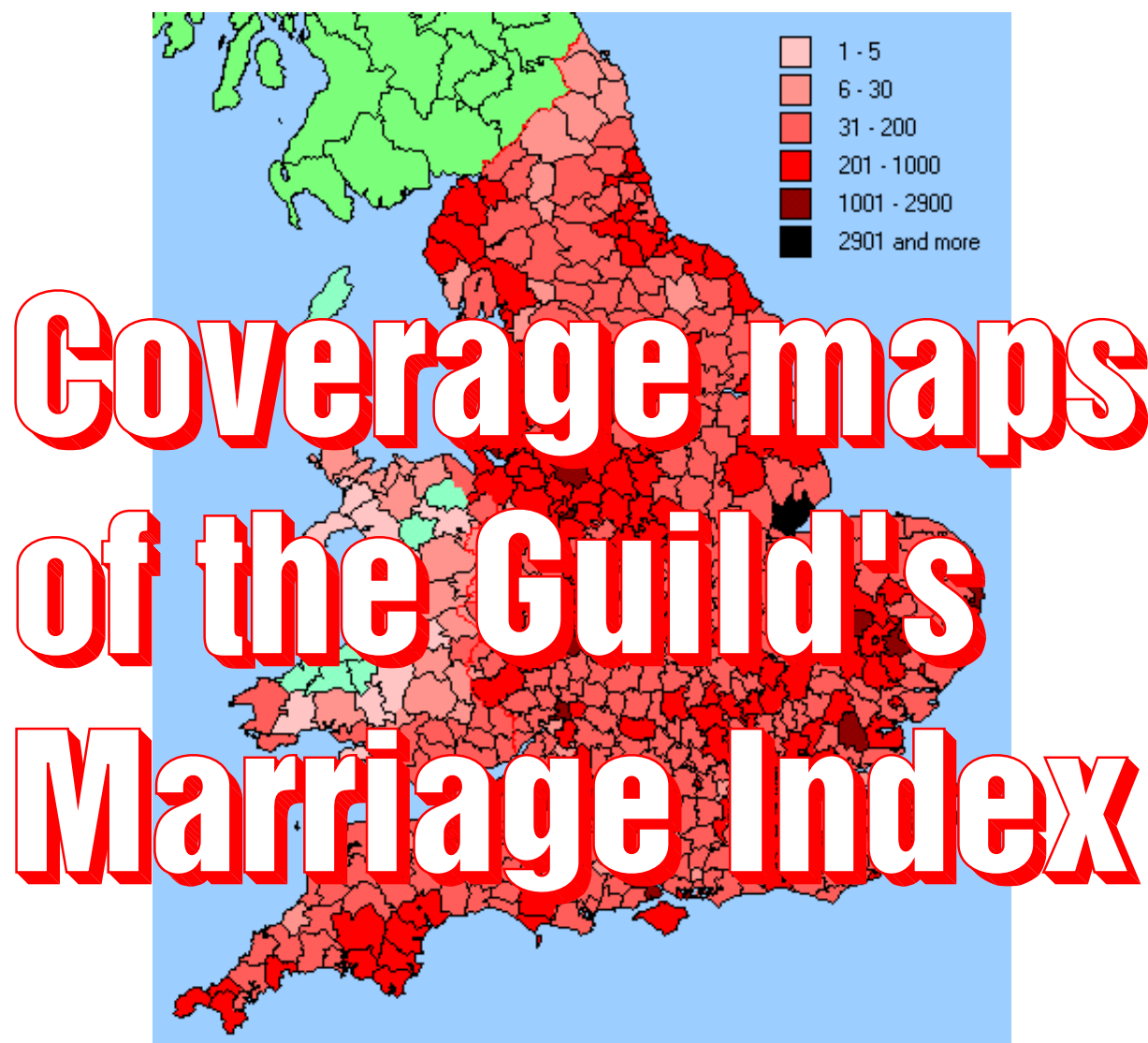


Journal

of One-Name Studies



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Coverage maps of the Guild's Marriage Index

Also in this issue...

