wrong Registration District (RD). There are names, dates and other details incorrectly transcribed. There are omissions.

In the early days of registration, registrars were paid a bonus depending on the number of registrations that occurred. Corruption resulted, with some unscrupulous registrars inventing events that never happened to boost their bonus. There is a report of a registrar nearly doubling the number of actual births registered by him in a period. When it was realised what was happening, the bonus scheme was discontinued.

We can imagine how many errors originated. The clergyman, often the parish clerk, was required to send quarterly returns to the GRO headquarters; these were copies of the marriages that occurred in the parish prepared using printed proforma pages - the first source of a transcription error. The church was asked to send in a nil-return if there were no marriages within the quarter, but this request was sometimes overlooked.

When the GRO received all the returns (were some lost in the post, I wonder?), they created the index. Can you imagine how difficult, time and labour intensive this operation must have been; typically 100,000 names to be sorted into alphabetical order. The mind boggles at the task! I understand, the names and details were transcribed onto strips of paper which were

pasted to small wood strips, effectively little index cards. A huge team of employees had three months to sort out all the strips into alphabetical order and prepare for the index, before the next set of returns arrived. This operation will include two further transcriptions with further room for mistakes. And how many of the strips were lost?

I have received an interesting example of one error in marriage registration and I thank Keith Percy (member No.1032) for the information. It concerns a marriage which, according to the parish register, occurred on 29 October 1869 between Jonathan Smith and Ellen Sowter in the parish church of Syleham in Suffolk; entry No 91. This is a small village with few marriages and entry 92 was a marriage occurring nearly a year later on 18 October 1870 between Edward Rush and Anna Amelia Steggall. If you search the GRO index for these marriages you will find the Smith-Sowter marriage registered, not in 1869, but in 4th quarter 1870 (Hoxne RD, ref 4a-1185). How did this come about? The second marriage was correctly listed in 4th quarter 1870 (Hoxne RD, ref 4a-1187) but surprisingly not on the same GRO page as the Smith-Sowter marriage. Normally the first two marriages occurring in the same quarter would both be listed on the same page. Page 1186 had been left blank. It looks like the GRO had realised the error but failed to make any proper correction. Who made the mistake? Did the parish clerk fail to send in a return and realising his mistake a year later, tried to make amends. Or was a wood strip found on the floor of the GRO office a year later?

On to Marriage Challenges. At time of writing, Covid 19 restrictions are in place throughout the country with Record Offices closed. It seems probable that Record Offices will reopen in April (fingers crossed!) which will mean that the awaited Marriage Challenge for Tunstead/Smallburgh should start - see below.

The Guild will be looking for Marriage Challengers to volunteer when the country is back to normal. If you live fairly close to a County Record Office and can afford to spend some time there to help other Guild members with their one-name studies by finding marriage entries, then becoming a Challenger could be an option. Even if Ancestry, Findmypast or FamilySearch have done some indexing for marriages in a particular county, there is likely to be some parts of that county or some period where a Challenge would be worthwhile. Please email me marriage-challenge@one-name.org if you think you can contribute.

Registration District and Period	Request Deadline	Challenger	Challenger's Email	Key
Tunstead 1837-1869	31 May 2021	Paul Howes	howes@one-name.org	B
Smallburgh 1870-1938	31 May 2021	Paul Howes	howes@one-name.org	B

If you have already sent Paul Howes your requests, PLEASE SEND AGAIN, as some of Paul's data has been lost.

Key B: Requests using the standard Excel template much preferred, but willing to accept other formats.

Adventures in Chancery

by Sian Plant (3009)

After living in London for 37 years I finally managed a visit to The National Archives about 6 months before we left. The purpose was to follow up some references in Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries to Chancery cases involving Gillinghams. This had been on the “too difficult” list for some time but I then found the same cases listed in a Findmypast data set called Inheritance Disputes Index, 1574-1714 and felt I had to bite the bullet.

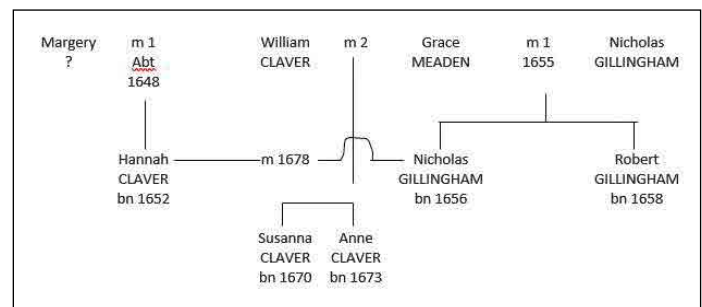
The documents have to be viewed in the original and proved quite intimidating. The sheets are very large and several may be stitched together making a document a metre wide and sometimes 2 or 3 metres long. They have been folded in boxes for many years so that the creases are deeply embedded - but they smell wonderful! That old document smell that you used to get in record offices when you could see original parish registers - so worth ordering up just to inhale. The writing is no worse and, in some cases, better than that found in contemporary wills and the legal terms can mostly be understood from internet searches.



I knew my time was limited so I risked trying to photograph the entire document for later transcription. I used my phone, without a stand or any special lighting, and was thrilled to find that I could read the results when I got home. However, understanding what I was reading was another matter entirely. This case dates from 1712 and concerns the lease for a house and orchard in Isle Brewers, Somerset between Robert Gillingham, Vicar of Isle Brewers and John Hunt a butcher of Broadway. It was useful in that the lease was a life lease, typical of the west country, whereby the term of the lease was for the period of the lives of three specified people, in this case Robert’s wife Cicilia, eldest son Robert and eldest daughter Cicilia. However, what proved of unique value was that Robert, having run into temporary financial difficulties, reassigned the lease against a cash payment from “Anne Clavor of Lydlinch in the County of Dorset spinster (sister to the said Robert Gillingham)”. This “sister” was completely unknown to me and opened a whole new branch of the family.

Robert was the son of Nicholas Gillingham and Grace Meaden and had one known sibling, Nicholas Gillingham. Nicholas and

Grace married at Chaldon Herring in 1665 and the children were born in Lydlinch where Nicholas died in 1659 aged only 37. Grace and Nicholas were my 8 x great grandparents and I had thought I had long ago found all there was to be found about them. The situation was complicated in that I knew Nicholas had married Hannah Claver as his second wife in 1678. Hannah was the daughter of William and Margery Claver and amazingly it turned out that Grace Gillingham nee Meaden had married William as her second husband and gone on to have the Anne mentioned in the chancery case and another daughter Susanna. Confused? So was I!



This means that Nicholas’s mother was also his step mother in law and his step sisters were also his half sisters in law.

Neither of the Claver half sisters married but Susanna left a very helpful will naming many nieces and nephews including some on the Gillingham side. Claver is an even rarer name than Gillingham, and I am hoping to be able to establish a link with Claver Morris (1659-1727) a 17th and 18th century medical doctor and talented amateur musician who lived and worked in Wells, Somerset. Wikipedia states “*he is noted for his frank and animated diaries*”. He was born in Bishops Caundle, Dorset, very close to Lydlinch and I think his mother Hannah was the Hannah Claver baptised in Lydlinch in 1632, possibly an aunt to my Hannah.

Without the chancery case I would not have looked for Grace’s remarriage and her two Claver daughters. The parish registers for the period are patchy, a common problem during the Commonwealth, and there is no trace of the marriage of Grace Gillingham widow to William Claver widower. Thankfully various family wills confirm and clarify the relationships but again, I would not have looked for them without the Chancery clue.

What happened about the house, orchard and John Hunts’s case? No idea!

Sian is studying three surnames: (1) Gillingham, (2) Hole with variants Hoal, Hoale, Hohl, Holl, Holle, Houle, Houle, and (3) Hurlstone with variants Earlston, Harlstone, Horlestone, Houliston, Houlston, Howliston, Hulstone, Hurdlestone, Hurleston, Hurlestone, Hurlston, and can be contacted at sian.plant@one-name.org.

Mingay - Origins of our Surname

by Tony Mingay (1985)

There are many views on this subject ranging from origins in either Norway or Germany, and even it being a sept of the Menzies Clan in Scotland. Note: a sept is a family who would follow a Clan Chief, and there are two lists of the septs of the Clan Menzies, each of around 90 names but only one contains the name Mingie. So far, no data has been found of actual families with that name in Scotland.

These views have their merits but no substantial proof has been offered or found. This does not mean those ideas should be discounted but, indeed, should be looked into further.

The most popular thinking of the moment is that our surname originates from the region known as Brittany in the North West of France and whose residents are called Bretons.

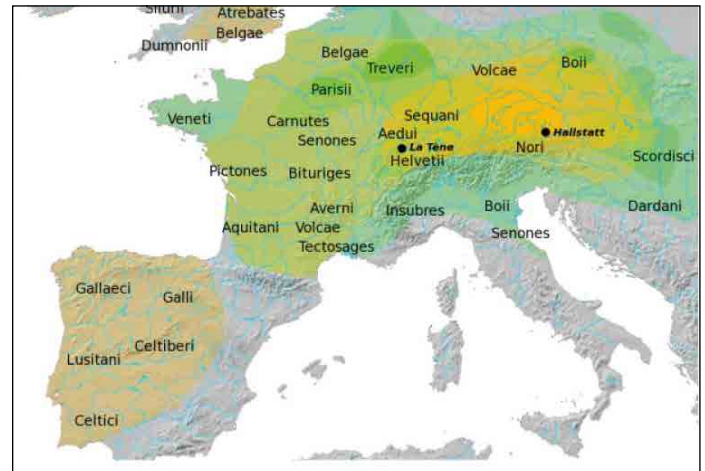
Indications that people with our surname or its variants were Bretons are many, one in particular is recorded in Reaney's book on the Origin of English Surnames, which being 'Minge', a Breton, an under tenant of Hervey de Ispanis, in Yeldham, Essex. Others are given, albeit of a slight later date, in the dictionary of British Surnames by the same author.

If it is of Breton origin, then the important outcome of this is that our surname is not therefore of Norman origins and hence it is not related to Rollo the Viking, who founded the Norman dynasty. This goes against views by others that were put forward in the past and may not be readily accepted.

One should be aware that Brittany & Normandy are separate areas, being on each others' borders and in the past were at cross purposes many times with each other. However the Duke of Normandy in 1065 evolved a plan to invade England, influencing opportunistic Bretons to join forces with him and his Normans, which they did. Of course the whole venture was a success in 1066, as we all know, for the Duke of Normandy then to be known as William the Conqueror; King Harold being killed at the place to be known as Battle, again as is well known.

What persuaded the Breton Knights to fight alongside their long-standing enemies? it is thought to be one of two things, the first a Papal Bull which implied the Normans had not only had the right to invade but it would be with God's blessing. Others say it was the promise of getting land back, which many Bretons believed either they had rights too, as it once belonged to their ancestors or already owned.

In trying to clarify who the Bretons were and how many believed they had ancestral rights to land in Great Britain, one needs to review history of and before, say 1000 AD and in particular in Roman times. One must be reminded that most of early Europe was inhabited by a race known as "The Celts". The majority lived in scattered tribes and were very often at war with each other; some authorities have said they were proficient horsemen who carried out raids on the Greeks and then the Romans.



European Celtic Tribes in Roman Times

As the Roman Empire expanded northwards so the separate tribes were either subdued or retreated north west to what was to become Brittany, east to Germany, south into Spain. But even there they were gradually taken into the folds of that Empire which eventually included those in the British Isles.



Celtic Tribes in the British Isles as named by the Romans

One of the reasons why the Romans dominated for so long was that they often appointed 'local' Celtic Chieftains to govern 'local' provinces. So it might be said that the Roman Empire in western Europe could be seen as a confederation of tribes held together by Romanised Celtic warlords. These governors were well known to the people so a sort of acceptance of Roman Law and Order by the populace and so long as tributes were paid to the Empire, the harsh power of Rome was never applied. However there were certain occasions when there was non-appliance to that rule, as typified by the revolt in East Anglia said to be led by Queen Boudicca. This revolt was only 'put' down by the Roman Army who were withdrawn from the area around North Wales where they had been trying to subdue the Celts in that zone. Similarly troops from the south west were also called upon where they were having a problem

with the Celts in that area. Gradually many of the tribes lost their individual identity over the 400 year Roman government and became 'Roman-Celtic' but not all, in particular those in the north (Scotland), west (Wales) and south west (Cornwall & Devon). It has been stated that many of these Celts left their home shores, arriving in Armorica, the area now known as Brittany, and some in north west Spain, chosen because of the close ties between the people through marriages and/or commercial connections; in particular the mining of tin was common in those areas and their language was so similar.

Partly due to the influx of the displaced Celts into Germany, because of the Roman Empire expansion and the English climate and soil being much better, the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, peoples of Northern Germany, started to make small but significant 'raids' on the eastern coastline of England. So much so that the Romans created what was called the Anglo-Saxon wall, basically a series of forts along that coast line, manned by the local militia backed up by the Roman Army. Oddly the Romano-Celtic overlord, named Vortigern, actually invited Saxon mercenaries into his country and settled them on the Isle of Thanet in order to strengthen his position as overlord of Britain. However those Saxons went from strength to strength and at one time controlled Kent and parts of east Anglia.

After many years of warfare between the Britons and Saxons an amnesty was reached but they gained control of the areas now known as Essex and Sussex, and so more of the Germanic warriors came to Britain. When, after some 400 years, the Romans withdrew their forces back to mainland Europe, the invaders began slowly to push the Britons ever eastwards, culminating in the second wave of British immigrants, many being the cream of Romano-British, into Brittany and Spain. There they joined the Romano-Gallic warlords many of which were descended from the first wave of Celts and the amalgam became Romano-Gallo-British, that is the Bretons. This gives rise to the argument that those Breton Knights who joined The Duke of Normandy were returning back to their homeland.

The politics of those times was volatile to say the least, one tends to think of unity amongst the invaders led by William the Duke of Normandy but it was not so. Many Norman and Breton Dukes were actually enemies. In fact, there were rivalries within each of those groups. The east Normans were strong supporters of William but the western Norman Lords were less so as they tended to align themselves with their neighbouring Bretons. Even the Bretons had divisions between the Dukes in the northeast and west of Brittany. In fact the Breton contingent which accompanied William were in a power struggle against the Duke of Brittany in 1066, so they were probably allies out of convenience to further their own aims.

It has been observed that between 1066 and 1075 there were three groups of Breton landholders in England, but after 1075 only two. The demise of one group was due to the failure of a 'revolt' against William I led by Ralph of Gael, Earl of Norfolk. Among the post 1066 Bretons Ralph of Gael was distinctive as he and his father had held lands in England before 1066, indeed his father had been associated with England since the time of Cnut (1016-1035); furthermore his mother was an English woman said to be a kinswoman of Edward the Confessor. Ralph escaped back to Brittany but he forfeited his lands in Norfolk and Suffolk which were later granted to Alan of Richmond, another Breton, who obviously sided with William I, being so rewarded for his loyalty and in doing so became the wealthiest and most important Breton in England. The third group of

Bretons were given lands in Devon and Cornwall, nowhere as valuable as the lands given to Alan of Richmond and William de Warenne, et al. in the north and east, all due to the politics of the times both in England and what went on before 1066 in Brittany and Normandy.

In all of the documents that were read in order to write this article, no mention of any person with a name like Mingay/Mingy was seen with the exception of its mention by Reaney, as previously stated on page one. However a quick reminder of a possible meaning to our surname, is now quoted, "Menguy, a Breton name probably meaning 'Stone Dog', derived from the Breton, Men=stone, Ki=Dog".

It is worth noting that Professor Leo Carruthers, Medieval Studies in Paris, contends that the terms 'Breton' and 'Briton' were undifferential applying to the early non-Germanic inhabitants of Britain and Armorica whose language was old Welsh.

In writing this article I was most valuably assisted by Daniel Mingay M.A. (Medieval History) who corrected many mistakes and made many helpful suggestions. It is further stressed that many facts have been left out due to lack of space and any errors should be accredited to me, Tony Mingay.

Tony is studying the surname Mingay with variants Mingaye, Mingey, Minghii, Mingy, Myngaye and can be contacted at anthony.mingay@one-name.org. You can also view Tony's website [here](#).

Who runs the Guild?

The Guild is run by the members for the members - there are no paid officials. The affairs of the Guild are managed by the Trustees of the Registered Charity, who form the Committee.

The Guild Committee, and Subcommittees are all staffed by volunteers, and all of the various postholders and the Regional Representatives, are volunteers.

The affairs of the Guild are managed by a Committee, who are also the Trustees of the Registered Charity. The Committee comprises no more than nine Guild members, of whom four are designated Officers: namely the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Committee has the scope under the Constitution to co-opt a further two members in the event of a shortage of specific.

An election is held for Committee places if there are more than nine nominations, and the results announced by the Chairman.

Supporting the committee are subcommittees, a number of postholders; and regional representatives.

How I organise my ONS

by Gordon Lickfold (313)

I haven't seen anything on this subject in JoONS for some years, and it seems likely that the way I organise my study is different to most, so I hope you may find this article of interest.

