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Journal

of One-Name Studies

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**Guild of
One-Name
Studies**

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All the latest Guild news and updates



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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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All photos courtesy of authors unless otherwise stated.

Chairman's Report



I want to thank all the members who gave time to staffing our booth at the recent The Really Useful show organised by the UK Federation of Family History Societies. Friday evening proved very busy, more because we were picking up on how the system chosen worked. I spent much of the early afternoon session working in the booth alone as the system would not add new helpers. It was fortunate that we had our Zoom room linked into the system, so we could communicate with each other and invite visitors to chat.

Earlier this week, I got the chance to revisit the online presentations and listen to the Federation's new President and long time Guild member Janet Few talk about the problem of encouraging younger people to join family history societies. It applies to the Guild, too. Just looking at our committee, we have the majority of members who are of retirement age. Janet expressed concern that if we don't change things around then, we face the possibility of dying out. Is our hobby just for old age pensioners mainly? I know some members have been looking at their family history since they were much younger, but, and I include myself, left it later in life to start a One-Name study. One point that Janet did not make was the fact that we seem to attract members in maybe the older age group and that we, although our membership is still shrinking, keep recruiting older members.

Our marketing team are looking at the possibility of offering Duke of Edinburgh credits in an attempt maybe to attract the younger age group. Do we need to do

more and help deflect the costs involved in doing a One-Name study for teenagers or even those under thirty?

I look at people at these events and wonder how many of our members also help run the local societies that are members of the Federation. Is it they started their family history and joined an organisation to progress it, and then moved on to One-Name Studies, as I can't see why you would do it the other way around?

One of the best turnouts in respect of our recent ballot gave a yes result to your committees' question on changing our charity status with nearly 20% of the membership casting a vote, not quite up to the figures achieved in national government elections but for the Guild one of the best figures for a long time. Thank you for supporting your committee.

The steering group now starts the application process, which might take weeks or months, depending on how the Charity Commission views the constitutional documentation. Many thanks to the review team who have led the committee in getting the new constitution written and approved.

Nominations for the committee open up on the first of December, and I am sure members would like the option of voting for trustees who are under 50 or even 40. I am not sure we have anyone under 30!

Just in case you have not noticed bookings have opened for our annual conference next April.

Wishing you all seasons greetings.

W. Paul Featherstone MCG

Front Cover Photo: Derek and Pamela Palgrave. How does the saying go? "Behind every great man there is a great woman!" © Paul Howes (see p.23)

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

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DNA for your ONS

How to pass on your DNA Project

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

A time may come, perhaps due to the impact of age or declining health, that you want to pass on your DNA Project to a new Administrator(s). Sometimes this is in conjunction with your One-Name Study, or you may want to pass on the DNA Project in advance of passing on or preserving your One-Name Study.

Your DNA Project is a legacy you leave with the discoveries you have made. In addition, your project may have Y-DNA results for the last male of some of your family trees, which are really important to preserve.

There are easy steps to pass on your DNA Project. Please don't destroy your Project by deleting everyone. This would make it impossible for a new Admin to recruit the deceased participants to join. And those participants whose email has changed, and they didn't update their kit record, couldn't be recruited either.

There is no need to delete everyone and then delete the project to retire your role as a DNA Project Administrator.

If you no longer want your DNA Project, for whatever reason, simply contact the DNA Advisor, who handles all the steps for you. It is fine if you no longer want the project.

The Guild promotes preservation of your One-Name Study, and a DNA Project should be preserved also. It came to my attention recently, that a Guild member destroyed their DNA Project, thinking this is what they should do, if they no longer had the ability to administer the DNA Project.

A DNA Project is an asset, and should be preserved and passed on to another Admin.

If you are faced with a lack of time or energy or health issues impacting your ability to continue to administer your DNA Project, or any reason, you might want to first consider adding a Co-Administrator, as a first step towards retirement. It would be ideal if the co-Admin could take over the project one day, though this doesn't need to be a requirement. You can use the help of a co-Admin, and also find an Admin to take over the project when you are ready to retire from the DNA Project.

If you are unable to find someone to take over as Admin of your DNA Project, there is then the solution of putting the project up for adoption. Before contacting me to put your project up for adoption, it is helpful for you to update the DNA Project website and DNA Project Profile to remove references to your one-name study, and remove any links to your Guild Profile.

Once this step is done, simply contact me, and I will remove the Guild logo from the DNA Project and submit the project to Family Tree DNA to put it up for adoption.

Then, you should update your Guild Profile to adjust any text about the DNA Project, and also remove the link to the DNA

project in the top of the Guild Profile, since you will no longer be the Admin.

There is also an option for those that don't want a co-Administrator now, and want to pass on their DNA Project to a specific person(s). In this case, you can leave your DNA Project to another person(s) in your estate planning documents, such as your will or trust. If you don't want to modify or amend those documents, you can prepare a separate document and get it notarized, that states whom you want to take over your DNA Project. This document can then be presented to Family Tree DNA during the estate settlement process.

Without any directions or co-Administrators, your project will be put up for adoption automatically after you are gone.

Preparing for the Future

There is one important factor for everyone to consider during your term as Admin of a DNA Project. A new Admin or co-Admin is automatically set for only Limited Access for all participants. This makes it much more difficult for them to do their job. They would need to contact all the participants to change their settings to Advanced. And of course, the deceased members can't make the change, unless they passed on their sample to a beneficiary. You can solve this problem today, by having all your participants grant for any future Admin/co-Admin authorization for Advanced Access. You can write to your participants and ask them to change this setting now, and do the same for any new participants that join. Then, when you add a co-Admin, or a new Admin, or put the project up for adoption, the participants will show as Advanced for the new Admin.

The directions to make the change of Access for future Admins starts out the same as changing Limited Access to Advanced Access. The participant logs into their kit, then hover over their name in the upper right, and click Account Settings. Then click the tab for Project Preferences. They then click the pencil next to the project where they want to change Access. Then go down the page that pops up, until you see: "I allow all future Administrators and Co-administrators of this project to have the following access to my account". Below this, change from Limited to Advanced, and click "Accept Project Preferences".

This change of setting for future Admins cannot be done by the Admin, even if you have Advanced Access. You must be logged into the kit to make this change.

Though it will take some time to get all your participants to change this setting, you will be making it much easier for the new co-Admin or Admin that you add to your project, or a new Admin from adoption. It will then be easy for you to stay on top of this issue of Access for future Admins, as you add new participants.

Putting your DNA Project up for adoption is a better solution than destruction. Contact the DNA Advisor for any help you need.

A Members Experience

Update following members' responses

by *Martin Hindry (6316)*

Following my letter which appeared in the September 2021 Journal I have received a number of responses that have echoed my thoughts.

As expected I have been made aware that there are things which go some way to address my comments for existing members such as our new Global E-Newsletter which commenced in June 2021 and is created by Jean & Ken Toll; a very comprehensive and informative read. I also note the article "New Member? Have a look in the Members' Room" by Melody McKay Burton (7997) in the September edition!

There is a lot of information contained in the Guild website as long as you know where to find it!

There is support for more articles like the one from Melody McKay Burton and I would say that this type of content is another example of just what is needed to be given to new members as part of the Welcome process!

The New Member process has evolved since I joined in 2013 and is currently being reviewed with proposals being made to make it more welcoming and include more help and guidance.

I am also interested in what happens at the Region level as experiences vary widely from active groups through to non-existent! There must be a way to bring together the Best Practices from the Regions to establish a uniform process, with templates, for New Members and when Members relocate between Regions. This would include an 'upgrade' to the New Member process. (I do not mean to talk out of turn but this is something that clearly is warranted judging by my own, and member comments and experiences.) Again, it must be remembered that this relies on Volunteers stepping up to take on the role of the Region Rep and there are a number of current vacancies but there must be ways to improve both the life of the Regional Rep and the members within the Region.

I look forward to seeing what changes are made as time goes by...

Most comments I received were critical of the type of material being published in the Guild Journal BUT it has been explained to me that the content can only include material that the Editor receives.

So, in conclusion, can I ask all members if they would consider, and act on, providing a variety of articles for our Journal to add

to its attraction to members. Articles can be anything from a short paragraph upwards.

I, for one, will take a good look at the Guild Website, commit to undertake to support the Guild more and think of items which would be of interest for the Journal.

Again, I would be interested in the views of other Guild members in ways of widening the interest of the Guild and I also look forward to more member contributions with varied content in the Journal!

A Members Tip: Being of the 'old school' my way of collecting on-line information is, where possible, to Copy the item and Paste it into a Word document which can be headed up with source information and stored under a similar name in my 'ResearchExtracts' directory. For example a copy of the results taken from FindMyPast of a search for Martin Hindry is pasted into a Word document which would be called 'FMPMartinHindryddmmyyyy'. This can be printed and notes written on the printed copy before adding to my Master Spreadsheet and then filing.

'Master Records': Each researcher will have developed their own way of recording information. Again, being of the 'old school' I have printed copies of the majority or information that I have found. However, I do maintain an Excel spreadsheet which contains a record for every item found. I must admit it is somewhat complicated and contains multiple entries for the same fact but which have come from different sources, but it does allow for information to be sorted into various sequences, such as name.

Family Tree Printing: I have found that printing a complete One-Name Study tree, which includes only Study Surname entries, from propriety packages is difficult, if not impossible. My preferred solution has been to create an Excel spreadsheet for each of the current Four main trees that I have for my Hindry study. I also use the same format where branches warrant further work primarily on the maternal lines. Excel allows for lines, arrows, and other special characters.

I have purchased an A3 printer and am able to print the trees in Portrait extending over 10+ pages which are then Sellotaped together. There are companies that could print spreadsheets on a continuous sheet.

Instructions for Contributors

We welcome articles, photographs, letters, and news from members.

Please send your submissions to the editor at: editor@one-name.org

The deadline for the following editions are: 15 February, 15 May, 15 August and 1 November.

Please note that the Editor reserves the right to amend an article due to various reasons/restrictions and cannot guarantee which edition submissions will appear as this is due to space limitations along with ensuring diversity of content.

From Switzerland with Love

A Journey in Time - Part Three

by Geoff Studerus (7791)

My Paternal Great-Grandmother

As previously mentioned, I had already found the census details from 1871 to 1911 for Sebastian's family, which gave me my great-grandmother's christian names. So I decided to concentrate on all the links that might give me her surname.

However, on obtaining my grandfather's birth certificate I found that his mother was recorded as Sarah Ellen Hawkes.

I subsequently found a record of Sebastian and Sarah's marriage at the Parish Church of St Martins in the Fields (Trafalgar Square, London) on 27 June 1870, which enabled me to obtain a copy of their marriage certificate.

This, confirmed that Sarah Ellen's surname was Hawkes, and her father was William Hawkes (Farm Bailiff) - Ah, well, there goes another chance of a family fortune!! Sebastian's father (my great-great-grandfather) is recorded as "Celestin" (a tailor), which ties in very nicely with the Swiss record I had obtained.

Sarah Ellen's age on the marriage certificate is shown as "full age" - not a great deal of help to find a date of birth, but the 1901 census shows her as being 48 (and a quick calculation indicates a date of birth of about 1853) - some 8 years younger than Sebastian. More on that later!

As previously stated, the census forms show they had 2 children - Frederick Eugene Celestin (born 1879 - my grand uncle), and Sydney Victor George (born in 1883, my paternal grandfather).

The 9-year gap between marriage and first child seemed unusual, so I did some research on birth records, and came up with something of which no other living member of family had been aware. Sebastian and Sarah Ellen had had 4 more children - all of whom died at/or very shortly after birth.

Alfred William Sebastian - born 6 October 1870, died 28 November 1870 (6 weeks). A bit of scandal here - his parents were married on 27 June 1870 - you do the maths!!

Edward Joseph - born 4 October 1875, died 14 October 1875 (11 days).

Nelly Florence Caroline - born 25 July 1876, died 15 September 1876 (3 weeks).

Fanny Louise - born 3 November 1877, died 19 January 1878 (11 weeks).

Apparently, a skeleton in the closet!!! Especially as I had heard an expert genealogist on a TV Find-your-family type programme, putting forward the theory that where a number of children in a family had died consecutively, it may have been an indication that there was syphilis in the family, and the survival of later children indicated that the disease had

"worked its way out of the genes". I don't know how true that is!!

Back to my great-grandmother. You may remember that I had no knowledge of my great-grandmother's date of birth (Sarah Ellen - Sebastian's wife). Well, this became the archetypal "brick wall". Try as I might I could not find any birth (or baptismal) record, even though census forms declared her to be born in Gloucestershire.

Every time I searched, I kept coming up with only one record - that of a naturalisation certificate granted in 1918.

In my naivety, I automatically discarded this. My logic was - why should a lady, born in England (as per census forms), need naturalisation?

In the end, in desperation, I sent for a copy of this record and was glad I did, as it opened up yet another part of my family's life.

The record contains a copy of an application to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated August 1918, for British Citizenship to be reinstated by means of a Certificate of Naturalisation.

Very much a legal document, it describes Sarah Ellen Studerus as "Widow, an Alien, formerly a British Subject". It also records her place of birth as being "Rodmarton, Near Tedbury, Gloucestershire", together with the names of her parents, and that her occupation at the time of application was "needlewoman".

Her request had to be witnessed by 2 people who could vouch for her, and declare that they had personally known her for some time - in one case 15 years, and in the other 24 years.

But why would she have been an "Alien"? When I turned to the history of nationality law, it became clear that the 1870 Naturalisation Act introduced the concept of renunciation of British nationality, and provided for the first time that British women who married foreign men should lose their British nationality and take on that of their husbands.

So, on marriage in 1870, my great-grandmother had become a Swiss citizen, and it was not until the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act 1914 that things changed.

This legislation (which became law on 7 August 1914) decreed that, amongst other options, "Former British subjects who had lost British subject status on marriage ... could resume it in specific circumstances (e.g. if a woman became widowed)".

Sebastian died in 1911. The Status of Aliens Act decreed that "Where a woman has (whether before or after the commencement of this Act) married an alien, and was at the time of her marriage a British subject, she shall not, by reason

only of her marriage, be deemed to have ceased to be a British subject unless, by reason of her marriage, she acquired the nationality of her husband." So, it seemed that Sarah might have been able to recover her British Nationality. Having the status of widow when The Status Act became law in 1914, it seems feasible that she could have applied at that time for her British citizenship to be reinstated.

But this was not a straightforward as it might seem. It transpires that, having declared her place of birth (but not date), Sarah Ellen was unable to produce her birth certificate to substantiate the declared facts. It is not clear why she waited until 1918 to make her Naturalisation Application - probably such an application would not have been entertained whilst the Country was at war.

Eventually, however, on 22 August 1918, Sarah presented her application for consideration and decision. This was passed to the Metropolitan Police (Special Branch, Criminal Investigation Department, New Scotland Yard) for further investigation. This resulted, in October 1918, in a statement on her case by a humble PC.