- Supercharging GenMap and Surname Atlas
- How a DNA project aided Cotton One-Name Study
- From Pooty Pools Farm to Pettypool surname?

All the latest Guild news and updates

Guild

of One-Name Studies

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*The Journal of One-Name Studies is
published quarterly by the Guild of
One-Name Studies and printed by
Flexpress Ltd, 5 Saxby St, Leicester*

ISSN 0262-4842

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MAIN ARTICLES

- 6 **Supercharging GenMap UK and Surname Atlas to create maps not possible when programs are used on their own**
HOWARD MATHIESON on integrating features of GenMap and Surname Atlas to produce your own custom maps – COVER STORY
- 9 **Have you hit a brick wall in your genealogy research? DNA testing worked for me**
ROSS COTTON tells how starting a DNA project aided his ONS – COVER STORY
- 13 **From a farm called Pooty Pools to Pettypool – truth may indeed be stranger than fiction**
A search for the origins of a surname by CAROLYN HARTSOUGH – COVER STORY
- 16 **Ninth edition of Guild Marriage Index has nearly a quarter of a million entries – maps of coverage**
Detailed maps of Guild's Marriage Index by Peter Alefounder – COVER STORY

GUILD REPORTS • NEWS • EVENTS

- 14 Farewell to the Editor's chair – after 10 years ROY STOCKDILL hands over the baton
- 18 Guild's Midland Seminar report by JANINE BROOKS
- 19 Seminars update on Palaeography Workshop • Guild Electronic Archive extended to include members' census data
- 20 Marriage Challenge update by PETER COPSEY
- 21 Answering interesting questions about a Marriage Challenge by MICHAEL BLISS
- 24 Guild's evidence to government review of 30-Year-Rule on records
- 30 Reunion report – Blencowe Association enjoys 2-day event in Oxfordshire

REGULARS

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 4 | From the Chairman's keyboard | PETER WALKER |
| 23 | Registrar's Notes | DAVID MELLOR |
| 25 | Treasurer's Comments | CLIFF KEMBALL |
| 26 | A View From the Bookstall | HOWARD BENBROOK |
| 28 | Reviews of new books | |
| 31 | One-Name Mail | |

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

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

From the Chairman's keyboard . . .



By
PETER WALKER

Many of you want Guild to do more to assist members with IT issues – how should we go about it?

COMPUTERS, SOFTWARE, Information Technology – call it what you will, it's now become a major influence on how most of us carry out our one-name studies. It's not just a tool but a gateway to the Internet, where increasingly information can assist with our data gathering tasks and allow us to make contact with others interested in our name.

But it's a two-edged sword. Information can be unreliable and go unchallenged, while data we regard as private, or possibly only tentative, gets published by others for all time. Our e-mail inboxes may contain 80% or more of mail we don't want to see.

The Guild itself cannot survive without IT and as I write we are still to get over the website problems which have recently plagued us and about which I wrote in the last Journal. But I hope that by the time you read this, we will have launched our new website on a new, more powerful server.

Refreshed

Also, the site content itself has been refreshed, thanks to the efforts of Anne Shankland and others who have critically reviewed the present pages. But we can always do better and many would comment that the site is mainly text and little of the graphics and multimedia that increasingly defines the web experience.

Some incremental improvements might go unnoticed. If you log onto the Members' Page you

will find that it's now possible to add more information about yourself and your study. For example, for the increasing number of you who have DNA projects, you can now specify a separate web page for your DNA project, in addition to your regular one-name website. If you have a Skype account, you can even add your own address yourself – this self-service system replacing the manual register I used to keep.

IT issues

Many of you write to the Committee asking that the Guild do more to assist members with IT issues. One member wrote to me using the website suggestions facility (did you know we had

Can we have articles on the organization of data? I am swimming in paper, with information from a hundred sources, and can't even search a lot of it for someone's query, because it is sitting in piles. What kinds of databases are easy to use, to input, to search by forename, parish, year, etc. that would allow a member to organize their collection of information? We need several articles and approaches to be discussed, please.