My interest in family history goes back to 1972, when, as soon as I started, I found myself taking an interest in the family history of everyone, world-wide, with the surname Lickfold, rather than researching my maternal lines.

Custodian

How I organise my study started taking shape after I bought my first PC in the early 1990s, and especially with the advent of the Custodian software. I have no connection whatsoever with Sonja Smith or Custodian, except as a satisfied customer of long standing, even though some of what follows may seem like an advert / testimonial for them. I know that a number of Goons use Custodian, while others prefer family history software like Family Tree Maker, TNG, Legacy, RootsMagic and a variety of other programmes.

Custodian is basically a database programme. It has input forms for all the main sources of information, especially in the UK, such as the GRO, PRs, census, probate, etc etc. Every item of information for every individual Lickfold who ever lived is keyed into my Custodian database, which currently has a total of 16,598 individual records.

The beauty of Custodian is that every individual record from every 'input form' (PRs, GRO, census, etc) creates a record in the 'Master Index'. This makes it easy to relate different bits of data about the same person.

An example concerns the marriages of Mary Lickfold, first to Richard Allen and after his death to Thomas Collicott at St Marylebone in 1809. But how could I be sure that the Mary Lickfold in the second marriage was the right one? One of the witnesses to this 1809 marriage was Mary Slote. Now Mary Lickfold came from Petworth in Sussex, and the Petworth burial register records that 'Mr Thomas Lickfold', Mary's father, was buried in 1774, aged 62. So Mary's mother, another Mary Lickfold, was widowed in 1774. And the Petworth marriage register further records that Benjamin Slote, bachelor, married Mary Lickfold, widow, in 1783. So it was Mary's mother who, as Mary Slote, witnessed her daughter's second marriage in 1809.

Apart from being a rather splendid example of the (occasional) usefulness of marriage witnesses, Custodian enabled me to easily check Mary Slote in their 'Master Index', Slote being a rare name with no other Benjamin Slote or Mary Slote in my database.

Personal References

The key to Custodian's system is each individual's 'Personal Reference'. It just so happens that there are 8 main branches in the Lickfold family tree, so Branch 1 has Personal References 1xxx (1000 to - potentially: 1999) and Branch

Individual	Surname	Personal Reference	Year	Record Source	Relationship	Place
Elizabeth	SLETHRIDGE	4058b	1871	1871 Census	Occupant	Kewton
William H C	SLETHRIDGE	4078c	1871	1871 Census	Occupant	Kewton
Norman F	SLOAN	2095a	1980	Marriage Index	Spouse	Surrey SW
Christopher Martin A	SLOAN	2095a	1981	Birth Index	Birth	Surrey North West
	SLOAN	2082	1981	Birth Index	Mother	Surrey North West
	SLOAN	2095b	1982	Birth Index	Birth	Surrey North West
Robert Joseph	SLOAN	2082	1982	Birth Index	Mother	Surrey North West
	SLOAN	2082	1982	Birth Index	Mother	Surrey North West
	SLOAN	2082	1982	Birth Index	Mother	Surrey North West
Benjamin	SLOTE	8821	1783	Parish Marriage	Groom	Petworth
Benjamin	SLOTE	8821	1783	Marriage Licence - Bond	Groom	Petworth
Mary	SLOTE	8514	1809	Parish Marriage	Witness	Marylebone
Richard	SLYE	3275	1684	Probate	Testator	Farnham
Map	SMOUT	3114	1832	Parish Baptism	Mother	Westminster
Thomas	SMALES	4063c	1871	1871 Census	Shopman	Widford
John	SMALL	2252b	1881	1881 Census	Seaman	Hambledon
William Thomas	SMALLWOOD	7311c	1856	Probate	Witness	Stactiffe
Suzanna	SMART	6540a	1718	Parish Marriage	Bride	Petworth
George	SMART	6721b	1881	1881 Census	Occupant	Bosham
Mary Ann	SMART	6721c	1881	1881 Census	Occupant	Bosham
Stephen	SMITH	3378b	1693	Probate	Mentioned	Worpleston
Robert	SMITH	3378d	1693	Probate	Trustee	Worpleston

Custodian Master Index, showing Benjamin and Mary Slote

8 has 8000 to 8999. This leaves 9xxx for strays and other events which I have as yet been unable to allocate to known individuals.

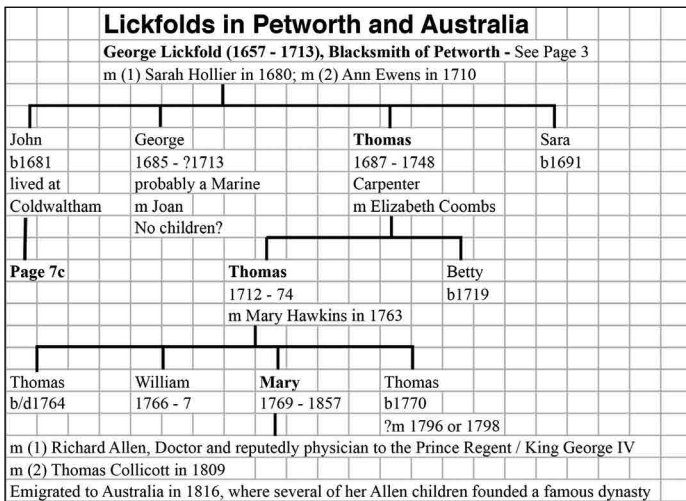
But for me it is essential that every Lickfold in history, together with the living, has a Personal Reference to identify them so I have an easy way to attribute newly discovered information to them.

Family trees

Around 2000 I discovered a template for drawing family trees using Excel. Using this I have created one for every branch, sub-branch, limb and twig. Once the tree for each one is produced it only needs occasional tweaking when new discoveries come to light. My trees include living people but without dates.

Lickfolds at Lodsworth and Bosham					
William Lickfold (1679 – 1749)			born at Tillington		wife: Mary Taylor of Lodsworth
all 5 children baptised at Lodsworth					
William 1707 – 72	John 1710 – 89	Thomas 1713 – 14	Mary b1715	Jane b1720	
Bachelor	m Jane Goacher			m James Powell	
all 4 children baptised at Lodsworth					
John 1766 – 1853	William b1767	Thomas 1769 – 1844	Mary b1773		
Bachelor	?d1772	Shoemaker		m Edward Ayling	
Kirdford workhouse		m Elizabeth Grevatt			
all 5 children baptised at Lodsworth					
Jean b1799 m1818	William d1817 age 16	Anne b1803 m1823	Sarah b1805 m1824	Mary b18xx m1827	John c1812 – 65 Shoemaker / Cordwainer m Cecilia Miles in 1846 lived at Bosham
all 5 children baptised at Bosham					
Mary Ann b1848 m1868	John b1851 d?1875	Cecilia b1853 m1870	Elizabeth b1854	Emma b1857 m1878	

The next tree (see next page) shows Mary Allen / Collicott as in the example above. One thing I like



about creating my own trees is that I can add in whatever detail (or lack of it) I want on each individual, rather than the trees being created in a prescribed format by a family history programme. Each tree prints as an A4 document, most of them in Landscape.

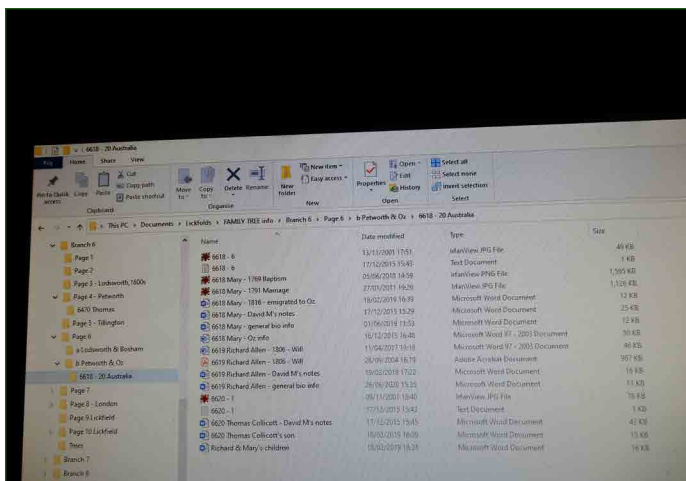
I have a folder with printouts of all the trees, on which I write each individual's 'Personal Reference'. When correspondents want a copy of their tree/s, I attach the Excel doc to an email - so they get the tree without Personal References which are irrelevant to them.

File Explorer

I use 'Documents' in Microsoft's File Explorer as a filing system, so in my 'Lickfolds' folder I have a folder called 'Branches' which has 8 sub-folders for each of Branches 1 - 8. Within each Branch there are sub-folders for each "Page".

Each page constitutes a limb or twig of the family in which there are a number of individuals belonging to up to about 10 households. Each page thus represents the 'Family Reference' facility in Custodian, and has a 'Page number' that corresponds to its individual Excel tree.

So each "Page" sub-folder in File Explorer has files for each individual in that limb or twig of the Lickfold family. These files may include images of baptism, marriage & burial, their will & probate record, war records, Directory entries, newspaper articles, etc etc.



Files in my folder for 6618 Mary, as in the examples above, this folder being for her and her husbands and children.

The 'files' on each individual also vary: word documents, text files, JPG images, PDFs, etc.

When I amass a lot of individual files about one person, they get a sub-folder just for them.

Word documents

Finally, most individuals have a word document called "Bio info". This is where I write or summarise most / everything I know about them, so it is my main data source for each individual apart from their records in Custodian. Family stories and anecdotes that I glean from correspondents also go into this bio file.

Summary

My system is based on Custodian, Excel trees, folders and sub-folders in File Explorer, and individual bio files. Is your system in any way similar? The most important thing for me is - it works !

Postscript

Before computerisation I had amassed 20 years worth of paper records about the Lickfold family. Even after 25 years of only adding digital data, I am ashamed to admit that I still have quite a lot of paper records still waiting to be input. But I'll bet I'm not alone!

One thing I lament is the early paper records that I have thrown out over the years. Since my study is now 48 years old, some material from over 40 years ago has itself taken on 'historical' importance as part of the Lickfold ONS.



Gordon at work in organised chaos

Gordon is studying the surname Lickfold with variants Lickfield, Lickford and can be contacted at gordon.lickfold@one-name.org.

Charles Woodger, 1763 to 1830: Part One

by John Woodger (173)

George III ascended the throne on 25 October 1760, by which time a shipwright in one of the Royal Dockyards had a six month old son, James. The following year Richard Woodger's wife Sarah (née Fearn) gave birth to Richard, a brother for James. A sickly child, Richard only survived ten weeks and was buried by the Sexton of S.Mary's, Chatham, John Woodger, his grandfather.

As a craftsman, having served a seven year apprenticeship, Richard Senior received one of the top wages in the yard, 25 pence a day, with the possibility of overtime at busy periods. The rates had been set in 1690 and with inflation had fallen behind, but as a skilled worker in the largest industrial complex in the country and linked to the Royal Navy, continuous employment was almost guaranteed. The pay in private shipyards was better but laying off in bad times was certain.

Towards the end of 1761 four months after the death of young Richard, his father applied for, and was given, a position as a ship's carpenter, on Winchelsea. His warrant was issued on 30 November and he left the dockyard a few days later on 5 December.

A ship's carpenter being one of the standing warrant officers, Richard would be employed on board whether the ship was in commission or in ordinary (laid up). The family would be better off with his pay of £4 0s 0d a month and keep. Should he be given a servant, the apprentice's pay would be a bonus. With three of Richard's four brothers working in the dockyard the family would not be without male help when Richard was at sea. The families could give one another mutual support at difficult times, including when pay was many months in arrears, as it was when parliament was strapped for cash.

1762 saw the birth of George, the heir to the throne, and 1763 another brother for James. Charles was baptised on the 13 March 1763 in Saint Mary's Church, Chatham, where his oldest brother James had been christened.

On 9 August 1765 Richard became carpenter of *Glory*. She was laid up in Chatham and remained there until 15 May 1769 when she was commissioned for sea. The children could see where their father worked and may even have been able to visit occasionally. Certainly Richard would have been able to spend some time ashore.

In June 1766 when Charles was three his grandfather John died and was buried in the parish churchyard. Possibly of more interest to Charles was the birth of a sister Sarah a couple of months later. Sarah was baptised 5 October and the young family was complete.

In 1767 the first Nautical Almanac was published, a development of the *Kalendarium Nauticum* of 1675 by Henry Seaman, Mariner, which would begin a new era of navigation, and be an important part of Charles' early life as a Naval Officer.

The months and years passed, the children grew out of their clothes and maybe benefitted from a few hand-me-downs from their cousins, as well as the occasional new clothes for Easter or Whitsuntide. By April 1770 *Glory* was in Portsmouth Harbour. On 17 July one of Richard's two servants was discharged at his own request and young James was entered in the Muster Book in his place, aged 14! Though illegal, sons of Commissioned and Warrant officers were often entered in the Muster Book, without being on board, in order to start clocking up sea time. James may or may not have been on board, but probably was, as carpenters needed a party to deal with the work. Boys as young as ten were on board as servants and powder monkeys.

In 1772 the two Sarahs, mother and daughter, were left at home as Charles departed to join his father and brother on *Glory* as a servant. He arrived on board on 10 April according to the Book of Service, when she was at the *Nore*. A week later he was no doubt surprised to see James rated A.B., aged 12 in fact.

Their time together aboard *Glory* did not last long. The following January all were discharged and we can only assume some time at home in Chatham, During 1773 they will have heard of growing unrest in the States of America and after six years of a tax on tea it had boiled over in what became known as the Boston Tea Party.

On 20 October 1774 all three join *Boyne* for two years. Their take home pay up until 30 June 1775 was James as AB £10 4s 2d, received by Richard in Plymouth on 24 May 1776 (!) on James's behalf; for himself £26 4s 0d as carpenter and £7 18s 10d as Charles's master. During their time in *Boyne* the American War of Independence had begun and France was soon to join the States in their bid for freedom.

On 13 November 1777 Richard and Charles are discharged. Richard is destined for *Magnificent*, as the following January he and James are aboard her in Portsmouth Harbour. James stays aboard until the end of the year but Charles appears to have gone home unneeded or stayed around unnoticed, as he rejoins Richard as a servant on Saturday 11 July 1778 the day *Magnificent* is commissioned for sea, under the command of Captain John Elphinstone, just one week before Admiral Keppel is to fight the French off Ushant.

Now aged 15, Charles could take a fuller part in getting the ship ready for sea, both assisting his father and as one of the people. Carpenters and joiners from the dockyard came aboard for last minute repairs and preparations for the voyage. Charles had brief opportunities to respond to greetings from any of his father's friends. Most of that week Charles and the rest of the crew were engaged in tidying and cleaning the ship after her long time idle with a small crew. The following week work began in earnest. Stores started coming aboard, in the first instance the necessary provisions for the seagoing crew.

After a fortnight the disgusting and heavy work of digging out and discharging ballast begins. For three days Charles took turns at the bottom of the hold digging shingle and no doubt getting splashed by smelly bilge water as the nets were hoisted up and overboard. Then for a week they were replacing the mucky shingle with comparatively clean but heavy iron billets.

Sunday 2 August a westerly wind, fine and clear the captain sent boats ashore for fresh water. Charles was no doubt told to enjoy it while he could - water four months or more in cask does not taste the same.

The following Sunday and in the week the Boatswain's and Carpenter's stores started coming aboard, coils of rope of various sizes, bolts of canvas for repairing fair weather sails and heavy duty, paint, stockholm tar, wooden plugs for mending shot damage, Charles begins to see the necessities of life at sea and the effects of war.

In the meanwhile Charles sees the rigging being set up, yards being blacked and every day is involved in hoisting aboard and stowing, chaldrons of coal, butts of water, butts of beer, firkins of butter, casks of cheese. If Charles was working with his father he would have been making sure that the water and the beer were all being safely stowed and chocked, bung up and bilge free. By 15 August the Captain enters in his log "Four Months Provisions complete".

Apart from bringing aboard further water for the next three weeks Charles along with the rest of the crew was occupied in routine cleaning, pumping and maintenance duties as the ship required. 6 September the ship sailed to Spithead and moored there. Charles's prospects were about to change. The First Lieutenant must have recognised some potential and recommended him to Captain Elphinstone.

On 30 September Charles was discharged and the following day was entered as a Midshipman. When the ship moved from Spithead to S. Helins on 22 November Charles had become a young gentleman, and begun to find his place in the Gun Room. One thing we may be sure of, he was not sent to the carpenter for the key of the keelson or to the boatswain for a long stand!

Returning to Spithead on 1 December Charles became used to the daily routine as messenger boy to the officers, learned how to respect the knowledge of older seamen and learn from them, but also to earn their respect as a commissioned officer in the making. Over the next three weeks a fleet of naval and merchant ships built up, and Charles watched the Signal Midshipman, a senior almost ready for his Lieutenant's examination and dreamed of his own future. Christmas Day dawned and the atmosphere quickened as preparations were made for sailing. Two days later Charles watched the final supply of stores, 40 Butts of Beer, making sure they were safely stowed unbroached by crafty seamen.