It appears that she was interviewed, and the PC's statement is just a report of both the facts of that interview, and his research, together with a recommendation.

It confirms that she was a Swiss subject by marriage, residing in Hammersmith, and "duly registered at Hammersmith Police Station (Serial No TZ 2388)". The latter refers to her having to

register as an alien under the powers of the Alien Reg. Act and British Nationality Act - 1914.

At the outbreak of World War One, all aliens over 16 were required to register at local police stations, providing details of their name, address, marital status and employment and to demonstrate a good character and knowledge of English. This was partly due to a fear of spies, and to impose reporting restrictions.

The investigator writes "She states that she was born at Mount Pleasant Farm, Rodmarton, Near Tedbury, Gloucestershire on the 21 January 1849, but she was unable to produce her birth certificate or any documentary proof in support of her statement. A careful search has been made at Somerset House but there is nothing on record concerning her birth. She states that it is quite possible that her parents omitted to notify her birth to the proper authorities, but she feels confident that her name is on record in the Parish church at Rodmarton where she was baptised. She occupies one room at her present address; she is in rather poor circumstances and her means of livelihood is mostly obtained by needle work. She states that her reason for applying ... is because she wishes to become exempt from Police supervision."

The recommendation confirms that she is nearly 70 and has no birth certificate. "Perhaps in the circumstances the point may pass."

I get the feeling that, as her application is number 366042, the authorities were quite willing not to have to spend too much time on a dear little 69-year-old lady, who was very unlikely to cause any problems, and so granted her naturalisation certificate.

However, on seeing that there might be a baptism record available, my further research produced just that, and her story was proved to be correct. Although Somerset House was contacted, perhaps the police didn't have time to spend to dig just that little further (presumably the local bobby in Rodmarton could have got together with the vicar and found the baptism!!).

What happened to her? Despite her circumstances, she managed to find love, and went on to marry again in 1926 to a Retired Berthing Master (presumably to do with ships and not children!!) and lived until 1936.

Geoff has no surname registered and can be contacted at geoff.studerus@one-name.org.

Memorial for Certificate of Naturalisation

STOP PRESS!

We need a new Guild Secretary!

This is a really interesting role and very rewarding for someone who would like to be closely involved with how the Guild operates. Please look at the Situations Vacant page on the website (under the News banner) to find out more about what is involved. There is an opportunity to work alongside the current secretary to learn the role and gain understanding of what is required. We need you!

Please get in touch if you think you can help.

The Bousfields

Voices from the Past

by David Bousfield

The primary reason most people have for getting involved in family tree research is to find out more about their immediate relatives and the origin of their surname. Often though this unearths information about unrelated off-shoots which can become the focus for a separate project altogether. This is the story of one such investigation.

I am a Bousfield and the origin of the Bousfield/Busfield/Bowesfell clan arose from the descendants of families who we believe lived in the shadow of Baugh Fell in Westmorland. These individuals probably lived in bastle house settlements - fortified farmhouses, designed to be safe havens for families and their livestock against raids from border reivers. Today a hamlet called Bousfield can be found north west of the town of Orton close to Ravenstonedale, an area rich in Bousfield families from the earliest times.

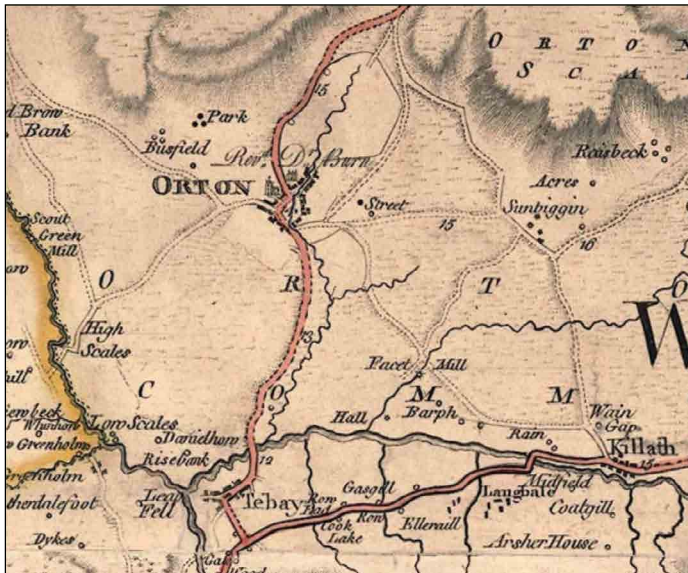


Fig. 1. Small section of a Jeffrey map made in 1770 showing Busfield and Orton

In researching the migration of my immediate family with its strong farming and lead mining links in Westmorland east across to Pateley Bridge in Yorkshire (where the name transmutes to Busfield) I also found evidence for an independent group based in and around London in Tudor and Stuart times. How did they get there and how did they relate to other branches of my extended family?

What is known about the origin of the name?

There has been speculation that the surname has Norman roots, though there is no reference in the Domesday book to this effect. However, the name does appear in early documents known as pipe rolls.

The records of the General Eyre, for example, date from the twelfth century. It was a travelling court of London judges, assembled to bring justice to the rest of the country. It generally dealt with more serious offences, and by the

beginning of the fourteenth century had largely been replaced by regional courts of assize.

The surname appears once in the 1279 Westmorland Eyre (presided over by Vaux, one of King Edward I's justices), which refers to Joh[ann]es de Bowesfel (John of Bowesfel). It appears here that Johannes Bowesfel is bringing action against Henricus de Farleton and Thome son of Johannis de Gosseby.

Documents held in the National Archive provide confirmation of the place name. In 1310 William and Robert Pykering, canons of York, and John, Prior of Bolton-in-Craven, were required to arbitrate a dispute between the Abbot and Convent of Whitby (Yorkshire), and the Prior and Convent of Coningshead, (Lancashire), over the towns of Orton, Bousfield, Kelleth, Sunbiggin, Raisbeck, Langdale, Tebay, Roundthwaite, Scales, Eller Gill and Gaisgill (Westmorland): Whitby claiming the lands in the right of the Church of Crosby-Ravensworth, (Westmorland), and Coningshead claiming in the right of the Church of Orton.

The Arbitration document clearly spells the place name several times as "Boghesfel". For example, it appears twice towards the right-hand end of the second line and again at the beginning of the sixth line of the section of the pipe roll shown in Fig. 2.

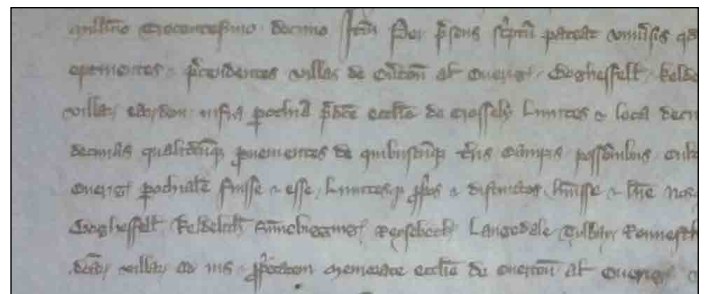


Fig. 2. Whitby arbitration 1310

Boghes- and *Bowes-* were simply different spellings representing how the same name element was pronounced. The first element in the name derives from the Old English *boga* from Old Norse *bogi*, meaning "bow". The second element is "fell" from Old Norse *ffjall* meaning "hill". The "bow" in this case could be the curving hillside between Howe Nook, Orton Scar and Bowbrow.

Sources of further references and spelling variants:

- Bowesfel(l): 1279, Assize Rolls for Westmorland 1256-1329 in the Public Record Office, nos. 979-995. 1301 Feet of Fines, 1196-1659 (unpublished) in the Public Record Office (CP 25). 1377 Lay Subsidy Rolls (Public Record Office), E. 179.
- Boghesfell 1310 Historical Manuscripts Commission, 10th Report, 4th Appendix, London 1885.
- Bogesfelle 1310 Cartularium Abbatiae de Whiteby (Surtees Society 69, 72), 1879-81.
- Enrico de Bowsfell, 1379, Poll Tax, Tebay, Westmorland.

- Bowsfell, 1537. Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, Volume 12 Part 1, January-May. Names of persons condemned to die at Carlisle, 24 Feb 1528. Co. Westmld. Edw. Bowsfell, John Bowsfell, Hen. Bowsfell, of Winton
- Bousfell, 1541. The advowson, presentation, disposal and right to the parish church of Ravenstonedale. History & Traditions of Ravenstonedale, Westmorland, by Rev. W Nichols.
- Bousfield 1615. J. Nicolson and R. Burn, The History and Antiquities of the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland, 2 vols., London 1777.

Ravenstonedale and beyond

By the 1500 and 1600s many Bousfield families were to be found in the vicinity of Ravenstonedale in Westmorland. Historically also known as “Russendale”, the parish is divided into four parts or “angles”: Town, Newbiggin-on-Lune, Bowderdale and Fell End.

In “The Advowson, Presentation, Disposal, and Right of the Vicarage of the Parish Church (1541)” there are details of the conveyance of farms and tenements of Ravenstonedale by King Henry VIII. First of all to the Archbishop of York, and six years subsequently, after the death of the Archbishop, to Sir Thomas Lord Wharton. This preamble is followed by a list of the land-holders of the dale and the number of acres they possessed. This included Reynold Bousfell, cottage; John Bousfell, 3 acres; Stephen Bousfell, 10 acres; Henry Bousfell, 3 acres.

The Parish grand jury had power to try cases of contention, debts, demands, titles, claims, and tenant-rights. It was composed of twenty-four of the most influential men in the parish. The names of the jurymen in 1581 included a Stephen Bousfield. In 1664 it included Christopher and Philip Bousfield representing the Bowderdale Angle and Henry Bousfield, the Town Angle.

Details of marriages for the period 1578-1677 also point to a rapidly growing Bousfield community. The list of grooms includes: Stephen Busfeld, 1596; Henry Busfeld, 1602; Richard Busfeld, 1606; Christopher Busfeld, 1610; Mathew Busfeld, 1619; Abraham Bousphell, 1624; Simon Bowsfell, 1627; Abraham Bousfell, 1627; Michael Bousfield, 1633; Christopher Bousfield, 1637; Stephen Bousfeild, 1640; George Bawsfeild, 1667; Phillip Bousfeild, 1668; Richard Bousfeild, 1669; Henry Bousfield, 1673.

As the population grew many would begin to look beyond Westmorland and move east seeking new land to farm. Later, once families become urbanised in the larger cities such as Darlington and York the paper trail becomes much more diverse and wills and other preserved legal documents in particular can provide depth to the christened/married/died data available from church records.

Fresh clues from the South

So when I started to broaden my research to take in these additional research sources I was surprised to discover a small collection of wills from the 1500-1600s originating from the south of England. So this second part of the story is about some related Tudor (1485-1603) and Stuart (1603-1714) Bousfields living in and around Oxford, London, Chichester and Kent. My starting points were wills proved in the PCC

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury) as documented from 1383 to 1670, the Clergy of the Church of England Database and records from the National Archive:

1544 (died) - Henry Bousfield (or Bowsfell) of St Faith and St Paul, London and Trottycliffe, Kent and Chichester Cathedral.

1622 - Thomas Bousefield or Busfield, Clerk of West Malling and Trottycliffe, Kent.

1627 - John Busfield, citizen and armourer of Great St Helens, London.

1661 - John Busfield, merchant, Saint Clement Danes, London.

Let's start with Henry associated variously with the churches and cathedrals of St Faith, and St Paul London, and St Peter & St Paul in Trottycliffe, Kent and Chichester. The will is dated 8 September 1544 in the reign of Henry VIII:

“I, Henry Bousfell, Proctor of the Arches, sick in body etc... make this my last will and testament... “

“I bequeath to the High Altar of St Faiths for my tythes negligently forgotten.. six shillings eight pence. I will that William Clarke shall be found at my wife's cost until he comes to the age of 15. I bequeath to my daughter, Johanne, 100 marks. I bequeath to the child that my wife is with, 100 marks. I will that my wife before she marries again shall find sufficient for deliverance of the said money....

“I bequeath to Thomas, my servant, a cloth gown.... I bequeath to Bartholomew Bousfell the Advowson of Trottescliffe, Kent. I bequeath to Thomas Bousfell the prebend of Gates in Chichester. The Residue to my wife, Mary, whom I make sole executrix, Thomas Sybill Esq., and Mr. John Sybill, his son, supervisors. Witnesses: John Darrell, priest and Sir Thomas Hebbe, Curate of St Faiths.”

The Court of Arches, the court of appeal of the Archbishop of Canterbury, dates back to the thirteenth century. In its heyday, from the Restoration to 1857, the court exercised a wide-ranging jurisdiction over marriage, probate and testamentary disputes, defamation, church property (rates, tithes, fabric of churches), and morals of the clergy and laity. It sat in the church of St Mary le Bow in London. So Henry was quite an important man.

He appears to have left just one daughter, Johanne, though clearly his wife was pregnant when he died. I imagine Bartholomew Bousfell and Thomas Bousfell may well have been his younger brothers, but there is no relationship mentioned. Henry was buried in St Paul's church yard under the alter to St Faith, an ancient building that had been demolished to make way for the expansion of St Paul's.

Various snippets of information about Henry's life exist. He was a well-respected man. In 1538, Mary, the Prioress of St Helen's Convent Bishopsgate, gave him, “gentleman of London” an annuity of ten shillings - a pension - issuing from their lands and tenements in the city of London. It was granted in reward of good counsel given previously, and was to be paid in equal portions at Christmas and Midsummer. Henry had a house on Paternoster Row in the parish of St Faith's and there is evidence from the parish registers that his nephew John was christened and buried in St Helens.

In the National Archives there is a record of a dispute dated 1535 between plaintiff William Middleton and defendant Thomas Sibile, esquire, and Henry Bousfell, his son-in-law, proctor of the Arches. The subject being money and maintenance promised to the complainant on his marriage with Agnes, daughter of the said Sibile, and expenses in the latter's lawsuits. Clearly the Sibile's were close friends of Bousfell.

Trottescliffe

In his will Henry bequeathed to Bartholomew the advowson of the church of St Peter & St Paul in Trottescliffe, Kent. Trottescliffe was in those days the location of the Palace of the Bishops of Rochester. An advowson gave the right of a patron to present to the diocesan bishop a nominee for appointment to a vacant ecclesiastical benefice or church living, a process known as presentation. Effectively a means passing income to the next generation.

Henry also bequeathed the advowson of the prebend of the Gates of Chichester to Thomas Bousfell. A prebend was the portion of the revenues of a cathedral granted to a canon as part of his stipend.

Throughout this period the Church of England was the single most important employer of educated males in England and the Bousfell clan had a long, possibly nepotic association with the church of St Peter & St Paul in Kent which was recorded by Rev T.S. Frampton in his book, *"Fifty-eight rectors of Trottescliffe"* published in 1874. This relationship began in 1543 when Nicholas Heath, Bishop of Rochester, conveyed the next presentation of the church to Henry Bousfell, John Sibell, Esq., Notary Public, Thomas ffurnes, Merchant Tailor of London, and Thomas Bowsfell.