Vice Admiral Lord Shouldham made a signal for all merchantmen to unmoor at noon and the convoy was on its way into the English Channel, Charles no longer one of the people but himself on the way to being an Admiral.

As opportunity arose Charles kept a close eye on the Captain, the Master, his mates and the officers as they took compass bearings of headlands, churches and other conspicuous

marks along the coast and checked the ship's position. The lead was armed and soundings were taken to check position when the land was out of sight in the rain or the dark. Small stones with broken shells in 36 fathoms, - about twenty miles - off Start Point. Fine white Sand intermixt with Black Specks - off Tor Bay. For a few days the convoy had sailed slowly westward, then stood on and off Torbay, the sails needing constant adjustment to comply with the Admiral's signals to keep position. Charles was learning the three Ls, lead, log and lookout.

Then to shelter from strong gales, the convoy anchored in Tor Bay. There was no respite, the last day of 1778 the Captain ordered exercises with small arms. The gale increasing, the evening of New Year's Day was spent striking the topgallant masts and veering out more cable. On the second orders came to heave short and then to make sail. This time they really were on their way.

Crossing the Atlantic Charles was finding a routine only for it to be broken by normal but unexpected events. A strange sail was sighted and a ship sent off to investigate. Top masts, rigging and yards split and carried away. Charles had to watch while half a ton of cheese and six hundredweight of butter were condemned and thrown overboard to feed the fishes. He also watched from a distance his father and his mates making and mending masts, yards and booms.

At the beginning of February a seaman, George Shearer, fell overboard and was drowned. The ship's surgeon attempted resuscitation but failed and the following morning after being sewn up in his hammock, the whole crew including young Charles watched as, "*The body was committed to the deep with the usual ceremony*". The following week saw them anchored in Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes for a couple of days, then began eighteen months of patrolling as part of the West Indies fleet, under Admirals Byron, Barrington, and Hyde Parker (later Nelson's senior at Copenhagen), and Commodore Graves, (as Admiral, recalled just before the Battle of Trafalgar).

Charles spent two years and five months on *Magnificent* before arriving back in Portsmouth and transferring on 31 January 1781 to *Belle Poule*. A former French ship, she had been captured by *Nonsuch* off the mouth of the Loire in July 1780.

Charles (Midshipman RN) was getting settled in on her and probably learning some navigation from the highly skilled Master, William Bligh, later Lieutenant commanding *Bounty*. After some months patrolling around the north and east coasts of Scotland *Belle Poule* was called to join Vice Admiral Parker's fleet off the coast of Norway. The fleet was escorting the Baltic convoy home when they met a Dutch fleet also escorting a convoy. This led to the Battle of Dogger Bank. More damage was done to the Dutch fleet than to the English but one of the casualties was young Charles. Soon after they arrived in Yarmouth, on 8 September he was taken to Yarmouth Hospital, where he stayed until the end of October.

The next six months were rather unsettled, but progress was made. Charles was on the books of *Snake* for pay as a supernumerary, and mustered as Midshipman on *Diligence* until the 8 May 1782, but by 29 November 1781 he had six

years and one week of sea time and was able to go before three captains for his Lieutenant's examination.

"He produceth Journals kept by himself in the Magnificent and certificates from Captains Elphinstone and Hunt of his Diligence and Sobriety. He can Splice, Knot, Reef a Sail, work a Ship in sailing, shift his Tides, keep a reckoning of a Ship's Way by Plain Sailing and Mercator, observe by Sun or Star and find the Variation of the Compass and is Qualified to do the duty of an AB.

Dated at the Navy Office 6 December 1781"

He had passed. Charles now awaited his commission. He appeared on Victory on 13 March 1782, was mustered as Able Seaman on 9 May and Midshipman on the 16 May. Victory was a Chatham built ship, Charles' father and shipwright uncles may well have had a part in her building. She was Admiral Howe's flagship, so Charles was in the North Sea in May on rumours of Dutch activity, off the Scillies in June to defend a convoy from a Combined (largely Spanish) Fleet, which led to Howe taking the courageous decision to sail between the Scillies and Land's End, The Combined Fleet then returned to port, as did Howe's.

The Channel Fleet gathered at Spithead preparatory to escorting a relief convoy to Gibraltar. Whilst there Victory and Royal George were anchored close to one another so Charles would have been one of those horrified to see Royal George sink on the 29 August with the loss of most of her crew including Rear Admiral Kempenfelt, a poet and reformer who had previously flown his flag in Victory.

On 11 September the fleet, with storeships in convoy sailed for Gibraltar. Charles as a senior midshipman took part in the brief skirmish with the Combined Fleet off Cape Spartel. The Relief of Gibraltar followed on 21 October 1782. Perhaps as Signal Midshipman he reported the signal from the Admiral, "All Lieutenants", casualties would be recorded, seniority of Officers and Midshipmen noted, recommendations from Captains received and gaps in ship's companies filled.

A week later Charles was promoted by Viscount Howe as 5th Lieutenant to Berwick, on which William Bligh had been 5th for three months at the end of the previous year. Charles was on his way to the West Indies once more. The West Indies was recognised as a place for rapid promotion, if you survived Yellow Fever, Dysentery and Malaria. It has been calculated that between 1793 and 1801 between 19,000 and 24,000 men of the Navy and transports died in the West Indies as well as 43,750 white British troops, over half of those sent. No doubt Charles was hoping that this would give him his next step up, the important promotion to post rank.

On 4 March 1783 an Admiralty Order confirmed his appointment as 5th Lieutenant of Berwick. Charles was on the list for seniority and already there would be some below him. The stay in the West Indies was brief. On the last day of June she was paid off in Portsmouth, and Charles was ashore on halfpay until 29 June the following year when he was commissioned for Flora, in the West Indies, with Captain Robert Montagu, who had already been superseded two months previously. On 4 September, with only twenty months seniority, Charles joined Flora in Port Royal as 1st Lieutenant of three. He was the fourth 1st Lieutenant in just over a year.

Flora was a fifth rate, 36 gun frigate, and the first of a class to carry 18 pounders as their main armament instead of 12.

On the same day the Honourable Henry Curzon, fifth son of the first Baron Scarsdale and cousin of Viscount, later Earl Howe joined as 2nd Lieutenant. For just over a year Charles ran the ship on patrol, convoy duty and in port to the Captain's satisfaction. Then the West Indies caught up with him, on 20 October 1785 he was superseded, invalidated home. Henry Curzon lasted only another month before also being invalidated home.

He arrived home on 26 March 1786 partially recovered. For a year he languished on half pay, but not moping. He was courting and 21 March 1787 saw him marry Mary Curtis Till, daughter of Charles Till of Deptford in the parish church of Saint Nicholas.

After a pleasant honeymoon Charles decided that full pay was necessary for a married man and wrote asking for a ship. A few months later his wish was granted and he joined Captain Charles M Pole on Crown as 4th Lieutenant on 1 October 1787. Crown, a 3rd rate, was a new ship having been launched at Blackwall in March of the previous year. This perhaps went some way to compensate for the let down from being 1st of a frigate. Another Charles, Charles' son (?), appeared briefly on the ship's muster book as his servant from 12 October to the 17th.

Appointed 3rd Lieutenant on 2 April 1788 Charles senior was discharged only six weeks later, but he had obviously impressed the Captain for on 10 May 1790 Charles Pole was appointed to Melampus, a 5th rate built in Bristol, and five days later Charles joined him as 3rd Lieutenant.

After ten days he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant, which he remained until 10 December, when he was discharged. Once again Charles was at home on halfpay. Unlike the West Indies, in England there were always more commissioned officers than positions available. Charles may have been well regarded by his various Captains but he apparently had not sufficient "interest" to get him to sea.

He had three months on full pay as 5th Lieutenant on Saint George, a second rate 98 gun ship, but was home again just in time for Christmas. Two months later he was offered Reasonable as 2nd Lieutenant but was "Unable". Perhaps it was a recurrence of the trouble which had caused him to be invalidated home from the West Indies or maybe an aftermath of the Dogger Bank. For a further eighteen months he remained at home, probably in the Plymouth area, writing to or even visiting the Admiralty asking for a ship or a job. On 30 March the family paid a visit to the parish church in Antony (Torpoint) for the baptism of young Charles, who according to the register was born on 31 December 1791, son of Charles Woodger by Mary his wife Daur. Of Charles Till of Chatham in the County of Kent.

Then his luck turned, his persistence paid off or perhaps his brief acquaintance with the Curzon/Howe family came to his rescue. 12 July 1794 he was appointed Lieutenant commanding Sultan, a convalescent ship. On 26 August Charles reported that the ship was ready to receive Convalescent Seamen and Marines.

To be continued.

Comries Revisited

by Tony Wren (7777)

My JoONS article¹ discussed the evolution of the surname Comrie from the 17th century, tracing its development from the proscription of the clan MacGregor in that century, and stating that many MacGregors had then adopted the name of their village as their surname. Since writing that article I have for the first time met my relatives at Drummie Farm in Fowlis Wester, descended like myself from William Comrie (1763-1836), and my attention has been drawn to a text² by MacGregor which traces Comrie ancestry back to a much earlier period. This text is very difficult to obtain, the publisher no longer exists, and my attempts to contact the author have failed. I have, however, seen a copy, and have copies of the pages relating to the Comries. They appear to have been very thoroughly researched, and form the basis of the present article.

While it is still possible that many present Comries are in fact descended from MacGregors who adopted the name in the 17th century, I now know that my own heritage descends through 13th century earls of Strathearn. Patrick de Strathearn was the third son of Malise, 3rd Earl of Strathearn (c.1257-1312); this is the Celtic earldom which died out in the 14th century, and there is some dispute over the regnal numbers of the earls. The modern earldom of Strathearn is different, and was created for Prince William on his wedding day.

Comrie of that Ilk

Patrick de Strathearn (d.c.1356) was given a charter for the lands of Comrie by his father in 1297, and was therefore entitled to the style "de Comrie". His heirs were known as Comrie of that Ilk, meaning that they were the heads of the Comrie family. Subsequent bearers of the name were Thomas, Patrick, and several successive Johns, the last being John Comrie, 9th of that Ilk, the "de" having been dropped around 1500. The last of the above Johns was compelled to sell the lands of Comrie to the Earl of Perth in 1627, but the following year obtained the lands of Dunira from that same earl.

Comrie of Dunira

Dunira is about three miles west of Comrie, and John was now Comrie, 1st of Dunira. His son, John Comrie, 2nd of Dunira, sold the lands of Dunira to the Earl of Perth in 1653, and thereafter had no landed title. MacGregor's text traces his descendants as far as 1732.

Comrie of Ross

The Comries of Ross can be traced back to Patrick de Comrie, 1st of Ross, the second son of John de Comrie, 4th of that Ilk, who obtained rental of the crown lands of Ross in 1500 (Ross lies less than a mile southwest of Comrie). Patrick was killed at the Battle of Flodden in 1515, as was his only son. Patrick's three daughters resigned their lands of Ross to their cousin David Comrie, 2nd of Ross, second son of John Comrie, 6th of that Ilk, who died childless around 1542, being succeeded by Alexander Comrie, 3rd of Ross.

A further eleven generations are recorded by MacGregor, from John Comrie, 3rd of Ross, through Patrick, Alexander, Patrick, Alexander, John, Alexander, John, and William to John Comrie, 14th of Ross, baptised at Comrie in 1807, who succeeded to the lands of Dalrannoch and Ross sometime before 1851. He died at Ross House on 5 November 1885, when the lands of Ross passed to the children of his sister and her husband Matthew MacInnes. Ross House was burned to the ground by suffragettes in the early 20th century, after which the lands were sold.

In all, MacGregor lists about ninety descendants of Patrick de Comrie, 3rd of that Ilk and 130 descendants of Alexander Comrie, 3rd of Ross. I am descended from Alexander Comrie, 10th of Ross (1703-1762) through his third son William who married Margaret Roy around 1761 and their eldest son, also William (1763-1836) who obtained the tenancy of Drummie Farm, Fowlis Wester, before 1810. The farm passed through his son Duncan (1804-1859), then his brother Peter (1815-1891). Peter is the present owner's 2 x gt-grandfather, and also mine.

Further back

It is possible to trace through a variety of sources Comrie ancestors going back as far as 350 AD, although the provenance cannot be assured. From Patrick de Comrie, 3rd of that Ilk, one can go back through generations of earls and mormaers of Strathearn on one side to Forteith of Strathearn (b.c.1070) and Murrays on the other to Freskin Sutherland, 1st Lord of Duffus (b.c.1107). The latter was descended through several kings of Italy from Charlemagne and a later Holy Roman Emperor. Further back are recorded several saints and bishops, until one reaches Flavius Afranius Syagrius, who might just have been my 51 x gt-grandfather.

Further out

Earlier this year, as a result of my 2018 article in the Journal, I was contacted by a Paul Comrie in New Zealand, who can trace ancestry from Scotland, but I have not been able to tie them into any of those mentioned by MacGregor. It is of course possible that they did actually change their names to Comrie as I first surmised. It is also possible that they are descended from some of the early Comries who are referenced by MacGregor without their descendants other than the principal ones being listed. I am also aware of at least one living Comrie born in South Africa, and of others descended from Jamaican slaves fathered by a Peter Comrie, a surgeon.

Paul Comrie's sister Annette Ellis has recently been given a British War Medal 1914-18 awarded to Percy Harold Comrie of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Percy was the younger brother of Leslie John Comrie, the father of scientific computation, mentioned in my earlier article. Percy and Leslie set sail from New Zealand to fight in France on 14 July 1917, the very day that Percy's only son was born. Percy was killed in October 1918, never having seen his boy. The story of the medal's finding is itself interesting.



John Comrie & his wife Lois, with their children, Leslie, Percy and Grace

A stranger recently found the medal by the roadside in a suburb of Auckland, looked for the name Comrie in the phone book and went to the nearest Comrie address. There was no-one at home, so he talked to a neighbour who told him that the home owner (Maurice Comrie, father of Paul and Annette) was in hospital. The stranger then went to the hospital, several kilometres distant, and left a note with a nurse, who gave it to Annette, who then met with the stranger and was given the medal.

Annette contacted Medals Reunited, New Zealand, hoping to find a descendant of Percy to whom the medal might be returned. Paul passed me a copy of their reply, explaining

that although they had traced Percy's ancestry, they had not yet found any descendants. I then wrote to Leslie's son Julian, also mentioned in my earlier article, who had met Percy's only grandson, now dead, in 2012. As a result, more than a century after his death, Percy's medal has been returned to the son of his sister Grace.

References

1. Wren, Tony. 2018. Comries in Scotland. *Journal, Guild of One-Name Studies*, 13-1, p.21.
2. MacGregor, Gordon A Comrie. 2003. *The landed families of Perthshire, vol.1, The earldom of Strathearn*. Perthshire Heritage. ISBN:0954562801.

Tony is studying the surname Comrie with variants Comry, Cumrie and can be contacted at tony.wren@one-name.org. You can also view Tony's website [here](#).



Percy Harold Comrie & Rubena Evelyn Nicholson 20 December 1916



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Nineteenth century ships named ‘William Miles’

by Sidney Wood (1250)

Introduction

The Sando/w/e (and Childs and Kindley) ONS interest in the *William Miles* arises from Captain Ralph Sheldon Kindley, Master for a few years, dying on board in 1840. These ships were built and operated by Miles & Co of Bristol, UK, before being sold later. One interesting question is which of them was Kindley’s. Another question concerns migration to Australia, one *William Miles* transporting convicts to Van Diemens Land (Tasmania) in 1828.

There are two conflicting stories about the history of the first *William Miles*. One, referred to here as the *two-ship story*, states that there were two vessels, one of 577 tons launched in 1808 and one of 323 tons launched in 1816, both sailing to different destinations. The other, referred to here as the *one-ship story*, states there was one *William Miles* of 324 tons launched in 1808 and enlarged to 577 tons in 1816, sailing alone until 1883. The *one-ship story* is currently (Sep 2019) the dominating view found to date on the web. The stories completely contradict each other. The *two-ship story* is presented in Farr (1950), Bateson (1959), and MacGregor (1985). Finally, a new and much larger *William Miles* made several trips with settlers to Australia and New Zealand in the 1860s.

There is also disagreement about the rigging (disposition of sails, type or class of ship), particularly whether the early *William Miles* was a barque or not. Farr describes both vessels as ship-rigged from the shipyard. The following sketches from Wikipedia explain the difference between barques and fully-rigged ships for three-masted vessels like the *William Miles*.

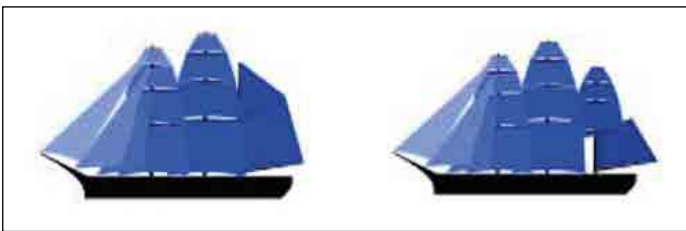


Figure 1. The difference between a barque (left) and a fully-rigged ship (right). From Wikipedia.¹

A barque has only fore-and-aft sails on the mizzen mast, the aft-most mast (Fig. 1, left). This is what the *William Miles* would have looked like as a barque. A fully rigged ship has square sails (across the ship) on all masts (Fig. 1, right). This is what the *William Miles* would have looked like as a fully rigged ship.

The evidence from Lloyds Register

To resolve this problem of the number and type of ships, the *William Miles* was traced through *Lloyds Register* noting where she was and when, rigging, maintenance and rebuilding. The evidence found by searching *Lloyds Register* is unanimous: the first *William Miles*, of 577 tons, was built at Bristol in 1808, sold in 1817, and broken up in 1845-1846. The second, of 323 tons, was built at Bristol in 1816, sold in

1846, lengthened in 1852-1854, and lost in 1883. Both vessels were launched ship-rigged and remained so for most of their lives, and both were re-rigged as barques for a few years.

9	Miles Ss.C	W.T Thorne	577	Bristol	1	P.J. Miles	18	Br.Jamai.	A	1	A.1
	C.B.03		3Ds			11				11	
	& Nancy	T. Betts	08	Yrmt	18	Smith&C.	10	Lo.Hlald	E	1	10

Figure 2. Extract from the 1809 Lloyds Register.

There was one *William Miles* in the 1809 register (line 9 in Fig. 2). The coded entry reads:

“[William] Miles, ship-rigged (S), bolted (CB) copper sheath (sC) in 1808 (08), Master W T Thorne, 577 tons, 3 decks (3Ds), built at Bristol, 1 year old, owner P J Miles, 18 foot draught when loaded, survey port Bristol (Br), sailing to Jamaica, class A1 surveyed in Nov 1808, amended to class A1 surveyed in Oct 1808”

7	Miles S a.C	S. Beddle	577	Bristol	10	Coot&Co.	18	Br. Bengl.	A	1	A 1
	c.f. 27										
8	S a.C	Williams	323	Bristol	2	Miles&Co	17	Br.Jamai.	A	1	A 1

Figure 3. Extract from the 1818 Lloyds Register.

The 1818 register (lines 7-8 in Fig. 3) shows two ships named *William Miles*. The first entry (line 7) is for the 1808 vessel, still ship-rigged and 577 tons, now 10 years old, and owned by Coot & Co (confirming the 1817 sale noted by Farr) and sailing to Bengal. The second vessel (line 8) is a new *William Miles*, the full coded entry reading:

“[William Miles], ship-rigged (S), copper-sheathed (sC) in 1816 (16), Master Williams, 323 tons, two decks (default, not stated), built at Bristol, 2 years old, owner Miles&Co, 17 foot draught when loaded, survey port Bristol (Br), sailing to Jamaica (Jamai), class A1 surveyed in 1816, amended in right margin to class A1 surveyed in Sep 1817”

These two register entries would have been read by Farr and included in his account. Both vessels were launched ship-rigged and not barque-rigged. There was no mention of any rebuilding in 1816. It also demonstrates that both vessels existed simultaneously in 1818, sailing in different oceans. The *one-ship story* is clearly incorrect.

Other evidence for two vessels comes from the burial in Jamaica of a seaman from the “*William Miles* of Bristol” at Hanover Old Church on 3 March 18162. She would hardly be back in Bristol again in time for an alleged 1816 rebuild. This ship at Jamaica in March 1816 can be identified from the contemporary *Lloyds Register* as the larger 1808 *William Miles* making one of her last trips to the West Indies for Miles & Co before being sold in 1817.

Additional evidence for the *two-ship story* is provided by Bateson (1959) and MacGregor (1985). Bateson, p.260, listed a *William Miles* arriving at Van Diemens Land on 29 July 1828 with a convict transport, recording a vessel of 581 tons, built in 1808, class E1. Double-checking the *Lloyds Registers* again for 1828 and 1829 confirms Bateson's details, except that he gave the ship type as a barque (but no source reference) while the register still had ship-rigged. MacGregor, pp. 115-117, describing the 1808 vessel first - 577 tons, built at Bristol, three decks, sold in 1817. He included some shipyard drawings, showing details like ten open ports, long straight sides, flat and vertical without tumblehome (a technical term for a ship's side inclining inwardly above the waterline), and a bluff (less sharp) bow. The main deck was lined with rails rather than bulwarks. Like Bateson, he described the 1828 convict transport "sailing under barque rig", again without citing documentary support. MacGregor also noted that this *William Miles* had ample armament, explaining that well-armed and built for speed, some ships could be authorised to sail alone, while most were slow cargo-carriers that sailed in convoys for protection. MacGregor went on to describe the 323-ton 1816 *William Miles*, warning against confusing the two vessels.

One possible reason for disagreement about the rigging is the changing meanings of ship nomenclature from around 1750 to the early decades of the nineteenth century. MacGregor (1985:29) quotes Chapman's (1768) treatise as an example of earlier ship classification based on hull design. Chapman described five basic merchant hull types: *frigate*, *hagboat*, *pink*, *cat* and *bark*. Each could be rigged as any of *ship*, *snow*, *brigantine*, *schooner* or *sloop*. A *bark*, for example was characterised by hull features like a plain stem without figurehead, square stern, flat vertical sides. MacGregor (1985:29) explains how the years before 1800 were a period of transition from eighteenth century classification by hull structure to nineteenth century classification by sail rig. The whole transition period might cover a lifespan, so that as time passed people would be faced with both terminologies before older practices were forgotten. Any observer trained in the earlier tradition would see either *William Miles* as a barque.

MacGregor also quotes Falconer's (1769) definition of *bark*:

"a general name given to small ships; it is however peculiarly appropriated by seamen to those which carry three masts without a mizen top-sail"

showing how the current definition was also being anticipated in this period.

Smyth (1867) clearly assimilated Falconer; his definition of *bark* or *barque*, updating Falconer's to the mid-1850s, is

"... a three-masted vessel with only fore-and-aft sails on her mizen mast ... with no square sails on the mizen mast"

Note also that the spelling *bark* was changing to *barque* in the nineteenth century, and *mizen* to *mizzen*.

Just in case it was a newspaper report of the voyage that introduced the description *barque* for the *William Miles*, the Trove collection² was searched for all newspaper references to the *William Miles* in 1828. Most referred to her as a *ship*,

a few as a *transport*, and one as a *prison ship*. There were no references to her as a *barque*.

Ralph Sheldon Kindley (1799)-1840

One *William Miles* was captained by Ralph Sheldon Kindley from 1835-1840, when he died on a voyage from West Africa to the USA, with probate proceedings subsequently held in New York. He is known to have served on at least one other ship, the *Lord Melville* around 1818 when he added his "signature of approbation" to a campaign for improving the conditions of merchant seamen led by Jeffery Dennis (1822). The *Lord Melville* was launched at South Shields, UK, in 1804, taken over by the RN as HMS Porpoise, and sold in 1816. She then made two trips to Australia with convicts before 1820, with Kindley (hardly a master yet) possibly working on at least one of them. *Lloyd's Register* shows his appointments as Master, sailing to Mexico, Calcutta and New Orleans: 1826-1828 Master of the *Harriett*; 1828-1829 Master of the *Angerone*; 1829-1831 Master of the *Sir Edward Codrington*; 1831-1834 Master of the *Lord Cochrane*; 1835-1838 Master of the *William Miles*.

Kindley was born on Tyneside, UK, before 1800 (his 1836 Seaman's Service Record gave his age as 37 and birth at Newcastle). He had three marriages, one in London and two in Penzance, Cornwall. His relevance for Sando/w/e research is his daughter Jane Childs Kindley (1827-1889) who married John Sandow, a Cornish farmer. He left his family at St Ives to find gold in Australia, dying in Victoria in 1873. Their son John (1857-1919) also emigrated to Australia, marrying Sarah Jane Head in 1882. Their children are thus great grandchildren of Ralph Kindley, including Ralph Sandow (1891-1953) who carried the name onward for another generation. At least two U.S. episodes of *Who Do You Think You Are?* have been devoted to descendants of Ralph Kindley.

Pictures of the *William Miles*

Two pictures of ships named *William Miles* are known, an 1827 painting, location not stated, and an undated photograph, location not known.



Figure 4. The "*William Miles of Bristol*", painted in 1827 by Miles Walters (1774-1849). Bristol Art Gallery.³

The epithet "of Bristol" suggests this is the smaller 1816 vessel, the only *William Miles* registered at Bristol in 1827. The larger 1808 vessel was registered in London. Both vessels, 1808 and 1816, were ship-rigged in 1827, like this one. The painter, Miles Walters, often included two aspects in one view, from the side and from the stern as here.

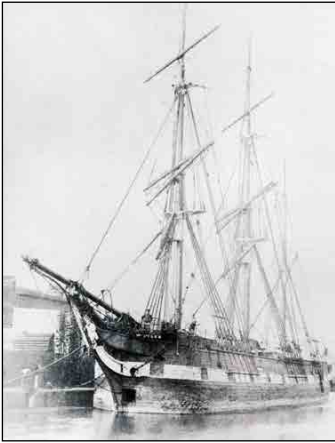


Figure 5. Undated photograph of the 1816 *William Miles* from MacGregor (1985)

Figure 5 shows a photograph of the 1816 *William Miles*, originally sourced from the Nautical Photo Archive Ltd (a former London company that specialised in publishing photographic postcards of sailing ships during most of the twentieth century). The author pointed out details like the bluff bow, a distinct tumblehome and an extra port low down near the bow for loading timber. The photograph shows the mizzen mast is barque-rigged and not ship-rigged (there are no horizontal yards for square sails on the mizzen mast). Both vessels were barque-rigged for shorter periods. The *Lloyds Register* for the relevant years give the details. Farr recorded that the 1816 vessel was sold by Miles & Co in 1846 and reduced to a barque, transferred to Liverpool in the early 1850s, then lengthened and restored to full rigging by 1854. She was reduced to a barque once more for her final years. The photograph might therefore portray the original 1816 vessel in 1846-1850, or the enlarged 1816 vessel in the 1870s or 1880s. This offers opportunities for dating. Bearing in mind the history of photography, the later period is more probable (photography in the 1840s was still at the Daguerreotype stage).

The first *William Miles* (1808-1846)

1808. Built at Bristol, ship-rigged, three decks and 577 tons (Source Farr, 1950, and the 1809 *Lloyds Register*, Fig. 2).

3 March 1816. At Jamaica (source church burial register⁴). Jamaica was her regular destination for almost 10 years.

1817. Sold, now sailing to India (Source Farr, 1950, 1818 *Lloyds Register*).

1819-1820. Round trip to Calcutta. Source: Private journal kept by the surgeon (online catalogue of the Wellcome Library⁵, London); leaving London on 10 May 1819 for Calcutta via Madeira and the Cape, returning 24 December 1819 via St Helena, arriving in London 23 May 1820.

1828. Round trip UK to Van Diemens Land, convict transport, 192 convicts and passengers (source passenger list, the surgeon's sick journal still exists). The 1827 and 1828 *Lloyds Register* list her as still sailing to India, still owned by Beadle & Co, and now rated at 581 tons. She is still ship-rigged, but now sheathed with felt and copper on boards, and has undergone repairs. Above all she is now classified as E1 last surveyed in 1825, amended to class E1 surveyed in February 1827. The 1829 *Lloyds Register* shows her sailing to Van Diemens Land and New South Wales. The *Hobart Town Courier* for 30 August 1828 reports her about to leave for Calcutta.

1831 February-April. Correspondence⁶ concerning the *William Miles* being ordered to take and feed casualties and Portuguese prisoners to the UK, after the RN had apprehended a Portuguese slave ship near Sierra Leone in February-April 1831; sailing West Africa to Portsmouth. *Lloyds Register* shows she was still sailing from London to NSW in 1830, then London to Sierra Leone in 1831, having changed owners again, and still ship-rigged.

1834-1840. With Ralph Kindley as master (source his life, and *Lloyds Register*). Up to 1833, she was still ship-rigged and sailing to Sierra Leone. In 1834, ownership changed and she was in London, now barque-rigged, having undergone major repairs, class E1 surveyed in November 1833. She then sailed to Mobile and New Orleans (USA). Kindley died on board in 1840, sailing from West Africa to the USA according to the probate proceedings held in New York.

1846. Broken up (source Farr). The *Lloyds Registers* for 1841-1845 show her still a barque, unclassified. The registers show she made one last trip to New Orleans in 1841, and was then idle in London only. She was not registered in 1846 or thereafter.

The second *William Miles* (1816-1883)

1816. Built at Bristol, ship-rigged, two decks and 323 tons (Source Farr and the 1809 *Lloyds Register*, Fig.3). She spent most of the time until 1846 sailing to Jamaica, apparently the main business interest of Miles & Co.

1822 June. Sighted in the North Atlantic for a few days (source diary of General Lachlan Macquarie, lately Governor of New South Wales Source: the Macquarie Archive⁷).

1823 July. Thomas Waters buried 17 Jul 1823 at Trelawney Church, Jamaica, second mate of the *William Miles* of Bristol, "having fallen overboard in a fit". The *Lloyds Register* for 1823 and 1827 both show Jamaica as the regular destination of the 1816 vessel.

1846. The *Lloyds Register* for 1846 confirms the sale to Howell & Son. Now barque-rigged, 324 tons, sailing Bristol to Quebec. She is now the only *William Miles*, the 1808 vessel having been broken up. She continued to sail to Quebec until 1849 (source *Lloyds Register*).

1850. *Lloyds Register* still records a barque, still owned by Howells, no home port, no voyage, no classification.

1851-1853. Not registered.

1854. Ship-rigged again, built at Bristol in 1816, now lengthened, now 634 tons, now owned by J DeWolf, Liverpool, sailing to Calcutta, class A1 surveyed February 1854 (source *Lloyds Register*).

1860. Still ship-rigged, sheathed with yellow metal, now rated 577 tons, now owned by Wilson of Liverpool, sailing London to India, class A1 surveyed January 1859.

1869. Now barque-rigged, now 572 tons, now owned by Robinson, home port London, sailing London to the Mediterranean.

Sometimes we find our ancestors or our ‘names’ in unexpected places...

by Bob Britnell (5456)

I was reading a book, “*The Empire of Necessity, Slavery, Freedom and Deception in the New World*”, which principally deals with slave trading from East Africa into the Spanish colonies of South America, when I stumbled upon an unknown Britnell, or rather Britnall. Nothing to do with slaves and slave trading, but part way through, the book diverted into the early nineteenth century sealing trade. There is much about various parties sealing in the Juan Fernandez Island Group some 500+ miles off the coast of Chile, and particularly at Isla Mas Afuera, now Isla Alejandro Selkirk.

One short phrase from 1803 caught my attention, “*all hands round the cove to put a stop to Capt. Britnall sealing.*” A Captain Britnall sealing.... that was news to me, so I had to sidetrack to find out a bit more about the sealing trade and hopefully Captain Britnall. On the way, the internet informed me that in 1808/9 a Captain Britnall (sometimes Brintnall) who had been sealing in the south Pacific picked up a young Hawaiian, Opakaia and took him back to New Haven, Connecticut where he was known as Henry Obookiah. “*The Memoirs of Henry Obookiah*” were published in 1818 and his short life, (he died aged 26), is credited with inspiring the American missionary movement in Hawaii. It’s intriguing to wonder if the sealing Capt. Britnall of 1803 was the Captain Britnall who brought a young man to America and thus helped kick start a missionary movement.

Other research had led me to New England as the heart of the American whaling and sealing trade, as the supply of whales dried up, sealing for skins and oil was taking its place in the early nineteenth century. A bit more online research revealed a Henry Britnell amongst the first New Hampshire settlers, he being a sailor born in Marblehead, Massachusetts, probably before 1691; he is believed to have been injured in a fall from the shroud of a ship in 1707. He may be the Henry Britnell born in 1686, then again he may not, we cannot tell at present. The First Settler records do suggest that his father was a Henry and his mother a Sarah Pedrick but these are not records I am very familiar with.

What this had revealed to me however was the presence of Britnells in New England in the United States earlier than I had previously known; previously the earliest I had seen reliable records for was during the War Between the States, at which time most Britnells served in Carolina Regiments, leading me to suspect southern roots. Now I know I must revise that, did the Britnells relocate south at some point, did the New England Britnells migrate or die out, are these southern Britnells a different branch of the family altogether, and can I connect either to my English Britnells?

Not at the moment. I have yet to find that elusive Britnell who goes missing from England and resurfaces shortly after in America, whether north or south, and it has to be said that Henry is not a Christian name that figures in the earliest Britnell families.

So a chance find of the name in a book on a totally unrelated subject has led me down a new path to explore, yet there is so much still to be explored on the paths I’m already on. Ah well, “*Ars longa, vita brevis*”, and the genealogy will be here to be continued when I’m gone.