In 1546, Bartholomew Bousfell was instituted as the 35th Rector on presentation by John Sibill, gent. Bartholomew was deprived on the accession of Queen Mary, but restored as the 37th in 1560 when Elizabeth I came to the throne. Interestingly his predecessor, the 33rd Rector was Thomas Schawe who mentions Ravenstonedale parish church in his own Will.

Bartholomew went on to become Provost of Queens Oxford, while in 1578 Thomas, his brother became the 38th Rector of Trottescliffe. This Thomas died in 1589.

Oxford

Bartholomew also had close links with the 'Hall of the Queen's scholars at Oxford', today known as Queen's College. The Hall was founded in 1341 by Robert de Eglesfield, a chaplain in the household of Queen Philippa, who named it in her honour. He envisaged an establishment of fellows, chaplains, 'poor boys' from the north west and various officials and servants, headed by a Provost. Membership was to be open, but with a preference for inhabitants of Cumberland and Westmorland. Initially Queen's was poor, but the endowment slowly grew. Crucially, in 1343, Philippa secured for Queen's the lands of a small hospital in Southampton, destined to be the basis of much of the College's later prosperity.

After 1400 the preference for people from Cumberland and Westmorland became a monopoly, making Queen's a community of north-westerners. During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries it prospered, and in Elizabeth's reign,

when it became one of the most popular Oxford colleges, there is growing evidence for the development of the tutorial system.

[An alternative route for north-westerners was via Eton College founded by King Henry VI as a charity school to provide free education to 70 poor boys who would then go on to King's College, Cambridge, founded by the same King in 1441.]

Bartholomew gained admission to Queen's College, Oxford in 1546 and appears in the records afterwards as B.A. He was elected Provost of Queens on 9 June 1575, and confirmed by the Archbishop of York on the fourteenth of the same month. He had acted several times as an Examiner at Merchant Taylors School.

[The Merchant Taylors' Company dates from 1327, when it was a social and religious fraternity of tailors and linen-armourers dedicated to St John the Baptist. The school has enjoyed a distinguished history since its foundation by the Merchant Taylors' Company in 1561.]

Bartholomew seems also to have been a close friend of Archbishop Grindal, Elizabeth I's Archbishop of Canterbury. In 1562 Grindal presented him to the vicarage of St Christopher Le Stocks, and in 1581 to the rectory of St Michael's, Crooked Lane, both in London.

Bartholomew remained Provost of Queens until 1581, when he resigned under pressure from Grindal and Henry Robinson, Principal of St Edmund Hall. One of Bartholomew's conditions of resignation was that his nephew, another Thomas, should succeed Robinson as Principal of St Edmunds. Bartholomew died in 1581.

Thomas II and Bartholomew II

This second Thomas is recorded as having entered Merchant Taylors' School in 1563. After becoming head boy he went on to Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1568, as a Thomas Wattes' (Archdeacon of Middlesex) Scholar, where he gained his B.A. in 1575. He joined Queen's College almost immediately afterwards where he was installed by Bartholomew as Logic Lecturer in 1577. Thomas was principal of St Edmund Hall from 1581 until 1601 when he too was forced to resign.

Under Thomas the Hall's revival accelerated and he felt able to launch out on a bold programme of expansion. First, he put up a small tenement which still stands at the south-east corner of the old quadrangle. Secondly, about the year 1596, he erected a four-storey range of buildings on ground which had previously formed part of a garden. These additions vastly increased the accommodation at his disposal.

Thomas' object in carrying out these works was to cater for the growing inflow of fee-paying commoners of the better-off class whom he hoped to attract, thereby augmenting his own and his successors' emoluments. Unfortunately, in his eagerness to raise funds to finance his construction work, Thomas seems to have resorted to a variety of shady practices, such as guaranteeing the manciple (a person in charge of buying provisions for a college) and other servants security in their jobs in return for substantial monetary gifts, letting out rooms (contrary to university regulations) to townfolk, and even temporarily transferring the principal's income and

functions for ready cash to a former commoner. Towards the end of 1600 the vice-chancellor instituted an inquiry into these allegations, to which were added charges of gross absenteeism, 'especially in the terme tymes', as a result of which 'there hath bine great neglecte of the ordinarie lectures, disputations, and other exercises required by the Statutes of the saide Hall, and of the devoute frequentinge of devine prayer'.

Although he put up a defence, the case against him was a damning one, and he decided to cut his losses; on 26 February 1601 he resigned from the principalship. Thomas held two benefices, one in Trottescliffe and the other a prebendary of Salisbury in 1582. He died in his parsonage home in Trottescliffe on or about 15 Sept 1620. He was the 40th Rector of Trottescliffe. Unusually he dictated his will, which may mean he died after a short illness. The transcribed document has been preserved:

"Memorandum that Thomas Bowsfield, late of West Malling in the County of Kent, clerk, lately deceased, on or about the 15th Sept. 1620, being at his parsonage house in Trottescliffe in Kent, with intent to make and declare his last will and testament nuncupative, and to settle and dispose of his worldly estate, being of perfect mind and memory, did signify, intimate, make known and understood or declare his last will and testament nuncupative in manner and form or to the effect following .. viz: he did nominate and appoint ... his sister, Ann Dixon, his sole and only executor... and he did will that all his goods and estate should be divided into three equal parts and did signify.... etc... that he gave and bequeathed one third part unto the said Ann Dixon and unto his sister, Catherine Rowe, wife of James Rowe...and one other third part thereof to his brother, Bartholomew Bowsfield, and the other third part unto the oldest son of John Bowsfield, brother to... the said Thomas Bowsfield... they, the aforesaid legatees, first paying the sum of ten pounds unto his cousin, Elizabeth Cragg. And lastly, he the said Thomas, did define, signify... etc... that his said sister, Anne Dixon should call his brother, Bartholomew to an account for all such goods, money and debts which had come to his hand and possession which did belong to the said Thomas..."

Probate granted to Anne Dixon, dated 13th July 1622.

According to his will his sisters were Catherine and Ann and his brothers were another Bartholomew and a John who had an eldest son who was worthy of receiving one third of Thomas' estate. Trottescliffe now seems to be the base for this branch of the family. The Kent parish registers - starting in 1540 - record the baptisms of Agnes Bowsfeld (1563), Alyce Bowsfeld (1569/70), Mary Bowsfeld (1602/03) and Dorithe Bowsfeld (1606) and marriages between Nycholas Cragges and Alyce Busfield (1588, Cragges was the Curate appointed by Thomas), and between Bertulmes (Bartholomew) Busfelde and Darrete Mercer (1600/01). The appearance of a second Bartholomew helps to explain some of the litigious goings on at the time.

This Thomas and the second Bartholomew have also left a paper trail in the National Archive. For example: "Newman v Bousfield. Plaintiffs: George Newman of Rochester, yeoman. Defendants: Thomas Bousfield, parson of Trottescliffe, Bartholomew Bousfield his brother, James Roe his brother-

in-law, Nicholas Clare, late of Oxford, baker, William Pelson, and others. Subject: False imprisonment of William Maton at Trotterscliffe on a forged warrant bearing the name of plaintiff George Newman as bailiff, and other misconduct". Dated Kent June 1610.

And again: "Bowsfell v Morgan. Plaintiffs: Bartholomew Bowsfell of Trotterscliff, yeoman. Defendants: Nicholas Morgan, steward of the bishop's court of Rochester, John Newman, chief bailiff of the bishop's liberties, Thomas Godden, Thomas Alohen, William Salmon, and others. Subject: Conspiracy to procure judgments against plaintiff Bartholomew Bowsfell in the bishop's court of Rochester, refusal to make returns to writs of error, arrest in the church of Trotterscliffe during service and forcible entry and damage in the house of said plaintiff". Dated Kent 1610.

Sounds like the basis for an episode of Eastenders!

Thomas III

There is evidence in the National Archive for a third generation Thomas in the West Malling area based on documents pertaining to a parcel of land: "This indenture made 20th April 1659... between William Attwood of Birling, Co. of Kent, of the one part... and Thomas Busfeild of West Malling, in the aforesaid county, of the other part... witness that the said William Attwood in consideration of £540 given to him in hand by the said Thomas Busfeilde before the ensealing of delivery well and truly paid. For parcels of land, (including)... arable meadow pasture and hopp ground commonly called Barnfield, Round Croft, Little Cattens Bank, Great Cattens Bank, Greenditch, Brownes Raylefield, the meadow and hoppe garden lying in the parish of Birling [just north of West Malling]" Did the continuous use of first names spanning several generations play a role in strengthening later inheritance claims?

London and the Johns

The final chapter in this story begins with the Will of John Busfield (merchant armorer of London, dated 1626) and his children: John, Mary, Elizabeth, Martha, Zackery, and Samuel:

"In the name of God Amen The two & twentieth of January one thousand sixe hundred twentie sixe and in the second year of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord King Charles I John Busfeild Citizen and Armorer of London being sicke in body but of perfect memory god bee praised doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament. First I committ my Soule to allmightie god by whose mercy in the only meritts of Jesus Christ I hope for salvac[i]on after this life. And I will my body to bee buried in the Church of Great St Hellens and alsoe I will that all such debts as I doe owe in right or conscience shalbe truly paid by my Executor undernamed to such p[er]sons as I doe owe the same. And for that estate which god hath bestowed upon mee I doe bequeath it in forme and manner following vid[elicet] I make my welbeloved wife Anna Busfeild my full and whole Executrix, givinge and bequeathing unto her during her naturall life my two houses the one in Gracious Streete in the parish of Allhallowes in Lumba[rd] street with all and singular appurtenances belonging to the same the other being in Marke Lane in London and twelve acres of land

lyinge in or neere the parishe of Earith in the County of Kent both w[hi]ch said house & lands last menc[i]oned I purchased of the said Nicholas La Catells. And after the death of my aforesaid wife my will and pleasure is that the aforesaid house in Gracious Streete shall remaine for the only use of my fower Children John Mary Elizabeth & Martha Busfeild for ever p[ar]te and porc[i]on alike And for my house in Marke Lane w[i]th the land app[er]teyning to the same afore specified after the decease of my aforesaid wife I give & bequeath fully & wholly to my two Sonnes Zaquere and Samuell Busfeild for ever And for my house w[i]th the appurtenances at East Tilbere in the Countie of Essex I give the first three yeares rent of the same to my sonne J[oh]n Busfeild to buy him books for the universitie and the residue of the rent I give to my foresaid wife Anna Busfeild during her naturall life and after her decease to my aforesaid Sonne John Busfeild and his heirs for ever But if he dye before he come of age then I give it to my said wife. Moreover for my p[er]sonall estate I devide into three p[ar]tes vid[elicet] one third p[ar]te of the same to my wife Anna Busfeild and the remainder of the other two p[ar]tes my debtes and funeral charges being payd and satisfied I give and bequeath to all my eight Children parte and p[ar]te like. And if my said Sonnes Samuell & Zachary shall not enjoy The said house and lands last menc[i]oned then my said two Sonnes Zachary and Samuell Busfeild shall have and enjoy an equall share with my other \aforesaid/ fower Children John Mary Elizabeth and Martha Busfeild in the aforesaid house in Gracious Streete. And finally whereas there hath beene divers and sundry accompts and reckonings betwixt my Sonne in lawe Giles Eland and my selfe as well beyond the Seas as here in London and England I doe hereby release acquite and discharge the said Giles Eland of all debts demaunds and accompts whatsoever w[hi]ch maie any wise arise due unto mee or my Executrix or hath beene due unto mee or is now due to her by any meanes whatsoever or at any tyme hereafter maie be demaunded by my heires of the said Giles Eland or of his heires. And to this my last will and testament renounceing all former Wills I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the daie and yeare specified upon the other side a[nn]o 1626 etc. J B witnesses as John Cornell Tobias Dickson Giles Eland Will[ia]m Claydon”.

Proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in London 24th January 1626. John was christened and buried in St Helen’s, Bishopsgate, London, Middlesex.

Of his six children, John was the eldest male and possibly the John mentioned earlier in Thomas II’s will. John the father had a colourful and prosperous life as his will and further records from the National Archive attest, e.g.:

“Short title: Attorney General v Busfeild, Court of the Star Chamber. Plaintiffs: Sir Francis Bacon, Attorney General. Defendants: John Busfeild, citizen and merchant of London. Subject: Uttering [forging] counterfeit Spanish coins in Spain with Alexander Matthew his confederate, the coins were conveyed in bags partly filled with copperas in a ship called the George of London without the knowledge of the master or owners. Dated London, Spain. 1615.”

We also have what is probably the will of his less successful son John II which reads:

“I John Busfeild of London Merchant being sicke of body but of sure memory doe make this my last will in manner following vizt First I bequeath my soule to god who gave it & my body to the earth to be buried in the Church of Saint Clement Danes as near to the place where my late wife lyes interred as may be with convenience. Item my will and minde is that my executors shall performe the agreement made with my creditors in Anno 1648. Item I give unto my brother in law George Jenney two hundred pounds in recompence of his dammages which hee hath susteyned for me in Neale’s busines. Item I give unto my Sister Mary Reynolds fiftie pounds to my brother Samuell Busfield fiftie pounds To Thomas Gray fortie shillings To Mr John Coach-man\ fiftie pounds/ for his pretended dammages susteyned by Neale’s business. To Mr Henry Field twenty shillings to Mary Whitehead fortie shillings. Item I doe hereby ordaine and appointe my sonnes Charles and Steward Busfeild joynt Executors of this my last will. Witnes my hand and Seale 23th day of February 1660 John Busfeild. Signed Sealed and published to be the last will of the said John Busfield in presence of Richard Whitehead & Richard Harabon Henry Field”.

Proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in London 31st May 1661.

There is evidence for a dispute over some of the property mentioned in John I’s will. “Court of Chancery, Six Clerks Office. Short title: Abrathat v Busfeild. Plaintiffs: James Abrathat. Defendants: John Busfeild and Samuel Busfeild and John Halsey and Anne Halsey his wife. Subject: property in All Hallows Lombard Street, London. Document type: bill and answer”. Date: 1639. There is also reference to “Neale’s business”, mentioned in John II’s will. “Court of Chancery Six Clerks Office. Short title: Busfeild v Neale. Plaintiffs: John Busfeild. Defendants: Robert Neale. Subject: money matters in Middlesex. Document type: [pleadings]”. Date: 1650.

A search for John Busfield in the IGI database produces a list of individuals mentioned in the two wills, viz:

1. Elizabeth Busfield, bur. 24 Sep 1610, St Michael, Bassishaw, London
2. Anne Busfield, c.29 Jun 1603, St Olave, Hart Street, London, bur. 17 Apr 1627, St Helen, Bishopsgate, London
3. Martha Busfield, c.2 Aug 1607, St Michael, Bassishaw, London, bur. 3 Mar 1608, St Michael, Bassishaw, London
4. John Busfield, c.15 Apr 1610, St Michael, Bassishaw, London, Middlesex, England, bur. 4 Feb 1647, St Michael, Bassishaw, London,
5. Mary Busfield, c.15 Aug 1613, St Michael, Bassishaw, London
6. Zachary Busfield, c.14 Feb 1615, St Michael, Bassishaw, London
7. Samuel Busfield, c.26 Apr 1618, St Helen, Bishopsgate, London
8. Elizabeth Busfield, c.11 Feb 1620, St Helen, Bishopsgate, London
9. Martha Busfield, c.22 Apr 1623, St Helen, Bishopsgate, London
10. Mary Busfield, c.18 Jan 1637, Allhallows London Wall, London

11. Charles Busfield, c.8 Aug 1639, Allhallows London Wall, London

So there is evidence for a link between Henry through to John II, but to progress further requires some lateral thinking.

End notes

Going further back? The English Reformation took place in sixteenth century England when the Church of England broke away from the authority of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church. Most digitised ecclesiastical records only go back to the early 1500s. However, given Henry's involvement in the Court of Arches there should be more references to his earlier life and perhaps relatives in the library at Lambeth Palace.

There is, for example, a reference to a John Bousfield 1402 in the records of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

Going forwards? The Great Fire of London swept through the central parts of the city in 1666. It destroyed 13,200 houses, 87 parish churches, St Paul's Cathedral, and most of the buildings of the City authorities. It is estimated to have destroyed the homes of 70,000 of the city's 80,000 inhabitants - and most of their records.

There are some possible further links such as John Loveland of St Botolphs Billingsgate, merchant bachelor aged 26 who married Elizabeth Busfield of Stepney, Spinster aged 17, daughter of William Busfield, Gentleman of Leeds County York at Stratford Bowe Middlesex on 20 May 1631. But I will leave that research to you...

Guild Committee Nominations

Nominations for Committee for 2022 are now open, and will close on 22 February 2022. Members being nominated require the support of a Proposer and Secunder.

The management of the Guild is handled by the Committee, and Committee members are also the trustees of the charity.

The Committee administrative year begins after the Annual General Meeting in April, and Committee members serve until the following AGM. We usually hold eight Committee meetings in the year. Since the start of the Covid pandemic, Committee meetings are held online by Zoom, usually on a Monday evening (UK time) from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. This time makes it possible to join from many corners of the World; our current Committee includes members from Australia, Europe and the United States.

Agenda and minutes from Committee meetings are published on the Guild website and can be found here: <https://one-name.org/committee-news/>.

Nominations can be made by downloading and completing the nomination form:

https://one-name.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/wpmembers/guild_documents/Committee_Nomination_Form.pdf

Alternatively, nominations can be made by email:

Email 1: From the Proposer to the Returning Officer, copied to the Secunder and the Nominee.

Purpose of email: to nominate the Candidate.

Email 2: From the Secunder to the Returning Officer, copied to the Proposer and the Candidate.

Purpose of email: to second the nomination.

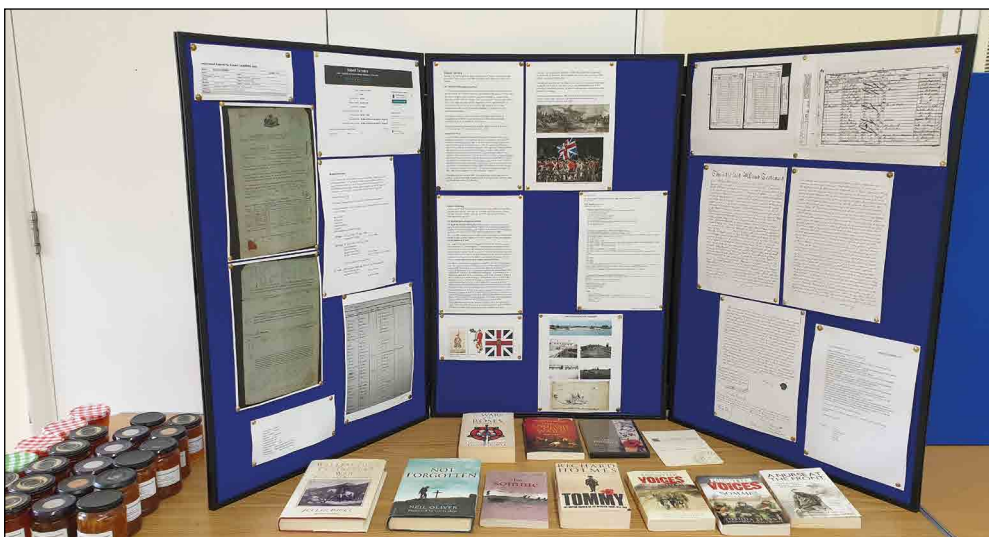
Email 3: From the Candidate to the Returning Officer, copied to the Proposer and Secunder.

Purpose of email: to accept nomination.

The Candidate shall attach to Email 3, a fully completed Nomination Form signed by the Candidate but without the signatures of the Proposer and Secunder.

If you have any questions, please contact the Secretary, Stephen Daglish (secretary@one-name.org) or the Returning Officer, Alan Toplis (returning-officer@one-name.org).

The Guild is run entirely by volunteers - nothing can happen without them and we are fortunate that our members are so generous with their time. Please do consider if you can help us by joining the Committee and becoming a trustee. If this is not for you, there are lots of other ways to help - see the Situations Vacant page <https://one-name.org/situations-vacant/> or contact the Volunteers Coordinator, Cheryl Hunnisett (volunteers@one-name.org).



Display at the recent "Those Who Served" seminar held in Stock, Essex

Genealogical Snakes and Ladders

Finding One's Way in a One-Name Study

by Yvonne Masters (8497)

With my Ireland (as in surname, not country) one-name study (ONS) still in its infancy, I have become rather spoiled for choice when it comes to ways to describe it. 'Down the rabbit hole' seems apt, as the path of chasing the Irelands leads to very interesting places. Asking the question of oneself as to whether it is 'method in one's madness', or 'madness in one's method' is also appropriate as I catch myself frequently swinging from thoughts of 'there must be a better way to do it' to ones of 'well it doesn't make sense, but it got results'. I finally realised that it is perfectly akin to the game of Snakes and Ladders. While there is a well 'numbered' path, it is possible to take diversions, some of which will prove serendipitous and others that will be setbacks. While the destination is "researching all occurrences of a surname" the excitement lies in the journey, in exploring the "names [that] represent a life ... untold". Already, after only six months, the journey has become addictive, the destination something to eventually be achieved. My journey thus far has been a learning experience of one step forwards (the ladders) and two steps back (the snakes).

The incentive

Dorothy Ireland is one of my three times great grandmothers: just one among sixteen. I found her only after exhausting the 'easier' lines. She was married in Cheadle, Cheshire, and all her children were born there, as well as her husband, Joshua. I ignored the link for quite some time as my more immediate family is deeply rooted in Lancashire and I chose to follow more familiar Lancashire connections.

So why did Dorothy finally capture my attention? Once I became **really** serious about finding the family connections, I discovered that Dorothy had been born in Arkholme, Lancashire: she was a Lancashire lass after all. Even now, I am unsure how she met and married someone from Cheadle, Cheshire, as the distance between Cheadle and Arkholme is 70 miles according to Google Maps. Given that Dorothy was born in 1797, this seems a long distance to have travelled without the rest of her family: definitely something that I need to investigate further!

However, the real 'hook' to start an in-depth search for the Ireland family was in my exploration of the previous generation, with the discovery of Dorothy's father, William Ireland. William was born in Arkholme in 1766, and he was a basket-maker: his death certificate names him as such, although his marriage record describes him as a wand weaver. 'A rose by any other name', he was a craftsman and this had the power to make me look further. As I am addicted to craftwork of many kinds, a basket-maker in the family sparked an ongoing quest for the more extended Ireland family members. Thus began, more than 10 years ago, what was to develop into a ONS on 26 June 2020.

How do you eat an elephant?

I finally 'took the plunge' and registered the Ireland surname after I had started the Pharos One-Name Study courses and

was encouraged to go forward by Julie Goucher. I have been using Legacy Family Tree as my desktop software through the last 3 versions and find it works well for the ways in which I collect data. Over time, I have used both Ancestry and Findmypast to discover relevant records (census data, and births, deaths and marriages, both civil and church) as well as occasionally dipping into probate, tithe records and other more obscure records.

Before I began my ONS, I had already collected over 30,000 names that have a place, however distant, in my family tree. Trying to explain some of the relationships would be like reciting 'The Court of King Caractacus', with so many deviations from a straight line as to actually make the relationships almost meaningless! I had also been, for far too long, lax in my referencing of records. With a decision taken to begin a serious ONS, my practices had to change.

I started by importing the Ireland family that I had researched for my own tree into a new ONS tree. Legacy proved perfect for this as a tree can be created from an existing one by defining the people to be included. I was amazed, and rather daunted, to discover that I already had over 350 people in the tree, nearly all requiring good documentation. Then, after submitting Ireland as my surname of choice, I had a lovely email telling me that my registration with the Guild was being processed, with an extra sentence added:

Presumably you know that there are nearly 7,000 occurrences of the surname in the 1881 England and Wales census. You might like to bear in mind that the Guild would consider this to be a large study.

In my enthusiasm (read ignorance) I cheerfully wrote back:

I think it will definitely be a 'make haste slowly' project, but I am quite excited to set up a plan of attack and move forward.

It is a large study. According to Findmypast, in 1881 there were 6,992 occurrences of the surname in Britain. There were another 4,728 in the 1880 US census. The 1881 census in Canada only threw up 663 instances: a mere drop in the ocean in comparison! Being ever a glutton for punishment, I decided to check just how many census entries there are in Findmypast overall: the answer is a staggering 59,597! Reassuring myself that many could be put together in families, I reminded myself that I had stated I would make haste slowly: perhaps I should have said 'very slowly'. Reminding myself of the answer to the question of how to eat an elephant (one bite at a time), I decided to start with the familiar, my own family in Arkholme, and work outwards, geographically, from there.

Irelands of Arkholme

Arkholme, lying approximately 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the county town of Lancaster, is described as "placed on a

little eminence or bluff, overlooking the Lune, which is there crossed by a ferry and a ford towards Hornby and Melling. The village consists mainly of one street leading down to the ford across the river, and retains many picturesque 17th and 18th-century houses with well-designed doorways, many bearing dates and initials". Within this small village, my own ancestors dwelt for over 250 years, with basket-making being a strong family tradition. In 1890, a basket-maker from another family of Arkholme reported that the Irelands had been the first family and that was about 200 years before. Although not the last Ireland in the village, the last basket-maker of my family died in Arkholme in 1959. Charles Taylor Ireland, buried as so many in the family before him at St. John the Baptist's in Arkholme, is commemorated there with an oaken lid (presumably woven) on a new font, and his headstone in the graveyard has the epitaph 'Last of the Village Basketmakers'. Finding such rich sources of information, I felt that I was truly working my way up that Snakes and Ladders board. Then ...!

Apart from the 1890 reference stating that the Ireland family were the first basket-making family about 200 years earlier, circa 1690, the tracing of the Irelands into Arkholme has been difficult. The first Ireland linked directly through records to this particular family was John Ireland, who married Alice Bland, a widow, in 1700. Through John's children, the rest of the family has recorded evidence, with the first recorded mention of basket-making occurring in 1771 with the marriage of this John's grandson (another John) to Alice Cort (née Wilkinson), a widow. John's occupation is listed as basket-maker.

Emmeline Garnett (2000) suggests, in her chapter on basket-making in the Lune Valley, that the original John could have been born circa 1674, the son of another John Ireland and one Jane Wilson. This has been supported by several compiled family trees on Ancestry although these are lacking in any evidence. Circumstantial evidence lies in two Quarter Session petitions, one by James Ireland of Borwick and the other by Jane Wilson of Arkholme. In the former, James is petitioning to be released from an order to pay maintenance for the bastard child of his son, John, the mother being Jane Wilson. James was clearly named with his son in the original order, but John had since died and James is claiming poverty. Jane then petitions the court for the maintenance for her child to be paid as it is in arrears. While it is not definitive that the 'bastard child' is the same John who married Alice Bland, it is distinctly possible. Further searches are required, and far more synthesis of all sources hopefully found in order to be more definite about where the Ireland family were prior to Arkholme. This lack of clarity is definitely a small snake down the board.

What's in a name?

For some people completing ONS research, there is "an aspiration ... to identify a single place of origin for the name, especially if the name appears to derive from a place name". Ireland, a place name, must be Irish: QED! Deciding that Ireland was an Irish surname without doing any research was naïve, to say the least, and yet another step (snake) back.

Checking a number of online sources first, there seemed agreement that I was half correct. The 'Irelands' (generally, not mine specifically) came from Ireland. However, 'Ireland'

is not an Irish surname, but rather the name given to someone who moved away from Ireland and settled elsewhere. Migration from Ireland was not rare and

the public records ... both before and after 1349 supply abundant evidence of the migration of the Cymry and also Gaels; ... Welsh, Irish and Scots, having no hereditary surnames at this period, were, upon arrival ..., often called after their nationality or the name of their country of origin.

The problem with finding a single point of origin for the Ireland surname lies in the very fact that it was a name given to all who came from that country. As such, it is a polygenetic surname, wherein such surnames were "coined independently in many different places".

An inconsistency in the literature appeared whilst trying to date when the surname may first have been used in England. Both Cecil L'Estrange Ewen and the Oxford Dictionary of Family Names refer to several variations of the name (e.g., de Ireland, de Irlond, Irlaund) in a range of English documents as early as the 13th century. However, Constance Matthews rather categorically states that

while the other two Celtic races came freely into England at all times, there was little migration from Ireland in the Middle Ages. They may have come as far as Scotland and Wales, having ancient links with both of these sister countries, but there is little sign of their reaching England!

Yet another conundrum in the game to be explored, with the jury still out as to where on the game board I currently sit.

Happy families

In the search for how my own Ireland family might fit into the bigger picture, I became keen to build families as much as possible with the aim of exploring possible connections. At the time, I was unaware that family reconstitution is a recognised branch of demography and is the

technique of linking records of demographic events, usually of an ecclesiastical nature (baptisms, marriages, burials), within and between individual lives to recreate individual life histories and the histories of families.

I naively (again) thought that this would be a straightforward exercise, but I had not understood that there were limitations to family reconstitution as a method. Edward A. Wrigley et al. outlined the benefits of family reconstitution as a technique for understanding past populations, but also provided some of the drawbacks when working in this way. To work with pre-census records (usually parish registers), it is important that, for meaningful data, the registers start early and that there are hardly any gaps. It is significant, and another source of one of those snakes that dogged my plans, that of the parishes that Wrigley found to work with, none came from Lancashire. A revision was in order.