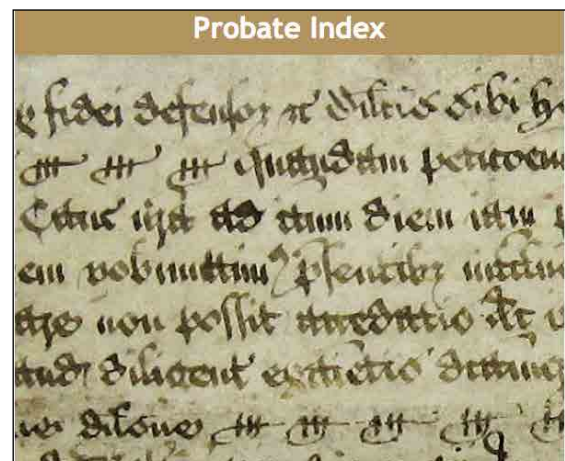
Editor’s Note: *Ars longa, vita brevis* (Latin) - art is long, life is short: learning one’s craft takes so long that a lifetime may not be adequate.



Portrait of Henry Obookiah, undated frontispiece in *Memoir of Henry Obookiah* (American Tract Society, rev. ed., no date). Courtesy of Eleanor C. Nordyke. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Henry ‘Ōpūkaha’ia (circa 1792-1818) was one of the first native Hawaiians to become a Christian, inspiring American Protestant missionaries to come to the islands during the 19th century. He is credited with starting Hawaii’s conversion to Christianity. His name was usually spelled Obookiah during his lifetime.

Bob is studying the surname Britnell and can be contacted at bob.britnell@one-name.org.



Unlike Calendars of Wills, which are organised by name of testator, this is an index of [people named in Wills](#) whose surnames differ from that of the testator. It is available to Guild members.

Enhance your One-Name-Study Web Page or Blog Using Google Maps™

by Jon Casbon (7808)

Place, or location, is one of the most important elements in genealogical research. Place tells us where our ancestors lived and helps us understand the historical and geographical context of their lives. In one-name studies, place also provides clues about how families with similar surnames may or may not be related.

Therefore, it is not surprising that maps can be an important research tool. We consult old and new maps to familiarize ourselves with the places associated with their lives or movements. When we publish our findings or post them on the internet, maps can help us tell the stories of our ancestors and the subjects of our one-name studies.

Maps can do more than just show us places. Modern software tools allow us to integrate many types of data with positional (i.e., place) information. One such tool that is readily available is Google Maps™, the ubiquitous online mapping service that people use every day to find places, check on traffic, and get driving directions. Google Maps also has advanced features that can be used to create and save customized maps. With this article, I want to demonstrate how Google Maps can be used in a website or blog to provide context and allow users to visualize data more easily.

The features I am going to describe do not require users to obtain special permissions or a Google Maps application programming interface (API) key.¹ Since (I believe) Guild members with members with Type 3 members' website projects (MWWPs) are required to obtain an API before using The Next Generation (TNG) software's mapping features, this article may be more helpful for those with Type 1 or 2 MWWPs or freestanding blogs and web sites.

Before proceeding, users should read Google's guidelines, terms of service and attribution requirements for non-commercial use of its mapping applications, available at <https://www.google.com/permissions/geoguidelines/>. Google says, "generally speaking, as long as you're following our Terms of Service, these guidelines, and you're attributing properly, you can use our maps and imagery. In fact, we love seeing creative applications of Google Maps, Google Earth, and Street View."

Here are some of the uses of Google Maps that I will be describing, in order of complexity:

1. Sharing a link (URL) to a map or location
2. Embedding a basic map
3. Embedding a Street View image
4. Creating and saving a custom map
 - a. Adding labels
 - b. Adding lines, shapes, and layers
 - c. Importing data

Sharing a link (URL) to a map or location

This is the simplest way to let others view a map or specific location. However, instead of seeing the map in your web page or blog post, the viewer only sees the map's uniform resource locator (URL), i.e., a link that must be clicked, or opened, in order to view its content.

The first step is to open Google Maps in your browser at <https://www.google.com/maps> and use the search bar in the upper left to navigate to the desired location. In this example, I've navigated to a map of Meldreth, Cambridgeshire, where many of my Casbon ancestors originated.

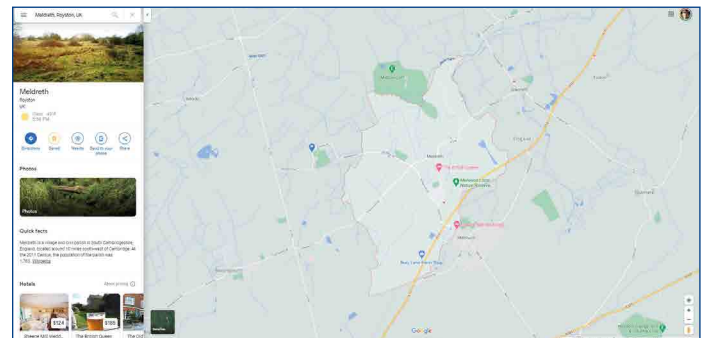



Figure 1. Google Maps image of Meldreth, Royston, UK; Google, Map data © 2020; <https://goo.gl/maps/XLv4UCNGajxaomV78>

Next, click on the menu icon  in the upper left corner of the left sidebar. Then click on "Share or embed map." If you don't see this option, click "Link to this map." A new Share window will appear with options to "Send a link" or "Embed a map." Under "Send a link," select "Copy link." This copies the URL for the map to the clipboard, from which you may paste the link into your website or blog.

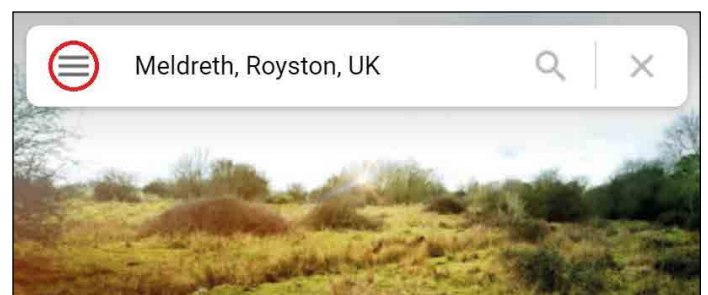
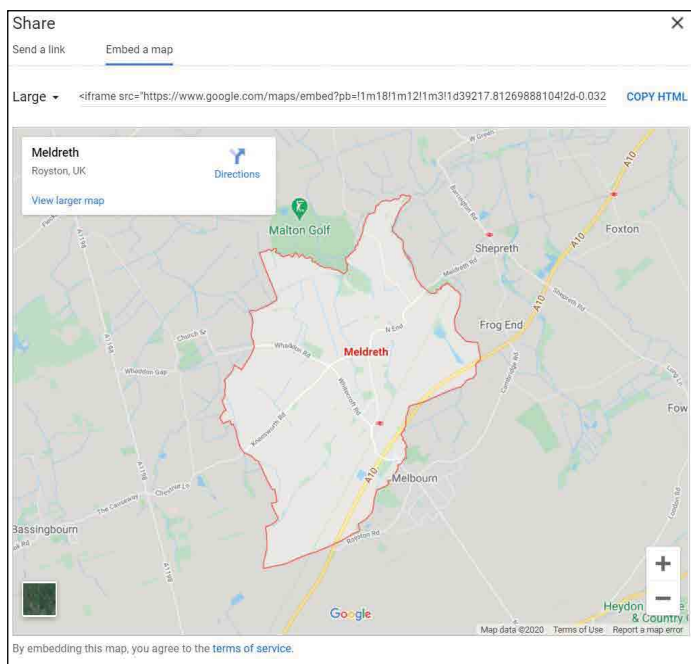


Figure 2. Detail of the left sidebar with menu icon (circled in red) in the upper left corner; Google, Map data © 2020

Embedding a map

Alternatively, you may choose to *embed* the map in your web page or blog post. Embedding places an image of the map on the web page so that others can view it directly. However, unlike an ordinary image file, users can interact with the embedded map in certain ways, such as zooming in, viewing a larger map, getting directions, or switching to satellite view.



To embed a Google map, open Google Maps and go to your desired location, as above. Make any adjustments you would like in your embedded map, such as zooming in, repositioning, or changing to satellite view. Then click on the menu icon and click on “Share or embed map.” When the Share window opens, select “Embed a map.”

You will see the image as it will appear on your web page. You have the option of choosing different sizes for the embedded image. You can also see an HTML link beginning with “<iframe src= ...” Click on “Copy HTML” in the upper right. You may now paste the HTML link into your web page. How to do this depends on your specific web design platform. My blog, *Our Casbon Journey* (<https://casbon.one-name.blog/wp/>) is published on Wordpress.com. It is very easy to insert HTML code into a page or to switch between HTML and visual text editing.

Figure 3. The Share window for my map of Meldreth; Google, Map data © 2020

Embed a Google Street View image

Google Street View is a feature that allows users to have a panoramic view from the perspective of street level. It can be accessed by selecting “Street View” from the main Google Maps menu icon or by clicking on the small orange “Pegman” icon in the lower right corner of a map,. After activating Street View, streets with the feature enabled are highlighted in blue. You can click on a specific location or drag “Pegman” to the location and the view will automatically zoom in. Once the Street View image appears, users can use their mouse to rotate the view in almost any direction and can click on white arrow icons to move along the street. Users can also zoom in for a closer view.

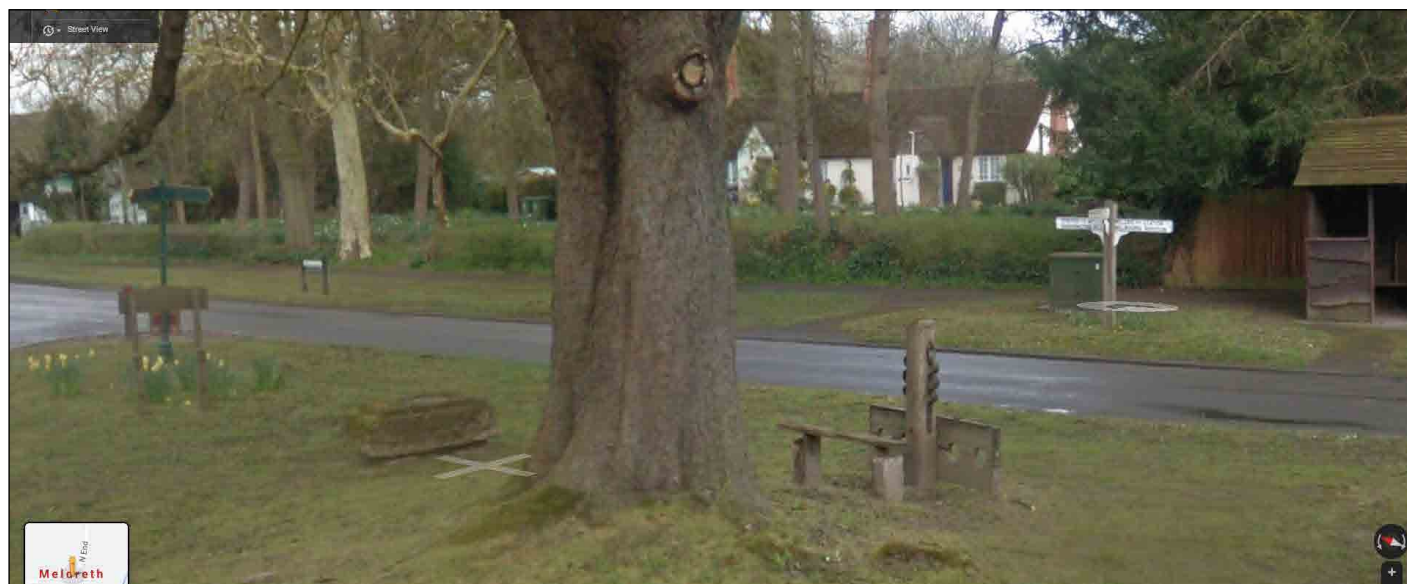


Figure 4. Google Street View image showing the old stocks and whipping post at Meldreth; image capture Apr 2019, ©2020 Google

The steps to embed a Street View image are almost identical as those for a map. In this case, the menu where “Share or embed image” can be found is accessed by clicking on the 3 vertical dots in the blackened area at the upper left of the image. After the Share window opens, select “Embed a map” and then copy and past the HTML link as before.

Now visitors to your web page will be able to click on the Street View image and interact with it just as they would by visiting it on Google Maps. This can be a great way to “visit” houses or other places associated with your one-name study.

Creating and saving a custom map

Google Maps’ advanced features allow you to create and save a custom map. You can add labels to places, draw shapes and lines, and even import data from a spreadsheet or other data source.

Here’s a screenshot of a map I created for my one-name study. Color-coded markers indicate separate family groups and colored lines indicate migrations. A menu allows users to select individual census years. Visitors can view the interactive

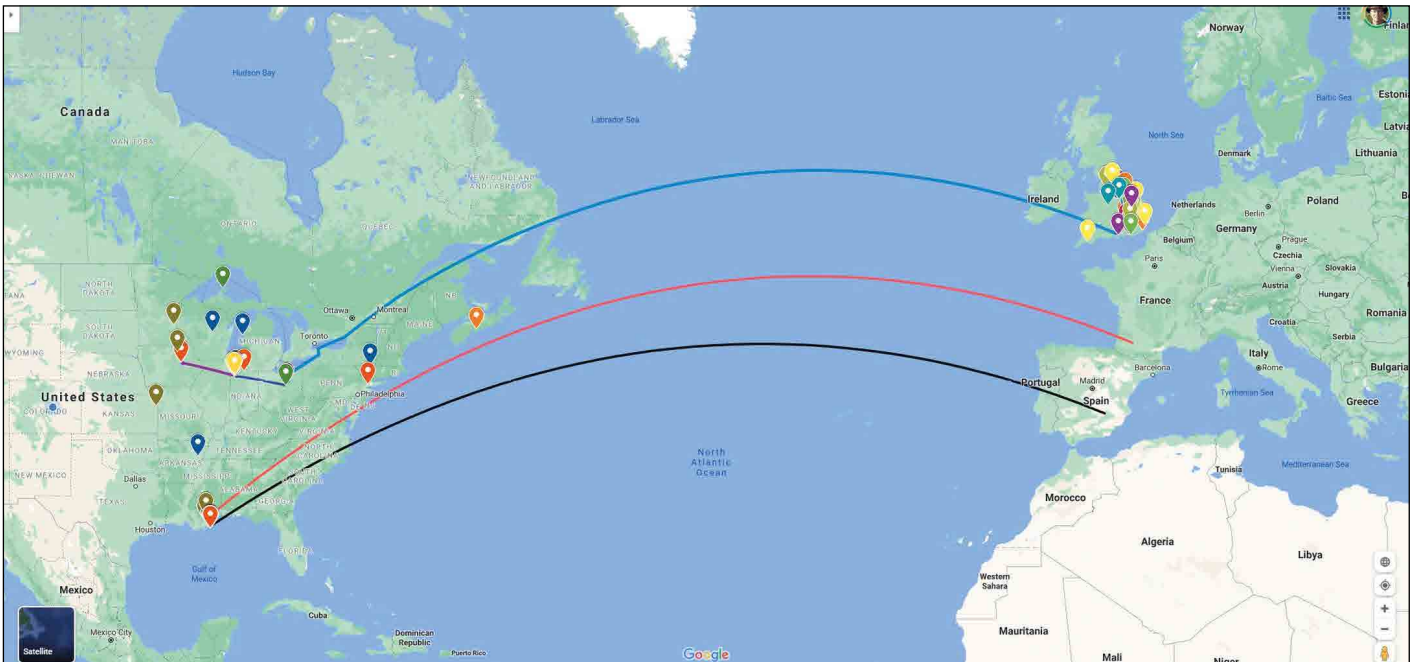


Figure 5. A map showing locations of different Casbon family groups and migration paths; map data ©2020 Google INEGI

version of the map on my blog at

<https://casbon.one-name.blog/wp/documents/mapping-the-census-1840-1911/?frame-nonce=d533e14b5a>.

To create a custom map, you must have a Google account. (If you have Gmail, then you already have an account.) To sign up for a free Google account, go to <https://www.google.com/accounts/NewAccount>. After logging into your account, go to Google My Maps at <https://www.google.com/mymaps>. You can also open My Maps from the Google Maps menu icon. Scroll down to “Your places” and then click on the “Maps” tab. Click on the “Create Map” link.

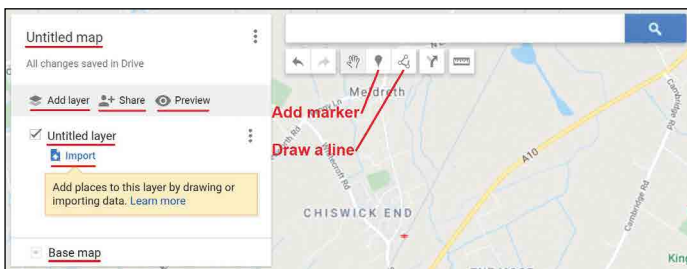


Figure 6. Detail from Google My Maps; key features are marked in red

When My Maps opens, click on the word “Untitled map” in the upper left. You can now give your map a title and description. After clicking “Save,” the map will be saved to “Your places” in Google Maps. Note that by clicking “Base map” you may select from a variety of map styles.