Instead of parish registers, I now intended to start with the census records, working county by county, with Lancashire as a start. Lancashire seemed to make the most sense for two reasons: it was the county where my own Irelands lived for

so long and also, throughout the census records, it was the county that maintained the highest number of Irelands living there. I began working from FamilySearch and Findmypast recording all instances of the Ireland name on a spreadsheet including address, occupation and any other information that the census records provided. I began with 1841 and began to move forward, putting people into households as I went. It seemed to be a good approach as I began to recognise families as I moved through the censuses and was beginning to build up some solid family developments. Finally, a ladder on the path to tracking down all instances of Ireland (at least in Lancashire).

The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men gang aft agley

Having a plan in place worked: for a while. Then things began to change.

Firstly, I decided to take advantage of so many records at The National Archives being free to download, particularly the wills. This is where I realised the difficulties of using a surname which, while not particularly common, was also the name of a country. I had to quickly learn Boolean terms such as 'NOT the country', but even then, records frequently came up that were not in reference to the surname. As I branched out into other sites the same problems occurred. More learning to do before I can continue with confidence.

The second reason my plan went off track is due to what I call my 'Alice' syndrome: I tend to go down rabbit holes! I knew that the Isle of Man [IOM] didn't have many Irelands, and my father's family was from there: who knows, there might be a relationship on both sides. I quickly recorded the IOM censuses and found a family who then appeared in Walton in 1891. By 1901 they had disappeared, including 2 children. I traced them and discovered that one child had been murdered by his father's associate and the father died soon after. The mother, who according to newspapers had been having an affair with the associate, then appears to have married the man (guilty of manslaughter) when he got out of gaol.

While a diversion from the plan, this was an interesting rabbit hole. It told the tale of one small family which disappeared over 25 years, from the marriage to the death of the father. It also led to some interesting analysis, as the family moved from the IOM to the Liverpool area and the census records make it clear that this area was the largest density of Irelands in Lancashire. Another diversion may well become an analysis of when families arrived in Liverpool and from where and how many of those Irelands left the port for other places.

As the Italians say, 'Good company in a journey makes the way to seem the shorter'.

While the journey so far has been one of ups and downs, there has been assistance along the way. Doing the Pharos units helped set me on the right track for a start and Julie Goucher is to be thanked here. I also need to thank Diane Waters, a fellow GOON, who also has Ireland links to Arkholme: in fact, she is a 3rd cousin once removed. I am indebted to her for a lot of information on 'our' Irelands that she has generously passed on. I have also received information from other GOONS who have Ireland connections and look forward to building their families into my tree. I must also thank Sue Horsman, who helped me to get my TNG website in order and made the offer not only because she works in assisting with TNG, but also because she saw the name 'Ireland' and has some in her tree. All these people have been ladders who have lifted me onto the path again after I slid back down those slippery snakes.

Now if only I could find that long ladder that goes almost to the end of the path and saves a lot of work. Just kidding!

Yvonne is studying the surname Ireland with variants Ierland, Irland and can be contacted at yvonne.masters@one-name.org



Displays at the recent "Those Who Served" seminar held in Stock, Essex



Members Survey 2021

A Snapshot of the Guild in Changing Times

by Melody McKay Burton, Production Manager (7997)

The last JOONS included an interim report on the results of the 2021 membership survey, covering the questions that could be analysed numerically. The other questions required text responses. Nearly 600 people completed the survey, so it has taken considerable time to go through these responses, to analyse them, and draw conclusions.

At the time of writing, a survey report has gone to the Guild Committee and relevant postholders for discussion. I hope it will be available for any interested member to read in due course.

Once the Committee and postholders have had time to digest the findings and decide what actions to take, I aim to report on specific areas in conjunction with the teams concerned. Some changes and initiatives have already been implemented or are planned.

This article will focus on the background and general points that came out of the survey.

Survey Response Rate

Surveys rely on people being willing to take the time to complete them. Typical survey response rates lie in the 5% - 30% range. Assuming all members of the Guild were aware of the survey, the response rate for our membership survey was 22.5%. Survey science would consider this adequate to give a reasonable level of accuracy in the findings. Higher response rates don't necessarily improve accuracy, unless there is obvious bias in those who responded, which wasn't the case here.

A wide range of opinions and experiences were represented in the survey. The responses often included views that were complete opposites.

Changing Times - Not Popular with Everyone

Twenty years ago, only a few of us were using the internet as part of our genealogy research and many people did not possess a laptop or personal computer. Nowadays most genealogists use software and the internet in some way, even if only for email. Younger members may be unable to remember a time before Google, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

Over the past two years, there have been other big changes. Lockdown led to a meteoric rise in the use of various forms of videoconferencing. People learnt to interact online with their colleagues, children, grandchildren. Libraries and family history archives were closed, so the only way to continue to research was online. I doubt if there are now more than a handful of Guild members who don't regularly use some type of technology and who don't have some data in digital format.

Advances in DNA testing have also had a huge impact on family history and surname research, and this is an area where developments are accelerating. It's likely that DNA research

will become as integral a part of genealogy as searching online repositories.

Although many members welcome the fact that the Guild has moved with the times and offers members' websites and help with DNA projects, the survey showed there are some who dislike this.

Another change is in the way the Guild presents itself. Traditionally, it has been seen as quite intellectual, with some members carrying out very scholarly work. In keeping with much of society, the Guild in 2021 is more informal. Just as we find the language of 19th century documents to be quaint and outdated, the language of 20th century documents is now beginning to appear stuffy and old-fashioned to many. Several of the Trustees and postholders have deliberately tried to change the Guild's image to something more modern. There have also been moves to broaden the membership, to include more societies, more overseas members, and Study Associates.

One of the things highlighted for me by the survey was that some members preferred the way things were in the past, whilst others appreciate the changing face of the Guild.

Here are two comments that illustrate the different points of view:

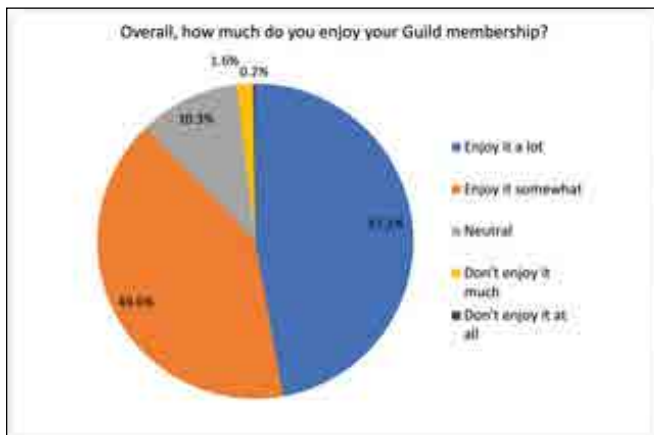
"I struggle with the new thinking, the over doing and promotion of irrelevant DNA studies, the promotion of short-term websites rather than long term preservation of our work. I love the fact that the internet enables us real friendship, collaboration, and expert help. I do feel that we have lost some of our excellence through allowing common name studies, and too selective studies to be a part of our membership. Perhaps I am a snob."

"I'm still getting more than enough out of Guild Membership to justify the membership fee, and enjoy being able to communicate with other members online (facebook, mailing list, forums etc). I do like the face to face regional meetings for both giving and listening to talks and the general discussion, but while we can't have those, zoom and other online activity has filled the bill well. The Guild has/is changing and I am noticing I am communicating much more internationally now than I was 10 years ago. Very much appreciate the Guild advisor input into first my DNA project, and then the MWP project. Guild advisers are great! Worth their weight in gold."

Overall Feelings about Membership

One survey question asked how much members enjoyed their membership. A few people pointed out that it might have been more appropriate to ask how useful they found membership, rather than how much they enjoyed it. The chart shows a breakdown of the responses. About 12% of our

membership felt neutral or did not enjoy their membership. Subsequent questions aimed to draw out what people felt should be improved and we will do a follow-up with some respondents who gave permission for this.

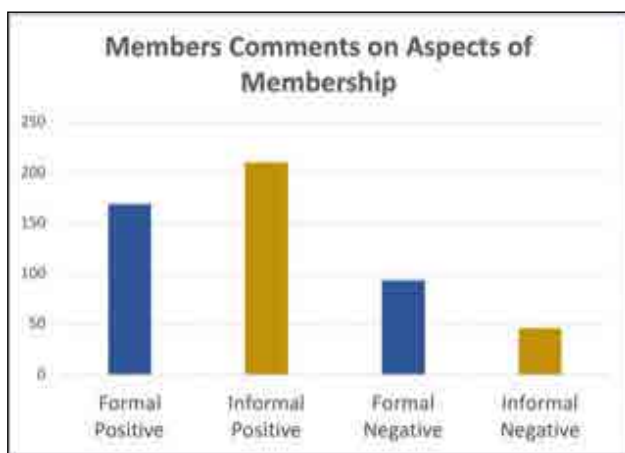


Our Most Valued Resources

In analysing what members found most enjoyable/useful and most disappointing, we decided to divide the comments into two categories:

- Formal - official member resources and events organised by the Guild and postholders
- Informal - interactions between members and unofficial events organised by members

(In some cases, it could be debated which category a resource fitted into).



Overall, there were far more positive than negative comments. There were also more positive comments about informal things. It was apparent from the comments that what members most valued about their membership was often the interaction with other members.

There were over 200 positive comments about members' attitudes, such as:

"The friendliness and helpfulness of other likeminded people. The regular updates and sessions now being made available online."

"Communication with other members (mostly online, but also at regional and seminar and conference events). Being able to bounce off ideas and get help."

However, some members' attitudes also came under fire:

"A bit cliquey, several older members not very welcoming, and sometimes quite rude. Some are a bit possessive about their studies. Some have very fixed views which do not take into account the changes in social media, the internet and genetic genealogy. If I could have 5p for each reminiscence about trawling through dusty tomes at St Catherine's, I would be a millionaire. This will not be appealing nor helpful to younger people interested in studying their surname. NB St Catherine's House closed in 1997! But is typical of a very few older members who disparage people coming to research from a different perspective."

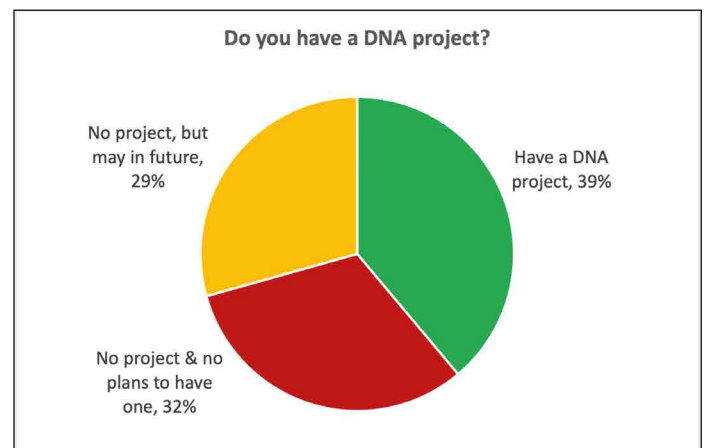
"some of the attitudes of members who are less than helpful and oftentimes condescending to new members, also members who complain about the Guild but never offer to help/volunteer"

I'll cover the comments about formal Guild resources, such as the website, Journal, seminars etc. next time.

DNA and DNA Projects

The last Guild membership survey, in 2010, showed 19% of respondents were involved in a DNA project. This percentage has more than doubled in the intervening years.

Roughly similar numbers of members already have a DNA project, don't currently have one but may in future, and have no plans to have a DNA project.



As mentioned earlier, there are conflicting views on the value of DNA.

"Now that more and more of us are having our DNA tested, the regular items in the journal on the subject by Susan Meates are helpful if somewhat technical for my level. I would hope that the Guild would go more and more down this particular road."

A few had strong antipathy to DNA:

"Don't agree and don't believe in using DNA as part of genealogical and one name study."

“Not convinced as to the One Name Study benefits of running this DNA Project”

Several members who have a DNA project are not particularly involved in it or felt they needed more help. For example:

“I have one but don’t know how to use/monitor/amend and update it yet.”

“Not particularly interested in DNA. I got a project because I felt I should, but I haven’t done anything with it.”

It appears that many members need guidance on using DNA in their study. The Guild DNA Seminar scheduled for July of this year had to be postponed. It will now take place on 14 May 2022 in Oadby, Leicestershire. I’d strongly recommend attending this, if you can. Hopefully, sessions will be recorded for those who live too far away to attend. More details will be available in due course at <https://one-name.org/seminar-events/>.

Study Registration

When asked the main reason/s for joining the Guild, almost 20% of respondents mentioned that they wanted recognition for their research and/or they felt registering the name gave their study legitimacy and status. However, several members were dissatisfied with aspects of the registration. The most common complaint was being unable to register a study as someone else had already registered the name, even if they appeared not yet to be researching it world-wide.

“Someone else registered my name before I did so I’m not allowed to register it. This can make me feel disenfranchised at times!”

“Only one person can register a surname. It is a case of first come first served. Yes, the Guild has moved a step closer by accepting multiple researchers by the ‘Associate’ route. However this still is an issue when the ‘Associate’ has a great deal of information for which he/she wishes to be recognised in his/her own right. Perhaps allocating time periods to specific researchers is a way forward. eg. Take Smith or Jones, using time periods - 1900-present; 1850-1899; 1700-1849 etc - three potential new members per name could be recruited to

the Society. Multiply that by the popular names and not only would there be some happy new members but also it has economic benefits for the Guild.”

Improving what we do / making your membership more useful.

One of the aims of the survey was to find out what we could improve. There were 185 useful suggestions, over 60% of which related to education / advice that the Guild could offer.

The largest number of suggestions were for more instruction and advice on methodology and techniques for one-name studies and signposting to Guild resources that could help. There were requests for webinars and seminars on basic methods, plus many people wanted more articles on methodology in the Journal. There were some interesting suggestions, such as 10-minute videos, Special Interest Groups, and that a reminder of Guild resources could be sent out at renewal time.

The second largest number of suggestions were to ensure online webinars continued after face-to-face events resumed, with some suggesting a combination of face-to-face and online in future.

There were also suggestions for improving the Journal, the Members’ Websites Project and various other resources.

Other Key Findings were:

- the lack of Regional Reps and support for Reps is an issue for many members;
- many members see the Guild as too UK-centric and want more emphasis on non-UK names and resources;

I’ll cover these, along with the specific remarks about Guild services and resources, next time.

What Do You Think?

How well do these survey results represent your views? Do let us know. There are lots of ways to communicate - via the Guild mailing list, Facebook Group, Guild web forums, at the Pub Crawl, or perhaps you could write about your own views and experiences for the Journal.



Display at the recent “Those Who Served” seminar held in Stock, Essex

Who was my great-grandfather?

A brick wall demolished

by Robert Dunsford (4663)

The earliest record I was able to find of my mother's mother's father was an entry in the 1881 census for South Normanton, Derbyshire for Charles Clemance, coal miner aged 25, boarding with Sarah Page, 62 and her 2 unmarried daughters, one of whom, Elizabeth later became his wife. His birthplace was stated as Dullingham, Cambridgeshire. Despite much searching, I could find no record of him in Cambridgeshire, a familiar problem, I dare say. Enquiries with family members revealed that there was a suspicion that there was something shady in his past in Cambridgeshire and that he may have changed his name and moved to Derbyshire. No one had any idea what his original name had been, so they said. I was determined to find out who he really was, but searching for someone whose name I did not know appeared, on the face of it, to be impossible. On later censuses his name was spelt as Charles Clements, always from Dullingham.

I decided to break the problem down by making two working assumptions; that he was from Dullingham, and that his Christian name was Charles. The best starting point seemed to be the 1861 census for Dullingham, which I searched for boys called Charles born between 1850 and 1860, in the hope that something unusual would mark out one or more of them for further research. The search revealed 5 such boys, 4 of them living with their parents, but the fifth, Charles Bye aged 6, was living with Rebecca Clayton, a 63 year old widow and her 2 unmarried children. Charles Bye's relationship to the head of household was "lodger", and his birth place was Balsham, Cambridgeshire, 5 miles from Dullingham. Well, I had been looking for something unusual and I had certainly found it, but what did it mean? Someone must have been paying Rebecca to take Charles in. His father must be the obvious suspect. In the 1871 census for Dullingham he was still lodging with Rebecca, and now working as a labourer, still from Balsham. By 1881 the other 4 boys called Charles, were still living in and around Dullingham, but I could find no record for Charles Bye. This ruled out the other 4 Charles boys as being the Charles Clemance in South Normanton in 1881, but was consistent with Charles Bye being him, albeit with a change of surname.

I decided it was worth buying a copy of Charles Bye's birth certificate which showed that he was born at Balsham on 28 December 1854 and his mother was Hannah Bye, formerly Gilby. The father's name had been left blank, which almost certainly means he was illegitimate. Was this his shady past which he had attempted to conceal? I have been unable to find a record of his baptism, and suspect he was never baptized.

Thomas Bye married Hannah Gilby at Linton Cambridgeshire 3 miles from Balsham, on 20 November 1852. The 1861 census shows them living in Hackney, London, with daughters born in 1853 in Cambridgeshire, and in 1859 and 1860 in Hackney. The gap in children born between 1853 and 1859 is explained by the Criminal Registers for Cambridgeshire which record the conviction of Thomas Bye for sheep stealing on 6 January 1853, and his sentence of 10 years transportation. I can find no record of the sentence being carried out, and he seems to have been released early. He was convicted less than 2 months after his marriage, seemingly leaving his wife pregnant. How on earth did she cope? Thomas cannot have been Charles' father, which must have been public knowledge, so they probably left Cambridgeshire to escape the wagging tongues.



Charles Clements and his wife Elizabeth née Page.

I now thought I knew who Charles' mother was, but who was his father? The best clue came with his marriage to Elizabeth Page on 30 December 1882 at Mansfield Register Office. The marriage certificate recorded his father as Reuben Clements (deceased), a thatcher. How reliable was this information? He could have given a fictitious name. However Charles baptized his first born child Reuben, which gave credence to the name on his marriage certificate. But was there anything which would independently confirm this?

The 1851 census recorded a Reuben Clements, thatcher, wife Emily and daughter Susan living at Market Lane, Dullingham. So Charles had not stated a fictitious name for his father. It began to look as if Reuben senior was his father.

I decided to see if there was any connection between this Reuben and Rebecca Clayton, by researching their ancestry. I soon discovered that Reuben's grandfather John Clements had married Elizabeth Clayton at Dullingham on 22 October 1781. Elizabeth's brother John had a son also called John Clayton, who married Rebecca Clack at Littleport Cambridgeshire 20 January 1818. By tracing Rebecca through the 1841 and 1851 census returns I established that she was the widow who took Charles Bye in as a lodger. So Rebecca was the wife of the first cousin once removed of Reuben Clements senior. I was now fairly sure that Reuben was Charles' father.

When the 1911 census was released it recorded Charles Clements' birth place as "Balsam" sic, not Dullingham as on previous census returns. I was now even more sure I was correct. What a pity, I thought that I will never be 100% sure. A few years later I was contacted by a second cousin who had traced his ancestry and he too had identified Charles Clements as Charles Bye. When I asked him how he had done

this he said he did not have to. When Charles Clements/ Bye claimed his old age pension, he had to produce his birth certificate, and my cousin's grandmother saw it and so was able to read his birth name. Charles was illiterate, so he may not have appreciated that he had revealed his true identity. I have no idea what, if anything my cousin's grandmother said. Did my grandmother know? If she did she seems to have kept quiet about it. May be it was one of those things people at that time were reluctant to talk about.

So now I know for certain the true identity of Charles Clements. During his time in South Normanton, he made regular visits to his relatives in Dullingham, but always

on his own, presumably to preserve the secret of his true origins. So he seemed to have a good relationship with his father's relatives, and I think it is likely he knew much about his parentage. After all he knew he was born in Balsham, even though he lived in Dullingham from an early age. What exactly he knew, and whether he had any contact with his mother, we will probably never know.

Robert is studying the surname Dunsford with the variant Dunsforde and can be contacted at robert.dunsford@one-name.org. Robert's DNA project website can be found at www.familytreedna.com/groups/dunsford.

We didn't get there in 2020 or 2021 - but we're planning to be in Oxford in April 2022

The 41st Guild Conference and the AGM 2022 will take place at Jurys Inn Oxford from 22 to 24 April 2022. The hotel has spacious, ground-floor conference facilities, a swimming pool complex and fitness centre, as well as accommodation to suit specific needs.

Based on feedback and suggestions from previous conferences and seminars, the theme of this Conference is "Sources and Resources" and we hope to provide you with a weekend of finding out about all kinds of these! On Friday afternoon Marie Byatt will hold a short session to give some tips on using Family Search in your ONS, followed by an introduction to the Members' Website Program by Christopher Gray, for those of you who would like to know more about MWP. There will also be a session for those attending a Guild Conference for the first time so that they know what to expect and can get the best out of the weekend. The Guild AGM will take place that evening and will be live-streamed so that members can participate wherever they are across the world.

Friday afternoon will also see some optional visits being arranged; a tour of the Bodleian Library will enable those interested to see some of its wonderful rooms. At the time of writing, no tours are taking place at the MINI production plant in Cowley, but if these restart prior to the Conference we will keep you informed. We already have 3 groups visiting the

Bodleian, and may well be able to arrange for a fourth if there is sufficient interest. Details are available on the website and early indications of interest are advised as places are limited.

The programme for the rest of the weekend is somewhat of a departure from the usual conference routine. As well as some main external speakers during the weekend, the Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning sessions will enable some of our own members to provide a choice of discussion/workshop/breakout sessions on a variety of different topics within the conference theme.

Obviously we cannot cover every source or resource in the time allowed and delegates will be able to select from the various sessions on offer; a list of topics currently planned can be seen on the website. As no one can attend every session, information will subsequently be made available on the Guild website on each of the sessions offered. There will also be a session in which you can find out what you can do with your study when it is no longer possible for you to continue it, and a couple to enable you to express your views on the current and future pathway of the Guild.

We hope there will be something for everyone - more experienced and newer members alike. So come and join us next April, meet up with old friends and make some new ones.

It promises to be a really good weekend.

Sue Thornton-Grimes & Alan Moorhouse -
Conference Organisers



Peter Copesy sends his apologies as there is no Marriage Challenge Update for this edition.

The Guild is looking for Marriage Challengers to volunteer. 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 at marriage-challenge@one-name.org if you think you can contribute.



Many Guild members give up their time to carry out various roles. These volunteers are often unseen and unknown. Find out more about them and what they do. We're starting with our newest volunteer, proving you don't have to be a long-established member to help the Guild ...

Charlie Wilson, Publicity Manager

JOONS: Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

Charlie: I live in Wilmslow in Cheshire, home of footballers' wives and supercars. It is probably the most unusual place I have lived, and I love people watching here. I grew up in Barwell, a large post-industrial village in the Midlands. As a teenager, working on my Duke of Edinburgh award, my love of social history began with a study of my village (best fact - in 1965 a meteorite landed in the village and the impact smashed the front windows of my friend's grandad, Mr Grewcock's house).

I trained as a librarian and worked as a cataloguer in an academic library. It was fascinating, as I catalogued everything from medical textbooks to Romanian archaeology monographs (in Romanian!). Training in high-level data entry and the need to classify books on topics that I knew nothing about has definitely played a big part in honing my search skills - I am a Googling genealogist, and I pride myself on being able to find online information on most things (as well as distinguish the good from the useless).

JOONS: What do you do when you are not researching your one-name study?

Charlie: I home educate my two children, which takes up much of my time. I have recently started a family history project with my son Alfie (12) and we were delighted to be able to visit the village where his dad's ancestors lived. Bringing the past to life is a big part of enthusing young genealogists and it's a passion of mine. Beyond genealogy I create things out of fabric and yarn, spin, weave, and have been known to dress up in medieval garb.

JOONS: 'Bucket lists' are very trendy now. What would be at the top of yours?

Charlie: I would like to visit all the places I am learning about in my study. So far, I have Vancouver, Warkworth (New Zealand),

Virginia, Southgate Mountain in Vermont, and Suffolk on my list. As I have only been seriously investigating Southgates since the start of lockdown in 2020, I haven't even made it as far as Suffolk yet, but I'll get there!

JOONS: Tell us about your study and why you joined the Guild.

Charlie: I joined the Guild in August 2020 and my study is for the name Southgate. Southgate is my maiden name, so has always been of interest to me. I have been helping my dad with his own Southgate research on and off for a number of years. My dad completed his family tree in the 1970s. He revised it to his satisfaction during lockdown. My mum did the same with her grandparents' trees. So rather than work through and expand their efforts (at risk of finding errors and causing a familial rift!) I decided to look at Southgates NOT in my tree.

About 15 years ago I discovered a branch of the family that had emigrated from Suffolk, England to Massachusetts in 1717. I cannot prove that they are related to me (yet), but they are awfully exciting - marrying famous people, taking memorable roles in historical events, featuring in archives, having mountains named after them!

My One-Name Study gives me a great excuse to pursue all these fascinating people even if they turn out not to be in my tree.

JOONS: Do you have specific research goals in mind for your study?

Charlie: I would like to bring the lives of my Southgates to life, to help other Southgate researchers with their own trees, and to discover if the Southgate surname bearers have a common origin. For the latter goal I know I need to work with DNA. Although Southgate is a locative surname, there are definite concentrations of families in parts of Suffolk and Norfolk. I would love to know if the name originated in both counties independently, or if the Southgates from one part of East Anglia came first and spread the name at some point before parish records.

I love helping people with their research. I recently helped to complete the tree of a gentleman in his 90s who had been adopted at birth and I provided his daughter with several possible avenues to find cousins for her dad. And my own cousin, who lives up the road from a Southgate entrepreneur in New Zealand, was delighted to learn of the origins of his namesake back in the UK.

As for bringing my Southgates to life, I am slowly developing my ONS website to do that. I investigate the individuals in each GEDCOM that I upload and write up some of the more interesting facts about each family to take my research beyond the data.

JOONS: What has been the biggest challenge in your study?

Charlie: Trying not to drift from my goals towards all the shiny and exciting avenues of research that open up every time I add a new fact to my database.

JOONS: What is the most interesting or unusual thing you have discovered in your research?

Charlie: A list in his will of 1744, of debts owed to John Southgate, land surveyor and estate agent. The list included the Duchess of Marlborough and the Archbishop of Canterbury!

JOONS: Tell us about your post in the Guild.

Charlie: I've been Publicity Manager since summer 2021. My job is to help publicise the Guild and its activities. I assist with the Guild's social media presence, I am working on some online advertising, and I manage the non-members mailing list - where I am hoping to share how awesome the Guild is and encourage people to join our community. As part of the marketing team, I am also involved with events that the Guild exhibits at, virtually and (hopefully!) in real life.

JOONS: What is the most enjoyable part of your volunteering work with the Guild?

Charlie: Working with others to share our love of one-name studies with the world. Interacting with members of the public and explaining what we do - inspiring them to widen and deepen their own family history research, even if they do not end up registering a study.

JOONS: Do you find anything difficult or troublesome about the job?

Charlie: Finding my way around who does what in the Guild. The organisation is complex and it can take a little time to find the right person to contact with each query.

JOONS: If you could choose any post within the Guild, what would it be? (it doesn't have to exist - what would be your ideal job?)

Charlie: I am really keen to enthuse young people about genealogy. My ideal job would be communicating the experience and enjoyment of doing a one-name study and encouraging young people to join us. I guess I am quite well placed to do that in my current role!

JOONS: How has the Guild changed during your membership?

Charlie: Well, it has only been a year, but I would say that the Guild is changing. With the move to CIO status and the reaffirmed object of educating the public about one-name studies, I think we are well on our way to positively changing the Guild to be an even more useful, welcoming, inclusive, enjoyable community.

JOONS: What advice would you give to a new member of the Guild, just starting out with their first one-name study?

Charlie: Start with what excites you. If it's the data, then great! Love a spreadsheet. If it is the stories, brilliant! Focus on finding the context for your ancestors' lives. If it's the DNA, good luck! That is still well beyond my knowledge. Don't feel pressured into doing it all, and don't feel you have to follow any particular direction or make masses of progress when you begin. Do what you enjoy.

And get a website from the Guild. Use it to store your trees, share your stories, and to look back on in a year and see how far you have come.

You can contact Charlie at publicity-manager@one-name.org

If you'd like to volunteer to help, please get in touch with the Volunteer Co-ordinator volunteers@one-name.org



"I had the privilege of representing us all in presenting our past President, Derek Palgrave, with two maps in recognition of his service to the Guild over the past 40-odd years and, in particular, his 33-year tenure as President. We are all in his debt.

Here I am making the presentation to Derek, and the maps in question, of Norfolk and Suffolk, the two counties where the Palgrave name originated, and where Derek and Pamela have spent most of their lives.

Thank you for your service to the Guild, sir."

Paul Howes MCG



“Those Who Served” Seminar Report

Stock Village Hall, Stock, Essex

Saturday 23rd October 2021

by Mandy Geary (8633)

As a new Guild member, and one who was hesitant at getting started with my own one-name study, I was delighted when I noticed that this Seminar was not only being held locally to me, but that the subject was something that I was extremely interested in, having researched various army and seafaring (Royal Navy and Merchant Navy) ancestors.

Despite the fact that this was the first seminar held for almost two years due to the Covid pandemic, it was well attended, and the careful planning and arrangements to keep everyone safe were both evident and reassuring; two separate halls allowed plenty of space, a one-way system, windows and doors open for ventilation and a plentiful supply of hand sanitiser. Special mention has to be made of the superb catering arrangements.