Label a place

Once you are in My Maps, scroll to a location of interest or use the search bar to find the location. If you use the search bar, a marker will automatically appear at the location. Otherwise, click on the Add marker icon and then click on the location. Click on the marker and you can add a name and description, change the type and color of marker, and even upload a photograph or image to go with the marker. Click “Save” and your new location and label will be saved to your map. To see the details, just click on the marker again. Note that the marker and label also appear in the map details box in the upper left.

Why would you want to label a place on a map? One reason is to make it stand out. More importantly, the marker remains visible at all zoom levels. You can pinpoint a specific house, an entire village, or other points of interest.

You can add multiple markers within a single layer using the same steps. Let’s say a bride and groom came from different villages. You could mark each place with a different colored marker, add labels and separate photos.

Add a line or shape

I used this feature to draw the migration paths in my map of different family groups. Click on the icon for “Draw a line” and then on “Add line or shape.” Place the cursor where you would like the line to begin and click; then place it where you would like the end and then double click. You can also create a segmented line or polygon by single-clicking at the bend or corner of each segment. Double-click to stop drawing. Give your line or shape a name and then save. The line or shape will appear in the map details box. Clicking on the small paint-can icon allows you to change the color and width of the line.

Layers

My Maps allows you to create multiple layers that can be turned on or off to highlight certain features. In the map of family groups and migrations, I created a separate layer for each census year. By clicking the various census years, you can see how families grew and changed locations over time. Click “Add layer” and give the new layer a name (by clicking on “Untitled layer”). You may now add location markers and lines or shapes to each new layer.

Import data into the map

This is the most powerful feature of Google My Maps. It allows many types of information to be tied to your map locations. Once imported new markers will be placed and labeled for each location you specify. In the family groups example above, clicking on a marker reveals the name, census year, family branch, address, occupation, and names of family members.

The first step is to create a data table. The file can be an Excel spreadsheet (.xlsx), comma-separated values (.csv), or Google Sheets file. (See https://support.google.com/mymaps/answer/3024836?hl=en&ref_topic=3024924# for other acceptable file formats.) The first row should contain the titles for each data type (surname, census year, etc.). One column must contain location information. This can be in the form of latitude-longitude information, place names, or addresses. Data tables should not contain more than 2,000 rows.

	Census Year	Branch/Origin	Location	Address	Surname	Forename(s)	Gender	Role
1	1850	Cr	Plaquemines Parish, LA		Cassebon	J.M.	M	Head
2	1850	Cr	Plaquemines Parish, LA		Cassebon	J.B.	M	Head
3	1850	MM	Clinton Township, Wayne County, OH		Casban	Thomas	M	Head
4	1851	MM	Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, UK	Melbourn in Meldreth	Casbon	Lydia	F	Head
5	1851	MM	Meldreth, Cambridgeshire, UK	High Street	Casbon	William	M	Head
6	1851	MM	Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, UK	Melbourn in Meldreth	Casbon	James	M	Head
7	1851	MM	Magdalen St, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, UK		Casbarn	Martha	F	Visitor

Figure 7. Detail from a data table used in the family group map; the table was created in MS Excel and then imported into Google Maps

Once you have created and saved your data table in one of the accepted formats, click on “Untitled layer” in the upper left and then click on “Import.” A window will open allowing you to select your file. Once the file has uploaded you will be asked to select the columns from the file that will be used to place the markers on your map. This will be the column or columns containing location information (“Location” in the example above). Next you will be asked to select a column to use as the title for the markers (“Surname” in the example above). Click on “Finish” and your map will be populated with markers representing every row in the table.

You can now customize the appearance of the markers. In the box showing the map title and layers, you will see a small paint roller icon. Clicking on this allows you to choose from several styles. You should experiment to see what works best for your data. In the example above, I selected “Style by data column” and then selected the column “Branch/Origin” so that each family branch would have a different colored marker.

You can add multiple layers, each with its own data table. In my family group map, I created a layer for each census year. By clicking “Preview” in the title box, you can see what other users will see when you share the map. Each census year has a check box allowing viewers to select or turn off individual census years. When viewers click on an individual marker, they will see a pop-up window with all the data contained in the data row for that person.

Once you have created your custom map, you will want to share it with others on your website or blog post. First, click on the “Share” link in the title box. If you haven’t given your map a title and description, you will be asked to do so. Then a “Quick Sharing” window will appear. Select “Enable link sharing” and “Public: everyone on the internet can find and access.” (Don’t do this if your map contains private information about living persons!) After closing this window, click on the menu icon (three vertical dots) next to the map title and select “Embed on my site.” This will open a window showing HTML code beginning with “<iframe src= ...” Copy

this code and paste as HTML into your website. Viewers will now be able to see and interact with the map on your web page.

More advanced mapping applications are available for download, but Google Maps is readily available, relatively easy to use, and free to use for non-commercial purposes. It is powerful enough to display many kinds of information and can give your blog or website greater visual appeal and flexibility.

Reference

1. “Can I put Google Maps on my site without using Google Maps Platform products?” answered at “Google Maps Platform FAQ,” *Google Maps Platform* (<https://developers.google.com/maps/faq#mapswithoutapi>), accessed 26 October 2020).

Jon is studying the surname Casbon with variants Casban, Casben and can be contacted at jon.casbon@one-name.org. You can also view Jon’s website [here](#).



A Blended Family

by Kate Cunningham (7745)

We tend to think that “blended families” are a modern trend. But it appears they happened in our ancestors time as well.

I recently came across a family as part of my ONS that really had me scratching my head.

East Langdon and Guston, Kent, England are less than 1 mile apart. Both small villages north-east of Dover, largely involved in farming in the 1800s. They both come under the Dover Registration District.

Family 1

John Wellard baptised 28 February 1819, Eythorne, Kent. Son of John Golder Wellard and Mary Dixon. Married 14 October 1856 Dover Kent, to Mary Jane Smith. They had seven children all born in Guston, Kent:

- William Henry (1857-1917)
- Thomas John (1860-1930)
- Elizabeth Jane (1862-)
- Richard James (1864-)
- Susan Ann (1867-1915)
- Emma Mary (1870-)
- Ellen (1872-1879)

John Wellard dies 1871 in Guston, Kent.

Family 2

John Pearce/Pierce Wellard baptised 3 November 1833 St. Mary Walmer, Kent. Son of William Wellard and Maria Hogbin. Married three times:

Elizabeth Johnson 13 October 1866 in Guston, Kent. They had three children: -

- Elizabeth Jane (1868-)
- Harriet Hannah (1870-1873)
- John Pierce (1872-1872)

Elizabeth Wellard dies Sep Q 1872, most likely giving birth to John.

1. Fanny Stokes Jun Q 1873 in Dover Registration District, Kent. They had two children: -

- Sarah Frances (1874-)
- Unnamed male (1875-1875)

Fanny dies Mar Q 1875, again most likely in childbirth.

2. Mary Jane Smith widow of John Wellard of Family 1, Dec Q 1875 Dover Registration District, Kent. They had one child: -

- Henry Pierce (1877-)

Mary dies Dec Q 1879.

Now we have the situation where there are children from his three separate marriages and step-children from Mary Jane's 1st marriage. 13 children total but 3 die in infancy.

In the 1881 census¹ John Pearce Wellard is shown as head of the house and a widower. Living with him is Susan Ann Wellard, daughter-in-law, 13 years old and housekeeper. (Susan is his step-daughter, child of John Wellard & Mary Jane Smith). Also living with him are, Sarah F. Wellard, daughter, 7 years old and Henry P. Wellard, son, 4 years old.

By the 1891 census John Pearce Wellard is still living with Susan Ann, daughter-in-law and his son Henry P. Wellard. But now there are 4 more children listed as his sons and daughters. Ellen M., Thomas J., Emily J. and Albert W.

After further research and cross-checking of the GRO Birth Indexes² and parish registers,³ I have concluded that these were the children of John Pearce Wellard and Susan Ann Wellard. All of the births had no mother's surname on the GRO Index entry.

They never married but had 10 children: -

- Ellen Mary (1883-)
- Thomas John (1884-)
- Emily Jane (1887-)
- Albert William (1889)
- Annie Rosina (1891-)
- Jesse Robert (1893-)
- Florence May (1896-)
- Charles Edward (1898-)
- George Arthur (1900-)
- Alice Elizabeth (1907-)

Not only is John Pearce Wellard the father of the above 10 children, he is their step-grandfather. This may sound a bit ugly, but John Pearce Wellard does not have a blood connection to Susan Ann Wellard.

Susan Ann was 16 years old when she gave birth to Ellen Mary.

John Pearce Wellard was 74 when his youngest child was born in 1907.

Susan Ann Wellard dies Dec Q 1915 aged 48.

John Pearce Wellard dies Dec Q 1925 aged 92.

I think even by modern standards this is a unique blended family.

References

1. Findmypast England, Wales and Scotland Census images for 1881 & 1891.
2. General Register Office Indexes for births & Deaths, Findmypast Parish Registers-Christenings.
3. FreeBDM online marriage index & Findmypast Parish Registers-Marriages.

Kate is studying the surname Wellard with variants Weallard, Wellerd, Willard, Woollard, and can be contacted at kate.cunningham@one-name.org. You can also view Kate's website [here](#).

Stairman Women:

Three Widows and a Spinster in the 17th and early 18th centuries

by Lesley Dove (4499)

The earliest members of the Stairman family identified so far lived in and around Catterick in the North Riding of Yorkshire. Apart from a few discrete years for which Bishop's Transcripts survive, Parish Records are lost until 1653. An exercise to link all the earliest recorded members of the Stairman family into a defensible family tree¹ required detailed scrutiny of those few existing records in their historical context. From that exercise the lives of those people gradually emerged from obscurity. Few people of the lower social orders had their stories told in the 17th and early 18th centuries, but they had stories and such records that have survived reveal something of those stories.

Here we look at the lives of four women who come from the second, third and fourth known generations of the Stairman family. They are Ann wife of David and Dorothy wife of Thomas, who were both daughters-in-law of Thomas² the common Stairman ancestor and who were both widowed for over twenty years; Elizabeth Robinson, wife of John and daughter-in-law of Ann, she outlived her first husband by 40 years but remarried; and Elizabeth Stairman, the daughter of Elizabeth Robinson and John Stairman, who never married. Unless otherwise stated all the events mentioned below took place in Catterick.

Ann Stairman

In 1659, Ann Stairman was named as the administrator of David Stairman's estate. She was described as "his relict"³ which was another term for a widow. David and Ann married before records begin in 1653 so we do not know her maiden name. It is estimated that she was born in 1612, he in 1609, and that they married in 1636.⁴ David and Ann are the progenitors of the Stairmand line; only their son John has known one-name descendants. Ann Stairman was buried in St Anne's churchyard, Catterick on 12 February 1681/2 described as "an ancient widow", having been widowed for at least 23 years.

David must have had a significant estate to require application for a grant of administration, a legal necessity when someone died intestate owning goods and chattels worth at least five pounds. Five pounds may not seem significant, but David's was one of only two estates for which a grant of administration was sought in Catterick in 1659. Indeed, there are only two wills for persons from Catterick noted on the National Archives website⁵ in the 1600s, one in 1640 and one in 1657. Clearly David was wealthy by local standards.

That part of the Stairman family did well for themselves reflects the social mobility that inflationary and demographic pressures made possible during this period.⁶ However, there is only indirect evidence as to the nature of their business. David's father, Thomas, was described as an innkeeper in the Bishop's Transcript of his burial on 25 October 1637, and his son John became an innkeeper. It, therefore, seems reasonable that David and Ann were also innkeepers. That Ann was appointed his administrator suggests that she was a

partner in the business. As administrator, she was required to submit a probate inventory within a month of the grant of administration which, had it survived, would have thrown more light on their business.

David and Ann lived through the Civil War. Catterick was a staging post on the Great North Road, at the bridgehead across the River Swale. Its position on this trade route would have presented many opportunities for up-and-coming merchants, perhaps more so in the time of war. They might have made enough money to rent an inn, or just possibly they might have been able to buy the freehold of an inn, or they may have inherited a business from David's father, Thomas. David was probably about 26 when his father died, old enough to have applied for the licence for his father's inn. Equally they might have inherited the business from Ann's father. Men did acquire licences by marrying into the business, widows took over licences when their husbands died and, in some cases, inns were passed down through generations.⁷

Ann is estimated to have been 47 when she was widowed, leaving her responsible for eight-year-old David (c.1651-1693) and nine-year-old Ann (c.1650-1716) and with two older and yet unmarried children, John (c.1638-1681) aged 21 and Priscilla (c.1637-1668) aged 22. The business that she ran with David had been successful and the evidence suggests that she was able to keep the business going and that it was, indeed, an inn. In 1673, Hearth Tax records show that Ann paid tax on a four-hearthed property.⁸ Only 3.9 percent of the 1,799 houses in the Hang East wapentake, in which Catterick was situated, had four hearths; and only 9.9 per cent had more than three hearths.⁹ This four-hearthed property could well have been an inn. That women were able to establish or maintain their own businesses is supported by the fact that the will registered in Catterick 1640 was that of the Widow Ellen Battye. It is possible that immediately after David's death her adult children worked alongside her. However, they were both married by 1663 and by 1667, at the latest, John had his own inn, so she was certainly managing the business on her own for several years.

She died in February 1682/3, probably in her late sixties, survived by David and Anne. There is no record of a will or letters of administration. We cannot know in what circumstances she ended her life, but that she was described as an ancient widow, rather than an innkeeper, suggests that she may have given up the licence. However, the evidence suggests that after her husband died, she had maintained their business for some time. She had been a woman of substance in Catterick and was probably respected for her achievements.

Dorothee Stairman

Ann's sister-in-law fared differently. Dorothy married David's brother Thomas before 1653. It is estimated that she and Thomas were both born in 1616 and married in 1641. Her husband Thomas was buried in Catterick on 1 December 1668

but his occupation is not recorded. Dorothy was left with a son John (1654-1670) aged 14, who might well have been in service by that time, and a daughter Jean (1661-1682) aged seven. They had an older son, Philip (c.1643-1684), who had married Margaret Foggett on 1 April 1668. Dorothy was buried on 21 June 1680 and, like Ann, she was described as “an ancient widow”, she had been widowed for 12 years.

In 1673, Dorothy paid tax on one hearth, as did her son Philip, who had been widowed in 1672. In the Hang East wapentake 881 houses, 67 per cent, of the total had one hearth.¹⁰ Dorothy and Philip’s houses contrast starkly with the larger properties of Ann and John. However, as Dorothy and Philip both paid tax they were not amongst the poorest, who were exempted from the tax. Some 30 per cent of all households were exempt; 48 per cent of households with one hearth and ten per cent of properties with two hearths.¹¹ To be exempt a householder had to inhabit a house, tenement or land worth less than 20 shillings per annum or have assets worth less than £10 and, also, not be liable for church taxes.

By the time of the Hearth Tax in 1673, Thomas has been dead for less than 5 years. Elsewhere it was argued that Thomas was the son of the first known Staireman, Thomas, (est.1586-1637). The elder Thomas was an innkeeper, and the father and grandfather of innkeepers. Had the younger Thomas been less entrepreneurial than his presumed brother, David, and simply gone into farm service? There is a stark difference between Dorothy’s one-hearthed property and the larger property of her presumed sister-in-law Ann. Perhaps the fact that Dorothy’s son, Philip, was also living in a one-hearthed property, supports a conclusion that Thomas had been a cottager - a farm servant and then an agricultural labourer. This being the case, we can conclude that the difference between Thomas and his putative brother David was that David and his wife, Ann, had successfully taken the entrepreneurial opportunities presented by the market town or had inherited an inn from one of their fathers.

After Thomas’ death, it is likely that Dorothy continued to live in the cottage she and Thomas established with their savings from time in service before their marriage. Women and men worked and saved to establish their own households, and if they could not afford to do so, they could not afford to marry.¹² Most young people from labourer and cottager families went into agricultural service, often residing on the farms where they worked. Women were employed as dairy maids specifically or to work on the farm more generally, the latter often referred to as “women servants in husbandry”. These women undertook “such tasks as weeding, following the harrow, leading horses at the plough and feeding the stock”¹³ and, “when not helping in the fields, engaged in domestic duties in the farmhouse.”¹⁴ Thomas was likely the son of an innkeeper, also Thomas, and innkeepers were “among the rich and influential members of the town”, but it seems that this was not enough to secure his youngest known son a position other than in agriculture.

Dorothy’s cottage would have carried with it common rights, including rights to pasture a small number of animals and to collect fuel. In addition, it would have had a “garden” surrounding it which Dorothy would have cultivated, producing a significant amount of the family’s food. Dorothy would have cared for any animals and processed all by-products. Whilst Thomas lived, they might have rented a strip or strips of land in the open fields, which they would have

worked, and if they did not have such land then they would have been more dependent on day labour. The family could not have been entirely self-sufficient, some money would have been required. This might have come from day labour, from selling surplus produce or by Dorothy knitting. There was a market of woollen and yarn stockings at Richmond,¹⁵ where she might have sold her wares.

“Thus among the cottagers as a class, the family income was made up of the wages of the man, the profits from the stock on the common, which depended mainly on the wife’s industry, and earnings from any by-employment in which either the cottager or his wife, or the family as a whole was engaged.”¹⁶ In essence then the wife was at least an equal party in the business of the cottager. Just as Ann and David ran their business together, so did Dorothy and Thomas.

When Thomas died, Dorothy was probably about 50. She would have been able to maintain her cottage, her garden and her animals and carry on selling produce and knitting. If they had had agricultural strips, she probably could not have maintained them for too long after Thomas’s death, lacking the labour.

Following his death Dorothy coped, and at least until 1673, she was self-sufficient and able to pay her taxes. Whether she eventually moved in with Philip, who did not remarry, and her granddaughter, cannot be known. When she was buried in June 1681 she was described as “an ancient widow”. Philip was buried on 18th September 1684, described in the parish record as “a poor man”.

Elizabeth Stairman née Robinson

Elizabeth Robinson married John Stairmand, son of David and Ann, in Catterick on 7 January 1662/3 by licence. The licence was needed to avoid the possibility of an illegitimate birth as their first child, Mary, was born on 11 February. To obtain a licence two men, the bridegroom possibly being one of them, had to swear an oath that the intended marriage was not counter-indicated by either evidence of consanguinity between bride and groom or a pre-contract of either to another, and to commit a bond of between £40 and £200, which would be forfeit if evidence of such counter indications emerged. Such a sum would have been impossible for ordinary folk to pay, but it emphasised the seriousness of the oath being sworn.¹⁷

The licence was also needed as, until the late 17th century, banns could not be called between the beginning of Advent and the Octave of Epiphany. Banns had to be called for three Sundays, although the wedding could take place on the same day as the third reading. In 1662, Advent started on Sunday 20 November, Christmas Day fell on Thursday and the Octave of Epiphany, fixed as a week after Epiphany itself, was Tuesday January 13, 1662/3. Had John and Elizabeth waited to be able to call banns the earliest that they could have been called would have been 18 January 1662/3, and the earliest possible date for the marriage 1 February. Although the prohibition on Advent weddings was not maintained nationwide,¹⁸ there are no weddings between late November and mid-January in Catterick between 1660 and 1665, except John and Elizabeth’s and one on 12 January 1661/2.

There is no indication as to why the marriage was left so late, but John and Elizabeth went on to have 11 children and a

successful business, so it is reasonable to assume that theirs was a happy marriage. Perhaps the reason for the delay lay in the need for them to find a home before the wedding could take place. If, as estimated, Elizabeth was about 22 when they married and John about 24, they were quite young to be getting married and had not necessarily had the time to save enough to set up their own home and multi-generational families were not customary.¹⁹ New families were formed when a new residence could be obtained, not by unexpected pregnancies.²⁰ The overseers of the poor would have been involved in pre-marriage negotiations for fear that the baby would become a burden on the public purse. It is possible that the overseers provided assistance for them to obtain a cottage to enable them to marry.

John died in February 1681. He was survived by only three of the 11 children; George, Elizabeth and David, the latter born posthumously. Six children, Thomas, Richard, Elizabeth, John, Mary and Ann, died before their third birthdays. There are no burial records for two others, Jean and another John.

John Stairman, like his grandfather, mother and father was an innkeeper. His business was of some status as evidenced by the fact that a Royal Commission was held at the inn in 1667 in the reign of King Charles II. There were three inns in Catterick at this time. The Golden Lion and the Angel Hotel were referred to in 1645 as places where widows and children, victims of the Civil War, begged. The Angel Hotel had originally been maintained by a religious order to provide hospitality for travellers, and it has been suggested that monks, after the dissolution, might have turned it into a secular inn and run it as a business. There is still an hotel on the site, although the current building only dates from 1720.²¹ The George and Dragon Inn at Catterick Bridge was built in the 17th century. There is no indication as to which of these inns John and Elizabeth ran, but if it was the one chosen by the Royal Commission presumably it was the best.

An article in the Yorkshire Gazette of 1 May 1886, quotes Clarkson's History of Richmond, 1821, "A Commission out of the Court of Exchequer, dated 12 February, authorising George Wright, Joseph Chapman, John Burnett and Richard Faucett, gentlemen, to examine witnesses... in a tythe case between Charles Anthony, vicar of Catterick, complainant, and Calvert Smithson, owner and occupier of lands in Kipling, in the parish of Catterick: Depositions taken in the house John Staireman, at Catterick, County of Yorkshire, on the 15th April, 1667."²² Though this study has no interest in the hearing, beyond the place where it took place, one witness' evidence is too good to ignore.

According to the record of the Commissioner, "Henry Jenkins of Ellerton-upon-Swale, labourer, aged 157 or thereabouts, sworn and examined, says, "That he has known the parties seven years, that the tithes of lambs, calves, wool, colts, chickens, goslings, pigs, apples, pears, plums, flax, hemp, fruit, and multure of mills, were paid in kind by one Mr. Calvert, the owner of the lordship or manor of Kipling, to one Mr. Thriscroft, above three score years since the vicar of Catterick, and were so paid in kind during the time of his, the said, Mr. Thriscroft's continuance; and after, the tithes of Kipling were paid in kind to one Richard Fawcett, deceased, for many years together, as vicar of Catterick, and that this deponent never knew of any customary tithes paid by any of the owners or occupiers of the lordship or manor of Kipling or any other of the towns or hamlets within the said

parish of Catterick, but all such particulars named in the interrogatories were ever paid in kind to the vicar there for the time being."²³ What genealogy needs is more 157 year old witnesses.²⁴

At the time of the Hearth Tax of Michaelmas 1673, John and Elizabeth were living in a property with six hearths, presumably the inn. Living with them in 1673 were two, or possibly three, surviving children: Mary aged 10, who would die in 1678, George aged three, who would live into adulthood and whose descendants would keep the Stairman name alive and, possibly, Jean, who would have been two.

Their social position is further evidenced by a note affixed in Catterick's Parish Records,²⁵ which records that, in 1678, John Stairman deposited 40 shillings, 6 months tythes for the inhabitants of Killerby Grange. John's brother David lived in Killerby. Did John and Elizabeth also have agricultural interests there or animals at pasture as part of a diversified business? Was he representing "the inhabitants upon Killerby Grange" or chasing tithes for the church?

"John Stairman an innkeeper of Cattericke" was buried on 17 March 1680/81. Elizabeth was pregnant with their last son, David, who was baptised six months later. Their children, George, aged 11 and Elizabeth aged seven were still living; Jean and John may have been alive at this time and would have been 10 years old and six months old respectively. Unlike her mother-in-law, who was widowed when some of her children had reached adulthood, Elizabeth was left only with dependents. She might have been granted the licence of the inn if she had applied for it,²⁶ but there is no documentary evidence either way.

However, she somehow supported herself and her young family, until Elizabeth Stairman married William Hanby of Gillmonby, Bowes in Catterick on 10 Oct 1684. It is possible that William married Elizabeth to join her in partnership in the business, but again, there is no evidence that this happened. Conversely, there is evidence that the three children who are known to have survived after her marriage did not fare well and this suggests that she could not maintain the business, that she left Catterick and that she probably left them behind. Elizabeth Hanby was buried in Bowes on 18 September 1721.

Elizabeth Stairman

Elizabeth Stairman was baptised on 25 October 1674. In 1673 her parents and surviving siblings had been living in an inn in Catterick, and the evidence suggests that they were well off by local standards and were of good standing. She was seven when her father died and ten when her mother remarried.

Then nothing is heard of her until she buried her illegitimate son, Christopher Stairman, on 30 September 1698. As his baptism was not recorded his age is not known. Again nothing is heard of her until she was buried, seven months before her mother, on 27 February 1721 in Catterick, described as "an hospital", a resident of the almshouse. It had been provided under a legacy of the Rev. Michael Syddall in 1658. Her youngest brother David had died in 1702 and was buried in Catterick. Her older George outlived her, dying in 1738. What happened to Elizabeth to take her from one of the better off families in the town to poverty?

Prima facie, it might be expected that Elizabeth would have taken her surviving children with her when she moved to Bowes after her second marriage. However, there are some facts that throw doubt on that scenario. David and Elizabeth died and were buried in Catterick, so if they had gone to Bowes, they returned before she died. Furthermore, when their uncle, David Stairman a cartwright, died, George, the oldest surviving sibling, acted as administrator along with David's son William. David senior of Killerby was buried in Catterick on 23 July 1693, the grant of administration for his estate is dated 9 June 1694. A close relationship had been maintained between the cousins, even though David survived his brother John by 12 years, and lived in Killerby, which was only 2 miles from Catterick, but 17 miles from Bowes. This was quite a long distance over which to maintain a close relationship with his brother's young children.

It seems possible that when the widow Elizabeth remarried, David took some or all of his brother's children to live with him. David's wife, Margaret Cottingham, had died in 1683, leaving him with a six-year-old son, William, and a 9-month-old baby, Anne. He was a wheelwright and must have been a man of some substance given that when he died a grant of administration had to be applied for. He might have taken the children, or perhaps just George and Elizabeth because he needed their labour and to keep them in the family. George was old enough to go to work with his uncle and learn the trade, whilst Elizabeth would have soon been old enough, if not indeed considered old enough at 11, to look after the household and the baby. There would have been no need in this case for either George or Elizabeth, and certainly not David, if he was with them, to go into service. All would have seemed set-fair, but then, like his brother before him David died in his early 40s and, like his brother, did not leave an adult to take over the business successfully.

Elizabeth, aged 19, and possibly used to having the charge of a relatively prosperous household, may have found herself having to go into service. Pregnancy outside marriage was very rare.²⁷ Initially the Overseers of the Poor would have tried to persuade her to tell them the name of the father and then persuade the father to support the child. Those around her might have expected that there would be a marriage, unless it was known that the child's father was already married. She did not marry and this child died. Did she stay on in service or return to service in another post? It seems likely that she would have done.

If she had been able to save sufficient funds then she could have rented her own cottage and secured the common rights that went with it. Like Dorothy, she might have kept a cow and a few chickens, grown food in the garden around the house, worked as an agricultural day labourer and earned money from knitting. Else, she probably stayed in agricultural service for all her working life. The one thing she probably did not do was join her brother's family - the joint family was the exception in this period of history.²⁸ Eventually she was given sanctuary in the almshouse, where she died aged 46.

In Conclusion

Despite the paucity of the records, it has been possible to develop contrasting portraits of four of the earliest recorded Stairman women. Ann offers us insight into the relative prosperity of an innkeeper and the ability of a woman to take on and run a business in her widowhood. Dorothy's life reflects

the reality of the straightened circumstances of the family of a younger son. Elizabeth née Robinson at least has her own name, we follow her through a quickly arranged marriage, the birth of 11 children, the experience of infant mortality and early widowhood. The fact that she was widowed early and left with a number of dependants seems to have prevented her from maintaining the innkeeping business. Her daughter, Elizabeth, born into a relatively well-off family died in an almshouse, reflecting the economic descent of the family. It would be several decades before anyone in the Stairman family broke through into comparative wealth again.

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Lesley is studying two surnames: (1) Dove (website: dove.one-name.net) and (2) Stairmand (stairmand.one-name.net) with variants Stairman, Stairmond, and can be contacted at lesley.dove@one-name.org.

Parish Records and Cowpox

by James Mackay (7544)

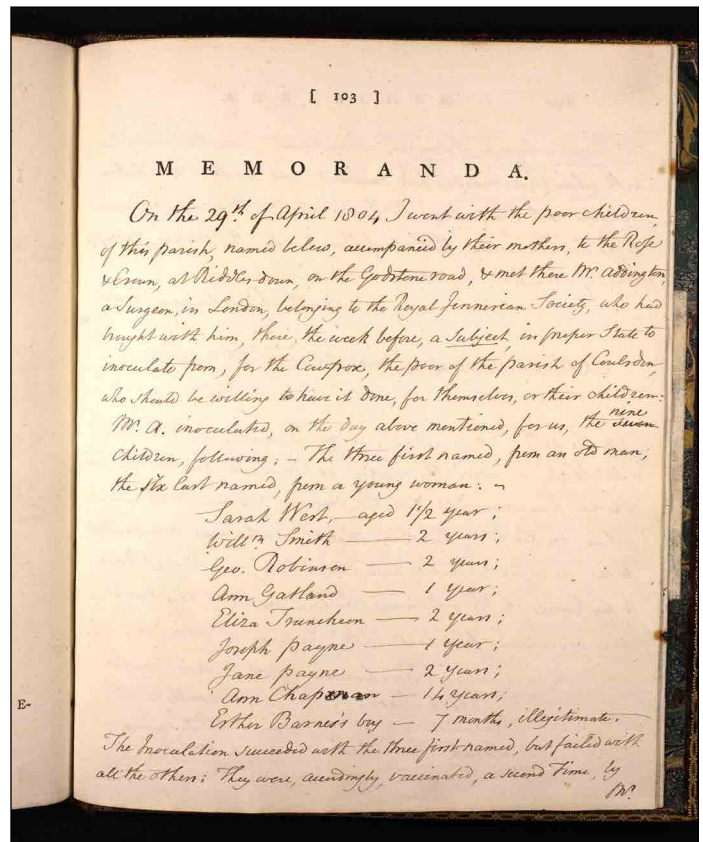
As we battle with Covid-19 I am reminded that there have been other pandemics in the past. Particularly, whilst researching my wife's Woodmansterne, Surrey, Trunchion (Truncheon) ancestors at the Surrey History Centre, Woking. I was new to microfilm parish records and slowly went through the beginning of the reel for the Woodmansterne Parish Registers, Baptisms, 1797-1873. At the beginning of the registers, unknown to me at that time, these registers contained reports from the Rector about events in the Parish during that period. Tempted to speed past them to look for the names for which I was searching, I decided to slow down and look at the reports.

I was surprised to see that my wife's family were mentioned in several entries about cowpox inoculations. The first read:

On the 29th of April 1804 I went with the poor children of this parish, named below, accompanied by their mothers, to the Rose and Crown, at [R]iddles down, on the Godstone road, & met there Mr. Addington, a Surgeon in London, belonging to the Royal [Fennercan] Society; who had brought with him, there the week before; a subject, in proper State to inoculate from, for the Cowpox, the poor of the parish of Coulsdon, who should be willing to have it done, for themselves, or their children. Mr. A. inoculated, on the day above mentioned, for us, the nine children following; - The three first named, from an old man; the six last named, from a young woman: -

- Sarah West aged 1½ years
- William Smith aged 2 years
- George Robinson aged 2 years
- Ann Gatland aged 1 year
- Eliza Truncheon aged 2 years
- Joseph Payne aged 1 year
- Jane Payne aged 2 years
- Ann Chapman aged 14 years
- Esther Barness boy 7 months, illegitimate

The inoculation succeeded with the three first named but failed will all of the others. They were, accordingly, vaccinated a second time...



The entries covered the period from 1804 to 1830 detailing failed, repeated and new inoculations and the philanthropy of those who paid for them.

A lesson for me was that there can be valuable family history information in these registers as well as the baptisms, marriages and deaths we are looking for. Also, spend time looking carefully - the events and timelines are important, but history brings the family to life!

James is studying the surname Trunchion with variants Trunch, Trunchen, Truncheon, Trunchin and can be contacted at james.mackay@one-name.org.

Guild

of One-Name Studies



A webinar series by the Guild of One-Name Studies

Background

SemSub's most recent series of online seminars took the theme of Ancestors in Print, an exploration of the vast quantity of information in 'informal' printed records.

Some of this material was put together intentionally by our ancestors, sending out information they wanted others to know. It ranged from company or business advertising to letting family members elsewhere know about births, marriages or deaths. At other times, by accident or design, they achieved their fifteen minutes of fame - or infamy - as they found themselves involved in a newsworthy item.

Newspapers are a major source of both types of record, and two of our talks focussed on these. We were also guided through a selection of directories and poll books, and discovered the wealth of information to be found in assorted 'throwaway' paper items such as programmes and flyers.

Our four speakers were very generous in their sharing of sources, and the talks certainly merit a repeat watch; all the recordings are available on the Guild website. They also gave some very good tips about searching, both in relation to specific websites and more generally.



And most importantly to one-namers, the resources were all very name rich and gave insights into different aspects of our ancestors' lives, supplementing the more formal records which are the backbone of our research. It was particularly useful to discover that people from all walks of life appeared in these resources.