Alan Moorhouse
Chairman of the Seminar

After the warm introduction and welcome from Alan Moorhouse, Guild Member Sue Swalwell regaled us with the story of Matthew Swalwell - “A Warring Weaver” who served with the 95th Regiment of Foot (“The Rifles” - later fictionalised in the “Sharpe” books and TV series). Sue was accompanied by Marilyn Standfast, who has a degree specialising in American History, manages military tours around the world and runs the Sharpe Appreciation Society. Sue and Marilyn are 4th cousins. This was not a talk on how to find records but highlighted a diverse set of records which they had used to help them uncover Matthew’s life and background. Sue explained how Matthew had been born into a weaving family in Barnard Castle and how he initially became a weaver but due to the precarious nature of the industry at the time, enlisted with the 95th in 1809. She went on to discuss Matthew’s army service, how he returned home and eventually became a Chelsea pensioner (in fact 5 members of his family were Chelsea Pensioners, between them totalling 145 year service).

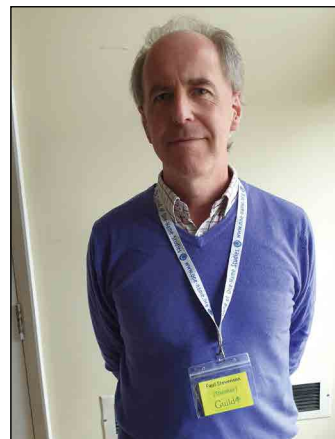
Marilyn then provided a background of the British Army at the time, along with a fascinating insight into the 95th, informing us that their officers were professional soldiers who did not buy their commissions, and that the regiment’s battle cry was

Sue Swalwell (Swalwell ONS) and Marilyn Standfast (Military Tour Manager and Family Historian)
Speakers: A Warring Weaver - Matthew Swalwell



“First in the field and last out of it”. She described in great detail their uniforms and kit and explained that the Bayonets on the Baker rifles they carried were not used for battle, but for more practical purposes such as cooking or collecting brushwood, etc; being experienced marksmen who could shoot a target whilst moving forward they didn’t need their bayonets in battle as others may have done. Marilyn also gave us an overview of the Napoleonic wars timeline covering the Peninsular War, Waterloo and the Occupation of Paris and discussed the medals and various clasps awarded - noting that Matthew qualified for 7 clasps of a potential 29 - and in some cases how long it took for those medals to be awarded.

The second talk of the morning “Service Records in the Ministry of Defence Main Archive” was given by Paul Stevenson who brought along a wide selection of the MoD’s records for members to peruse. Paul has 30 years’ experience with the MoD and has been their Records Manager since 2008. He outlined what records the MoD hold, discussed implications of service dates, progression for officer ranks, medical records and war claims and how they hold some records for other nationalities (Polish was one example) if a person served or signed up in Britain.



Paul Stevenson (Head of the MOD Records Office) Speaker: Service Records in the Ministry of Defence Main Archive

Paul then outlined the transfer of records to The National Archives (“TNA”) which he explained would cover records of all individuals who were discharged up to 31 December 1963 with a date of birth before 31 December 1939. The transfer is a mammoth and lengthy task with the project expected to last 6 years and Paul gave us a brief explanation of what was involved in the transfer process. The transfer has begun with Army records (which average 16 pages for other ranks and 70-80 pages for officers), and likely to move on to RAF records next, with Royal Navy records being the last to be transferred.

Paul highlighted some interesting records such as German speaker Alfred Peveril Le Mesurier Sinkinson (1889-1965) who gave a definitive account of the WW1 Christmas Truce and Captain Tom Moore’s records which we learned were 150 pages in length, due mainly to an obscure allowance he was given in 1940 which the authorities decided in 1945 he wasn’t entitled to and the resulting correspondence relating to that.



Peter Elliott (Curator Emeritus, RAF Museum) Speaker: RAF Records for Family History

The third talk of the day “RAF Records for Family History”, came after the lunch break and was given by Peter Elliott, who retired as Head of Archives at the RAF Museum in 2016 after 31 years. He then became the Museum’s first Curator Emeritus and shared with us his extensive knowledge of the RAF archive and its collections. He outlined the history of the Royal Air Force, explaining how it was the world’s first independent air service and revealed that initially the RAF didn’t train pilots and that they had to undertake flying training at their own expense; but would be reimbursed once they had their Royal Aero Club Aviator’s Certificate. He informed us that two photos were required when applying for your Aviator’s Certificate, one of which was attached to the certificate and the other remained in their records, which are now available on Ancestry, so if lucky you may find a photo of your ancestor in these records.

Peter outlined different records including details of which series they can be found in at TNA; these included:-

War Diaries, Record Books, Combat Reports and Communiques (all in series AIR 1) Apprentices

- Operations (AIR 2, AIR 5 & AIR 10)
- Wartime Combat Reports (AIR 50), Offices (AIR 76)
- NCOs and Airmen (AIR 79 also available on FindMyPast (“FMP”))
- WRAF (AIR 80)

- Muster Roll (AIR 10/232-237 also available on Storyvault)
- Casualty Packs (AIR81) and published sources such as RAF Bomber Command Losses, RAF Fighter Command Losses and RAF Coastal Command Losses
- The Roll of Honour
- Operations Records Books (AIR 27 to 29)
- Loss Cards
- Distinguished Flying Medals
- “Dominion” Air Forces and individuals from many nationalities.

Finally, Peter went on to describe how the RAF Museum’s Storyvault brings together casualty cards, musters rolls and Air Force lists to capture and share extraordinary stories of ordinary men and women. www.rafmuseumstoryvault.org.uk

The penultimate talk of the day “Tracing Prisoners of War and Internees in the First and Second World Wars” was given by Sarah Paterson, who has worked at the Imperial War Museum (“IWM”) for 33 years and is currently Curator in the First World War and Early 20th Century Team.



Sarah Paterson (Curator, First World War and early 20th Century, Imperial War Museum) Speaker: Tracing Prisoners of War and Internees in the First and Second World Wars

Sarah outlined the context in which records were created, what records are out there and how these can be applied to our own research. She began by discussing how captivity pushes people together in a way in which they might not normally; how prisoners and interns would be eating the food and listening to the language of their captors; and how and where prisoners were held, giving an example of how Canadians were held alongside British servicemen to demonstrate the importance of recognising that records which might help or have relevance to our research may be found elsewhere.

Whilst Sarah informed us that Air Crew and Submariners were subject to intensive interrogation with Germany bugging the rooms of those held in WW2, she was keen to point out that British did this too; and she told us that the need for prisoners to be housed, fed and guarded took up precious resources, and how prisoners were low priority meaning their journeys usually involved long walks or travel via cattle trucks etc and how men below Corporal were forced to work.

Sarah discussed briefly Britain’s treatment of Prisoners of War and Internees; and mentioned as an example George Kenner, a

German artist who moved to Britain in 1910 and was interned as an “enemy alien” in 1915, spending most of the war at Knockaloe Camp on the Isle of Man before being sent back to Germany in 1919. The IWM has a fascinating collection of his artwork depicting various scenes of the camp.

Sarah finished by mentioning some of her top tips/resources for researching prisoners of war or internees which included:-

- Personal Papers of Chaplains and Medics papers which frequently include lists of names.
- Prisoners of War in German Territory up to 1945
- Red Cross records, including maps of camps in Far East.
- German Record cards of British and Commonwealth Prisoners of War and some Civilian Internees, Second World War (WO 416 at TNA)
- Camp magazines
- Mrs Pope-Hennessy’s map gazetteer of the locations of PoW camps in Germany and Austria.
- Prisoner of War Relatives’ Newsheets (IWM hold a complete set)
- Princess Mary’s Gift Box - if you were eligible for the Gift Box but captured at the time it was distributed, it was sent to you afterwards (IWM hold a list of all those eligible).
- Released Prisoner of War survey.

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/research/tracing-your-family-history/prisoners-of-war/where-to-find-prisoner-of-war-records>

Sarah has written a book called *Tracing Your Prisoner of War Ancestors: The First World War A Guide for Family Historians* published by IWM.

The final talk of the seminar was “Nautical Women” by Rosemary L Caldicott, a former university lecturer with a particular interest in women’s history, with the fascinating “Cross Dressing Nautical Women: Women Sailors and the Women of Sailortowns”.



Rosemary Caldicott (Lecturer and Author) Speaker: Cross Dressing Nautical Women: Women Sailors and the Women of Sailortowns

Rosemary told the stories of women who disguised themselves as men to serve on ships and a courageous cross-dressing woman sailor who went to extraordinary lengths to hide her

gender, discussing their motivation, adventures and inevitable exposure in stories that were sometimes light-hearted, sometimes tragic.

Rosemary set the scene, detailing how at certain times of the year there would be around 1,000 vessels in London ports, and hundreds in ports like Bristol at any one time and how often the ship provided home, food and safety well above what a working-class women could earn at the time and suggested that women chose to disguise themselves for this reason, an attempt to avoid the workhouse or simply as a means of starting a new life in a new country. She pointed out that we only know about the women who were discovered, and that thousands went undiscovered; and how this wasn’t unique to the British navy, with reports of incidents in the Dutch and Russian navies too and explained that women often went undiscovered until their deaths, either due to illness, accident or fighting.

Originally it was common for working class males to be ½ inch shorter than young women due to nutrition and living and working conditions. It was also normal for women to wear corsets to pull in waist and push up bust line distorting their figure, so by not wearing one, flattening their bosoms and wearing wide leg trousers they could easily change their appearance and pass for young men, particularly at the time when men wore powdered wigs and/or wore their hair longer in a pony tail.

Some of the stories Rosemary told us included the following:

- “John Brown” who was discovered to be a woman when the Ship’s Doctor ordered a poultice to be applied when “John” was taken ill and was shocked to discover “more sally ports than expected”;
- Anderson age 17 in 1859 sentenced to 2 weeks imprisonment in Shepton Mallet for vagrancy after losing her place on a ship and where the men in court took pity on her and gave her £10. The Captain appeared in court too, contributing to her fund by giving her the £7 wages she was owed;
- Sarah Burton in Bristol in 1859 who dressed in seaman’s clothing and her sex was only discovered when she was arrested. She appeared in court and the bench severely lectured her on her impropriety.
- Esther McEwan was discovered in 1902 wandering along Princes Street in Bristol wearing men’s clothing with 25 shillings in her pocket and was arrested for cross-dressing - she appeared to be 15-17 years old and gave a variety of convoluted stories as to her background and where she came from.
- Hannah Snell, a female soldier and then marine, who went by the name of James Gray, who petitioned and received a pension which was then increased a few years later.

Rosemary has published several books that have a particular interest in women’s history including “Nautical Women: Women sailors and the women of sailor towns: A forgotten diaspora c.1693-1902”.

The day was a great success, and it was clear that members were relishing the opportunity to catch up with old friends whilst enjoying the wonderful talks and displays. For me, as well as the fascinating talks, I found the event extremely

well organised and professionally produced; and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet in person members I had only met over Zoom or seen online, and to purchase lots of second-hand books as well as a couple of new ones kindly signed by the speakers. I was also introduced to a fellow new member who also lives locally. I very much look forward to attending future seminars and conferences and after interesting discussions with a couple of members I'm even keen to start my own one-name-study.... when I have time.



Mandy has no surname registered and can be contacted at mandy.geary@one-name.org



Quasi Legend of King George III

by Rosemary Booth (2004)

In this article it is proposed to examine a quasi-legend about King George the Third of England and a beautiful Quaker Hannah Lightfoot. It has been claimed by many writers that they not only married but also had at least one son known as George Rex. It is proposed, for reasons of clarity and word economy, to refer to George the Third as Prince George prior to his accession on 25 October 1760 and George III thereafter.

It will further consider the evidence of a marriage between the Prince and Hannah. In this context it will examine the part played by Olivia Serres and her daughter Lavinia Ryves which culminated in a court case in 1766. As a result dubious marriage certificates, and other documents, were impounded by the Lord Chief Justice for 100 years.

My one-name study focuses on the Rexworthy surname and its variants. To qualify for inclusion the individuals must all have borne the name either by birth, marriage, adoption, assumption or as a middle name. I propose to prove that George Rex who lived most of his life, and died in Pennsylvania should be legitimately included in the study. I will also suggest that George Rex and his wife were a genuine 'portal couple' as defined by Walker (2007 pp7):

A single couple who were the progenitors of a line and the ancestors of all modern members of that family group

Many versions of this story have been published. The accounts, a mixture of fact and fiction, have appeared in many books and articles, four of which I have selected to examine. These are by Bower, Bower III and Thomas (2009), Camp (2007), Rex, (1933) and Storrar (1974). The writers have themselves drawn heavily on the works of other authors who are cited in the text and listed in the bibliography (contact author).

The story of George Rex, son of George III, has been of great interest because the notion of a blue-blooded ancestor appeals to many family historians. The possibility, moreover, that the latter went through a form of marriage, before marrying Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, is also very compelling.

The salient facts are that Prince George had a liaison with this beautiful Quaker, who was several years his senior. It was the cause for whispered rumours among the courtiers during his lifetime. Yet, interestingly, it was not until 46 years after his death, that two marriage certificates, written on scraps of paper, came to light. There were then further claims that children were born of this 'legitimate' union. As a result, there are today in America, South Africa and Australia, families who believe, with the utmost sincerity and conviction, that they are the direct descendants of George III through this liaison. Pendered (1937 cited in Camp 2007) claims to have found no less than 17 families all claiming to be descended from the king and Hannah.

The story might never have reached the public domain if a certain Mrs Lavinia Jannetta Horton Ryves (née Serres) had not asked the Court of Probate to declare her the legitimate granddaughter of the Duke of Cumberland, the younger

brother of George III. To support her claim, made in 1766, she produced 71 documents in all, including marriage certificates, which she had inherited from her mother, Olivia Serres, who had instigated the quest for royal recognition some years earlier. Written on the backs of two of the marriage certificates were two other certificates which had nothing whatever to do with the case being heard. The signatories to the documents included Prince George, Hannah and the Prime Minister of the day William Pitt:

*April 17, 1759 (First Marriage Certificate)
The Marriage of these parties was this day duly solemnised in
Kew Chapel, according to the rites and ceremonies of the
Church of England by myself
J Wilmot
Signed George P and Hannah
Witnessed by W Pitt and Anne Taylor*

*May 27, 1759 (Second Marriage Certificate)
This is to certify that the marriage of these parties
George
Prince of Wales and Hannah Lightfoot was duly solemnised on this day
according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of
England at their residence at Peckham by myself
J Wilmot
Signed George Guelph and Hannah Lightfoot
Witnesses: William Pitt and Anne Taylor*

Another document in the bundle was the following 'will':

*Hampstead July 7th 1762 (Will of Hannah Lightfoot)
Provided I depart this life. I commend my Two Sons and
my Daughter to the kind protection of Their Royal Father
My Husband His Majesty George the Third Bequeathing
whatever
Property I die possessed of to such dear offspring of our
ill-fated marriage - in case of the death of such my
Children
I give and bequeath to Olive Wilmot the Daughter of
my best
Friend Doctor Wilmot whatsoever Property I am entitled
to
or possessed of at the time of my Death
Signed Hannah Regina
Witnessed by L Deeming and William Pitt*

J. Wilmot was a priest and Doctor of Divinity, and the uncle of Olivia Serres, who had used his name in her convoluted claim to be the lawful daughter of the Duke of Cumberland. It is no secret that there was no love lost between George III and William Pitt - the latter would probably have seized the opportunity of revealing to the world the details of his monarch's clandestine marriage to which he had appended his signature as a witness.