Aoife O'Connor

Making the news

Aoife O'Connor, Head of Project and Programme Management at Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive, gave us News from Home, News from Abroad: finding the diaspora in newspapers.

Michelle Patient, Genealogist and one of the DNA consultants for the Australian SBS TV series Every Family has a Secret talked about In Print - Here, There and Everywhere: Newspaper Collections in National Libraries worldwide.

Our two talks on newspapers gave us complementary but different tours of papers worldwide and generated a comprehensive guide to finding out how our ancestors who emigrated kept in touch with family and fared in their new homes. They also provided a good deal of general information about getting the most out of newspapers.

Both speakers provided useful insights into search techniques. When looking for names, it is worth remembering how people would have been described in the past, especially women whose first names would rarely have been used. Searching a variety of formats, spelling, abbreviations and initials is likely to yield more results.

Historical events need to be searched for in the terms used at the time, for example using the Great War rather than WW1. Similarly, place names have often changed over time, so use the name current at the time you are searching. And be aware of how an event was seen at the time, rather than how we view it with hindsight.

News didn't travel as fast then as it does now. Often papers would take weeks to make the journey between countries by boat, or locally by horse. Isochrone maps, readily available online, chart the time taken to travel between countries, with the 1881 Royal Geographical Society map showing a 20-30 day journey between London and India, and over 40 days to Australia. So it is important to broaden the dates of your search to take account of this - you may know an

ancestor died in Australia at a certain time but the obituary may not appear in a local UK paper for some weeks.

Websites often have their own search features and filtering tools, and it pays to be familiar with these. The use of Boolean operators also helps to connect search words and either narrow or broaden the results. Although Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive are linked, they use slightly different search tools, as the latter is geared exclusively to searching newspapers.

The digitisation of newspapers, which has been going on for over 20 years, uses Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software to transcribe the text. The technology has improved, especially with the use of AI, so that recent transcriptions are more accurate. However, issues such as paper quality, font and ink will have an impact, as will distinguishing between names such as Mc or Mac, or turning W into V V.

The appearance of older papers is very different, with stories following one on another, joined up often without headings. There are numerous adverts throughout, including many on the front page, as papers had to make money. And of course, as now, they sometimes had their own political bias.

The same story might appear in numerous papers, often word for word, though it might be easier to read in some. In order to ensure that news got back to their families, personal BMD entries often include a phrase such as 'American papers please copy'.

News from Home, News from Abroad

Aoife focussed on the range of papers available in the British Newspaper Archive (BNA), which are also on its sister site FMP. The BNA began to digitise papers available in the British Library in 2010, and now has over 3000 UK and Ireland titles and 27 from elsewhere. Over a million pages are added each week, both new titles and updates to existing titles.

Alongside international, national and local news, sometimes with photos, papers cover military and civil notices, shipping and travel information and birth, marriages and death announcements. The BNA also has shipping lists such as Lloyds List, which note the departure and arrival of sailings. The newspapers contain a variety of information for those seeking news about ancestors who left their home country to live or work abroad. As well as following their progress via the passenger lists, which would be unlikely to name children or servants, letters from travellers were occasionally printed in the paper. However, it is worth bearing in mind that some of these were actually adverts encouraging people to travel! And reports of shipping accidents would also list those who were saved and those who were lost.

There were numerous adverts promoting free emigration to Australia and NZ, both from their respective governments and placed by the shipping lines. As time went on, they tended to be looking for specific skills such as farming or domestic work. In the 1850s, following the advent of sewing machines, there was significant emigration of 'distressed needlewomen'. There was also a demand from men working overseas who were looking for European wives.

Not everyone was good at keeping in touch, so papers often carried appeals for missing relatives to come forward. These often contain interesting information about what is already

known about the person, as well as the name and address of whoever placed the appeal.

In Print - Here, There and Everywhere



Michelle gave us a wide ranging tour of the numerous websites, often free, that house newspaper collections worldwide. These include National Libraries, with those in Australia, NZ, Singapore, USA, Wales and South Africa offering free access; public libraries which often give free access to subscription sites; many university libraries and of course, commercial organisations such as ProQuest, Gale and Ancestry. Although Google newspapers

is no longer being updated, it has a good collection, some of which is unique. These sites hold national, regional and local papers, gazettes, magazines, periodicals pamphlets and much more.

Australia was the first country to digitise its papers and make them free online, with its National Library collection available through TROVE. On a rather different scale, the Ryerson Index is the digitised collection of Joyce Ryerson's collection of death notices.

BMD type announcements are common worldwide, but there are some additional features. US papers often have comprehensive obituaries telling someone's life stories. There are stories reflecting key anniversaries such as the centenary of a particular ship arriving.

In smaller communities, schools would provide full details of prize giving, exam results, and other events. Advertisements for business, court reports and legal notices, including probate, are all rich sources of names.

Of course, the birth, marriage and death columns were a staple means of keeping in touch for people from all walks of life. Note that in Australia the term was Bereavement notices. These notices would frequently ask papers elsewhere to copy the announcement, ensuring it reached family members wherever they may be, but also providing useful information about where your ancestors might have lived. In NZ, such notices had to be endorsed by a 'responsible person' to ensure inclusion.

Advertising your wares

Else Churchill, Genealogist at the Society of Genealogists (SOG), London, looked at Directories and Poll Books: Name-rich resources for the long 18th century in the library of the Society of Genealogists and elsewhere.



The earliest directory in 1677 listed London merchants, but subsequent directories included a wide range of traders and artisans too,

though no single directory was ever fully comprehensive, partly because of the need to pay for an entry. Initially they covered larger cities, moving eventually to include towns and more rural areas; these often include guides to the town concerned, giving a flavour of life at a given time. By the mid 19th century, street directories such as Kelly's Post Office directory became more common.

The Royal Kalender, published from 1767-1973, despite its name, included a good many working people alongside the great and the good. The example shown included not just the clerks and officers at the House of Lords, but also the principal doorkeeper and the extra doorkeepers.

Some directories had a single focus. Alongside some of the more obvious occupations such as lawyers and druggists, there were others with a rather more unusual focus. Harris's list of Covent Garden Ladies was a guide to sex workers in Covent Garden, published annually between 1757-1795. Historian Hallie Rubenhold's book of the same name was the inspiration for the TV series Harlots. And a gentleman in search of a rich wife in 1742 could find a wealthy widow or spinster in A Master-key to the Rich Ladies Treasury!

As well as the extensive collection of directories held at SOG, the Guildhall and University of Leicester hold large collections, as do both Ancestry and Findmypast.

Else also described the importance of poll books as name rich sources. She suggested that finding out a bit about the franchise would help our research. From 1429 until the Reform Act of 1832, just one in ten adult males were able to vote, with incremental changes increasing the franchise through to 1971 when everyone 18 and over got the vote. The poll books, unlike electoral registers, listed who voted and who they voted for - no secret ballot until 1872 - and many of the votes were bought, often wholesale.

However, because of the different approach to the franchise from one borough to the next, getting the vote didn't only depend on being well off. Potwallopers, householders with a fireplace to cook, were eligible in some areas, whilst the Rotten Boroughs had very small electorates and could be used to gain unrepresentative influence in parliament.

Never throw anything away

Julie-Anne Lambert, Librarian of the John Johnson Collection, Bodleian Library, Oxford talked about Ephemeral Names: printed ephemera as a resource for one-name historians.

This was a fascinating insight into a resource that is perhaps less well known to many family historians. John de Monins Johnson (1882-1956) was an avid collector of paper items that might otherwise be thrown away, his purpose being 'to give a new history of the English people as seen in the printed ephemera of the day-to-day lives of its men and women'. The collection opened in 1971 and contains some 1.5 million items, including posters, programmes, menus,



trade cards, flyers and much else, covering almost every imaginable occupation and pastime. In fact work undertaken by the Centre for Ephemera Studies at Reading University has identified 1,100 ephemera terms in its thesaurus.

There are other online collections, all organised and catalogued differently because there are no agreed protocols for doing this. Many of them have a specific focus, such as American Advertising. Essentially they are paper items that don't fit into libraries or museums, and as such reflect all walks of everyday lives.

The John Johnson Collection is organised by subject and genre and as such, provides a wealth of unusual material for social historians and one-namers. Whilst it is by no means all catalogued online, it is free to search in the UK (or through institutions elsewhere). Alongside names the items often include addresses, such as on business advertising, pictures of people or places, and sometimes dates.

Many of the items, such as playbills and theatre programmes, are name rich, although members of the chorus for instance may not be indexed. They are also beautifully illustrated and provide a good insight into the design, calligraphy and fashion of the time. As is the case today, celebrities were often called on to endorse products; Ellen Terry promoted Koko for the hair, and there are many other famous names to be found.

There are a number of projects within the collection. For example, the Zegami collection of trade cards, which can be searched in a number of ways, including names, subject or location. The ProQuest project covers Advertising, Book-trade, Crime, Entertainment and Prints.

John Johnson set the cut off point at 1939, and collected retrospectively. The archive now collects contemporary items, such as junk mail, election leaflets and Covid 19 ephemera. These are being sorted into broad categories matched as far as possible to those set by John Johnson, but they are not yet digitised. Nobody will be surprised to know that in spite of the 'paperless' society, there is plenty of printed material still available, often duplicating online information such as exhibition catalogues.

Summary

The webinars were attended by an average of 115 each week, and feedback shows they were well received. They certainly gave us all a comprehensive 'to do' list, with plenty of new sites to explore. Attendees were pleased to find records that were a bit out of the ordinary, and which provided information to supplement their family stories.

People were very positive about the webinars and the opportunity to watch the recording again at a later date. Comments included 'Excellent series of webinars highlighting the fascinating and abundant source of names', and 'Just to say thank you for all the work involved in organising this Guild webinar which is much appreciated'. SemSub would like to echo this sentiment, saying a huge thank you to our speakers, our hosts and the marketing team for their support.

Alison Boulton (7289) (SemSub)

Seminar Programme for 2021

Wednesday 12th May 2021 - 7-9pm

 #GuildPreservation

Online seminar: "Preserving Your Study for Posterity"

Contributions from Guild speakers to show how the Guild can help to preserve your study, followed by a Q & A session.

Saturday 24th July 2021

 #GuildPre-Census

Picking up on some of the subjects those who attended the 'Ancestors in Print' series said they would like to see in future, we start with some of the recordings from the Guild Knowledge Zone on the theme of 'English Pre-Census Records'. These will be available to view at your leisure.

Please note: the DNA Seminar originally planned for this date has now been transferred to next year, when it can be held as an in-person event

Saturday 23rd October 2021

Those Who Served  #GuildMilitary

Venue: Stock Village Hall, Common Road, Stock, Ingatestone, Essex CM4 9NF

Nearly every generation has known war. Whatever their reasons, whether pressganged, patriotic or penniless, many of our ancestors served and their stories from Napoleonic times to the two World Wars can be revealed in the records.

Book Review: Sharing Your Family History Online

reviewed by Stephen DGLISH

Chris Paton is a professional genealogist best known for his books on Scottish and Irish family history and for his Scottish GENES blog, which is a source of much useful information. His latest book, *Sharing Your Family History Online - A Guide for Family Historians*, has a slightly different focus in looking at ways to present your research and encourage collaboration online.

It is a fairly slim volume with just 144 pages, with six chapters - Researching Your Family History, Communications and Social Media, Collaboration and Crowdsourcing, Recording Your Family History, DNA: it's in the blood and Sharing and Preserving Stories.

The contents of the first chapter will be familiar to most Guild members but there are helpful thoughts on good record keeping, privacy and data protection, copyright and online etiquette. The chapter on communication and social media offers a survey of different online tools, from social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, to blogs and meeting platforms.

Collaboration and crowdsourcing are areas that may be of interest for one-namers. Chris writes: "Many opportunities exist for users to try to utilise the information they hold to generate further leads ... technology now permits us further ways to collaborate". Much of what Chris discusses in this chapter may already be familiar - but sometimes it can be helpful to go back to look again at what opportunities there are and how these might be used.

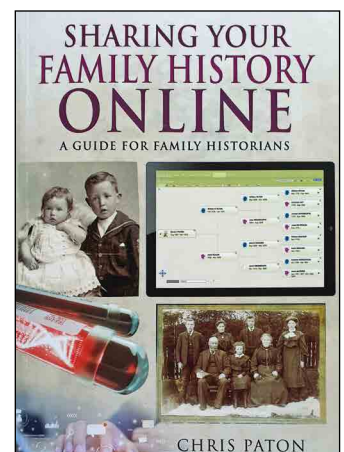
The chapter on recording your family history deals with a perennial Guild debate about ways to store the masses of data and records that we collect - whether in software packages, online programmes or collaborative family trees. A lot of useful information to help with choices, but I am sure the debate will continue!

The chapter of DNA is self-explanatory - but the other chapter that I found of interest was on sharing and preserving stories. This looks at ways to publish stories through various media - websites, self-publishing, video and audio platforms. Using online media is one way of preserving our materials but I think that there is more that could be said on ways in which to safeguard research materials for future generations.

The book is packed with information and ideas along with many links to explore; there is always a danger in publications of this sort that links may change or fall out of use. The book is written in Chris' usual clear and engaging style and should be of interest to anyone considering how to publish their research online.

Review by Stephen DGLISH

Published by Pen and Sword Books ISBN 978 1 52678 029 4.
Price £12.99 / US\$ 22.95



How do I register a one-name study?

A one-name study may be registered either when joining the Guild or subsequently as a Guild member by visiting the Guild Shop. A once-only registration fee is payable for each study registered, although the fee includes the registration of a reasonable number of variants.

The Guild recognises that a one-name study can represent a considerable amount of work to research and maintain. Before registering a study name, members are recommended to have at least established an understanding of the expected size and extent of the study, and the likely geographical areas to which research should be directed.

Each study listed in the Register of One-Name Studies is classified into one of three categories, 1, 2 or 3. The category designations are intended to give a rough idea of the progress and maturity of the study. The study principles may be helpful here.

The designations of the categories used at present is as follows:

- Category 1: A study where research using core genealogical datasets and transcriptions is in its early stages.
- Category 2: A study where research using core genealogical datasets and transcriptions is well under way, but currently in some countries only.
- Category 3: A study where research using core genealogical datasets and transcriptions is well under way on a global basis.

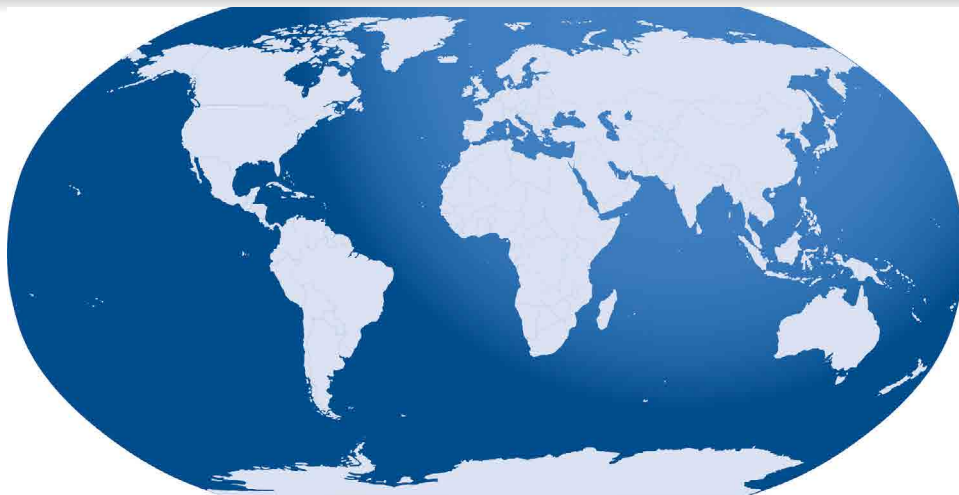
After their study has been registered, members may update their categorisation as they wish.

Guild members are currently allowed to register no more than three separate one-name studies, though it is recommended that only one name is registered by new members. A reasonable number of variant surnames can also be registered within each study. Registered variants may be names held by living name bearers or where all lines are now extinct, and should be registered only if the member is studying them as fully as the principal registered name. Your view of which spellings are genuine variants of your registered study name may change as your study develops, and you can add or drop variants within your study at any point. It is good practice to register only the most frequently-found variants, and almost all one-name studies are, in practice, researching or monitoring more variants than those formally associated with the registration of the surname.

Any given surname may be registered as a study or variant by only one member, on a "first come, first served" basis.

The Registrar has the responsibility of assessing one-name study registration requests, according to agreed criteria for registrations. Members registering a name with the Guild should be aware of the study principles of one-name studies registered with the Guild.

The registration of any one-name study surname and variants will lapse when membership ceases. Any individual re-joining the Guild and wishing to re-register any surnames and variants (if they are still available for registration) will be required to pay the appropriate Registration Fee, although the Committee, or the Registrar acting on its behalf, may waive the fee if this is deemed appropriate.



Journal of One-Name Studies
Quarterly publication of the
Guild of One-Name Studies
ISSN 0262-4842
£3.00 when sold to non-members



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of One-Name Studies