A Mr. Netherclift, who was purported to be the greatest handwriting expert of all time, had examined the signatures and declared them to be genuine. But the Lord Chief Justice,

Baron Pollock, was not to be persuaded. He denounced them as “rank forgeries” and the case was dismissed. The author of the documents was thought to have been a former lover of Olivia Serres, a certain Thomas Petrie alias William Henry Fitzclarence. Shepherd (1984) cited in Camp (2007 pp 284) described him as a confidence trickster and skilled forger.

The case was reported in the newspapers but did not attract much attention, even though a former monarch was being accused of bigamy and the succession of the Crown thrown into question. Queen Victoria, who was the most affected, appeared to have ignored the whole affair but was almost certainly “not amused”.

What Mrs Ryves and her devious mother did not know, or conveniently omitted to mention, was that prior to the supposed marriage to the Prince, Hannah had already contracted a clandestine marriage with one Isaac Axford. It took place in the Mayfair marriage chapel of Dr. Alexander Keith - the year before Hardwicke’s Marriage Act outlawed such ceremonies. The simple entry read:

Dec. 11, 1753 Isaac Axford of St Martin’s Ludgate, to Hannah Lightfoot of St James, Westminster.

Following this marriage Hannah was never seen again - having apparently deserted Isaac. The Quakers issued a Testimony of Denial which effectively excommunicated her from the Society for marrying out of her faith. Her fate remains a mystery. The only clue is a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds, painted circa 1756, and bought by the late John Sackville, 3rd Duke of Dorset. If genuine it suggests she moved into privileged society circles. The painting now hangs in Knole House a National Trust property:

Hannah Lightfoot, Mrs Axford (1730-1859) - The Fair Quakeress.

Or it may be that Isaac Axford knew more of the fate of Hannah than he was prepared to reveal as he publicly remarried, as a widower, in 1759 in Warminster.

There were two claimants to the title George Rex son of George III and Hannah Lightfoot. Their descendants have each claimed their patriarch was of royal blood and a legitimate heir to the English throne. The South African George Rex, was the subject of a book by Storrar (1974) and the Pennsylvanian ‘prince’ of books by Rex (1933) and Bower, Bower III and Thomas (2009). It must, however, be emphasised these claims were never made by the individuals themselves - both of whom were described as being very reticent about their parentage.

George Rex: death of a legend Storrar (1974) appeared, on the face of it, to be the more plausible of the two versions. It was based on the biography by Sanni Meterlerkamp (1955) *George Rex of Knysna: the authentic story*. According to Meterlerkamp George III decided to banish his son to South Africa. For obvious reasons he swore the young man to secrecy regarding his birth and made him promise never to marry or return to England. He created him Marshal of the Court of Vice-Admiralty at the Cape. He gave him an ebony staff surmounted by a silver crown as a badge of office, a signet ring and a locket containing a lock of his own auburn hair - these are, apparently, still in the possession of the family.

Camp (2007) gave a very concise and accurate account of the life of George Rex based on Storrar’s book. He was born

at Goodman’s Yard, Whitechapel to John and Sarah Rex and baptised 2 September 1765 at home. At age 15 he was articled for seven years to Edward Cooper, a notary public. In 1787, at the termination of his apprenticeship, he petitioned to be admitted as a proctor in Doctors Commons, and in 1797 he emigrated to South Africa where he subsequently became Marshal of the Court of Vice-Admiralty at the Cape - no mention of any royal connections.

George never married, possibly because he already had a wife in England - but no evidence of this has been found. But in South Africa he had two common-law wives both of whom were slaves. The first Johanna Rosina van der Caab (c.1772-1812) bore him four children. The second, a daughter of Johanna, by a previous liaison, Carolina Margaretha Ungerer (c.1792-1866), bore him a further nine. George died in the Cape and was buried there. Storrar (1974) traced his antecedents back a further two generations and nothing to suggest royal parentage was found. He has thus been eliminated as the son of George III.

George Rex of Pennsylvania, does not feature in Camps (2007) book. Almost certainly because the author never considered him a possible son of George III. It has thus been necessary to rely on the two books written by the descendants of the family Rex (1933) and Bower, Bower III and Thomas (2009) - the latter a revised edition of the former.

This Rex family like their South African counterpart, also boasted valuable treasures purported to have been passed down through the years from George III but descriptions of the items have not been found in either book.

My interest in the Pennsylvanian Rex family stems from the fact that I do not believe they are the descendants of George III and Hannah but are a branch of the Rexworthy family of Somerset. The Rex family deny any connections with the Rexworthy family - dismissing ‘Rexworthy’ as a variant of the name Rex and the references to ‘worthy’ as a certain sign of his royal connections.

The following is a list of the documents I have found in which George is referred to as Rexworthy:

Pennsylvania United States Land Warrants 1733-1987:
George Rexworthy
4 March 1776, Cumberland

Oath of Allegiance
In 1777 George Rexworthy took the Oath of Allegiance:

I do hereby certify that George Rex Worthy hath voluntarily taken and subscribed the Oath - of Allegiance and Fidelity as directed by An Act of General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed the 13th Day of June A.D. 1777 as Witness my Hand and Seal the 8th Day of December Anno Domini 1777
Sam[ue]l Allen [LS]

The Oath of Allegiance was taken by members of what was known as the Continental Army. The latter was established in 1775 to coordinate the 13 American colonies (states), and was supplemented by militias and volunteer troops. They fought in the, ultimately successful, War of Independence against

George III as King of England. It was as a member of this army that George Rex[worthy] would have taken the oath. It was not at this time in a standardised format and, although on a pre-printed form the wording could vary greatly and this was the case until 1929.

Baptism of Martha Rexworthy 1780

This record was the Baptism register for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St Michael, Pfoutz Valley, Perry County, Pennsylvania. It was a transcription of a translation from German. The wife of George Rex[worthy] was a lady of undisputed German origin named Margaret Kepler. The record on page 9 reads:

No. 41 Martha born 30 September 1780 Baptised Following 22 October. Parents Georg Rexworthy and Wife Margaretha

The 1800 US Federal Census

The 1800 Census for Jefferson, Green County, Pennsylvania lists George Rexworthy as the head of a household comprising eight 'Free White Persons'. Unfortunately these very early US Censuses gave no other details of the household. But the fact that he was named as George Rexworthy is significant.

Bower, Bower III and Thomas (2009) were of the opinion that George Rex came to America in about 1770 but were unable to substantiate this. To date no details of his migration or of any American ancestry have been found. The most obvious reason for coming from England, at this time, would have been as part of the militia sent, by George III, to quell the unrest that eventually resulted in the British defeat and loss of the colonies.

As George Rex[worthy] signed the Oath of Allegiance in 1777 it would appear that he had switched sides. This is substantiated by the fact that two of his descendants in the 1940s applied to have their names included as Sons of the American Revolution. They were Daniel Ferrell Rex (husband of Leda Ferrell Rex who wrote the 1933 book) and Charles Isaiah Faddis.

A book published by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution was the work of a genealogical organisation which encouraged each member to trace their family back to an individual who had taken part in the Revolutionary Wars. Although of some genealogical value it is confirmation that the family believed George had a military background.

Although Camps (2007) did not include this George in his book he nevertheless included a very interesting paragraph that contains references to him:

Mrs Aline Shane-Devin of Washington DC claimed in a letter addressed to Lord Sackville (the owner of the Hannah Lightfoot painting) and first printed as an appendix in Mrs Beccles Willson George III as Man, Monarch and Statesman (London 1907). She stated that her paternal grandmother, Hannah Lightfoot Rex who, she said was the daughter (by a woman of German birth) of George Rex who, she said, was the son of Hannah Lightfoot and the King, who emigrated to America during the Revolutionary War and was a devoted loyalist.

It is appropriate to discuss the inherited condition of porphyria from which George III was thought, by many, to have suffered. For an opinion on this I refer to Peters (2015 pp 168-172).

He challenges the diagnosis of porphyria in George III as being based on the unreliable opinions of historians past and present. In order to make an objective diagnosis he and his researchers have used the current techniques of cognitive archaeology including computer diagnostic programs and handwriting analysis.

The computer diagnostic program Operational Criteria Checklist for Psychotic Illness (OPCRIT) was developed for case note analysis of patients with psychotic illness participating in genetic studies. Analysis with OPCRIT confirmed a diagnosis of bi-polar disorder type 1 with a final decade of dementia due, in part, to the neurotoxicity of his recurrent episodes of acute mania. Thus excluding any possible connection with porphyria.

Neither the South African or Pennsylvanian families have produced evidence of any descendants suffering from the disease. The trump card would of course be a positive DNA test that might prove the relationship conclusively - but that has not taken place to date although Bower, Bower III and Thomas (2009) have considered the possibility.

In an email sent by Dan Shane, himself a descendant, in response to a question on RootsWeb in 2000, Shane stated that the story of George III and Hannah Lightfoot was "a load of balderdash". Camps dismissed it entirely and Storrar concluded that the South African family were the undisputed descendants of John and Sarah Rex from Whitechapel.

In conclusion there is no evidence to show that the marriage certificates of George III and Hannah were anything but forgeries. Hardwick's Marriage Act 1754 outlawed clandestine marriages and introduced pro forma certificates. To this was added the fact that Hannah was already married to Isaac Axford in 1753, and that she was his wife until her death sometime before he remarried in 1759.

It has been proved that George Rex of Knysna was almost certainly the legitimate son of John and Sarah Rex of Whitechapel. Evidence that he became a lawyer and emigrated to South Africa where he sired 13 children by two common-law wives and was buried there in a grave that exists to this day.

Exhaustive research, not only by myself, but by the authors, Bower, Bower III & Thomas (2009) and Rex (1933) who conducted extensive searches during the preparation of their books, also failed to identify the parents of George Rex[worthy]. What they did discover was an incredible 4442 descendants all the genuine offspring of this mysterious 'portal' couple.

What is even more impossible to believe is that George Rex[worthy] of Pennsylvania was the son of a 12 year old prince. He almost certainly went to America as part of the English Army and possibly deserted and, at a later date, fought on the opposing side. For reason's unknown he later shortened his name to 'Rex'. Whether he married Margaret Kepler is not known but they had 12 children. He also left a will but that revealed nothing of his ancestry. He is buried in a grave that bears the dates 1750-1829. Four documents have been found that bear the name 'Rexworthy'. I believe he meets the criteria for inclusion in the Rexworthy one-name study - I rest my case.

Rosemary is studying the surname Raxworthy with variants Renworthy, Rexworthy, Roxworthy, Wraxworthy, Wrexworthy and can be contacted at rosemary.booth@one-name.org

Forthcoming Seminars

12 January 2022

Family History Software for your ONS

Venue: Zoom

The general introductory session will be followed in each of the next 4 weeks by users of Family Historian, Legacy, Roots Magic and Family Tree Maker describing why they use each particular software program. Each presentation will conclude with a Q+A.

Wednesday 7.30pm	Presentation
12th January 2022	What to look for that suits your study - Julie Goucher
19th January 2022	Why I use Family Historian - Paul Howes
26th January 2022	Why I use Legacy - Tessa Keough
2nd February 2022	Why I use Roots Magic - Charlie Wilson
9th February 2022	Why I use Family Tree Maker - Susan Atkins

There is no charge for these sessions which will also be recorded for later viewing.

To register to attend any session “live” please email seminar-booking@one-name.org with the subject line Software webinars + your membership number (if applicable) + your name indicating in the email which session(s) you wish to attend.

The Zoom joining link will be sent out by email over the weekend prior to each session.

You do not need to register for any presentation in order to watch it later once it has been updated to the Guild website.

14 May 2022

DNA

Venue: Beauchamp College, Ridge Way, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 5TP

After a gap of 4 years it is time for our 7th DNA seminar. This is a fast growing and rapidly changing area and covers a wide range of knowledge and interests. We are again planning for a dedicated beginner/basic stream, aimed at those with little or no previous DNA knowledge, with other talks for those wishing to further enhance their DNA learning. Whatever your level of knowledge, whether new to DNA, keen but confused, or an old hand, there will be something for everyone at Oadby.

15 October 2022

Publishing Your Study On Line

Venue: Beauchamp College, Ridge Way, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 5TP

At this much-requested seminar we aim to guide members who wish to create their own ONS website, and help those wanting to develop an existing site further. We will help you to clarify your aims in having a website and from there to consider site content and the design. The Members’ Website Program will be explained for those yet to join, and existing participants will be able to look at further developments.

30 July 2022

‘The Invisible Roots’ - finding the women in your family history

Venue: Swindon Village Community Hall, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 9QP

Margaret Ward in The Female Line: Researching Your Female Ancestors described women as the ‘strong but invisible roots of the family tree’. This seminar will explore legal changes, the impact of raising children, and women’s work inside and outside the home. It will discuss how women are recorded in a one name study, and hear some members’ stories of a significant and maybe unconventional woman in their family.



Beauchamp College, Oadby

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.

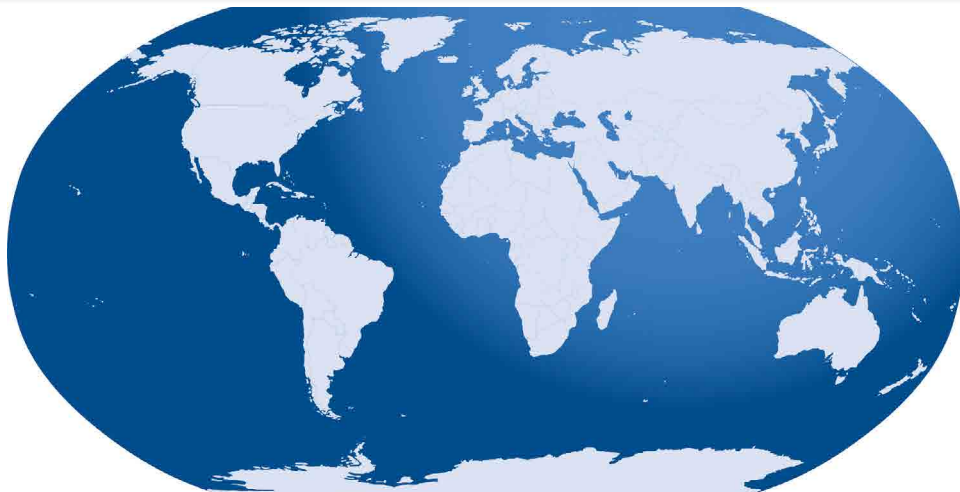
After their study has been registered, members may update their categorisation as they wish.

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.



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