Easier said than done! We need resources to do this and in most cases my advice is to consult other members on the Forum (400-plus brains are better than the dozen or so on the Committee) or to look through the Guild Knowledge Store (the Wiki) where increasingly members are recording their wisdom on a vast

range of topics. Another member, keen to improve his one-name website wanted assistance with better website design. Again, a common problem for many members. You all seem to recognise the need for good IT but feel you need help. How can the Guild assist?

One idea floated by John Coldwell, one of our Regional Reps, is to carry out a survey of what members currently use, assess the good and bad points and try to distil the result in the Journal. This isn't a new idea and the Members' Room still has a link to an earlier article by Jean-Baptiste Piggion who did just this, but software moves on and many packages reviewed then are no longer with us.

Survey

Would you be prepared to help John carry out such a survey and try to bring together the best advice and views of the members? If you can, please get in touch with either John or me.

Because the Guild has no full-time staff, the one thing we try to avoid – despite your obvious desires – is to attempt to provide ongoing direct support with hardware and software problems. I do try to provide generic advice on security issues through the WARP (the Warning, Advice and Reporting Point) but that is only possible because the advice is generic.

But who knows? Could we form a network of experts (or, at least, experienced users) who would be prepared to assist with

"Withholding data solely because it might contain some personal information is not always justifiable, as other protections exist"

a particular program, web application or technique? Any such advice would have to be based on there being no liability for the individual or the Guild and limited in scope (nobody's going to design you a website!). But as the Forum and Wiki have shown, collectively we have enormous skills and through projects like Marriage Challenge have shown that we are often willing to help each other.

Could we provide a broad-based mutual self-help group on IT issues? Let me know your thoughts.

30 Year Rule review

Recently, the Guild was invited to contribute to the UK Government's review of the 30 Year Rule. To those of you outside the UK who may not be aware of it, this is the rule that states that government papers remain secret until after 30 years, at which point they can be viewed at the National Archives unless they are still deemed too sensitive to be released.

But now the UK has a Freedom of Information Act and this means that it is possible to gain access to many present-day government papers. So it is rather odd that the 30 Year Rule is still in place. The Guild's submission can be read elsewhere in the Journal, but the main theme of our response is that Guild members do collect modern as well as older records and need a consistent approach to the release of information.

We also make the point that under European Data Protection and Privacy Laws, individuals have privacy rights even relating to information already in the public domain. Whatever you may feel about the logic of this, it does suggest that withholding data solely because it might contain some personal information is not always justifiable, as these other protections exist.

All of this makes sense as long as Guild members continue to

respect the privacy of living people and safeguard the personal data we may have collected.

LostCousins

Some Guild members will already be familiar with the LostCousins website – I myself have been a member for several years. There are, of course, many websites where you can upload data in the hope of matching data submitted by others. Genesreunited is one of the best known but there are many others.

But we all know that many of the matches that emerge are not matches at all. There were lots of Mary Smiths born in 1830! But LostCousins, by associating data to the precise entry in the 1881 LDS census index provides assurance that any matches found are real "Lost Cousins".

However, until now LostCousins has focused on linking its members with others who are blood-related, and this has meant that those of us conducting one-name studies have not been able to use the site to its full potential.

I'm delighted to announce that the LostCousins site now supports one-name studies and that we have been able to negotiate an exclusive long-term discount of 20% for Guild members. To access this discount enter the code on the Subscribe page at the LostCousins site. Note: if you're not already a member of LostCousins you'll need to register first. You can find the discount code in the Guild website Members' Room. If you have any difficulties in locating it, our "Front Desk" can help on 0800 011 2182.

Furthermore, LostCousins has agreed that until the end of July the discount for Guild members will be increased to 50%, cutting the cost of a 12-month subscription to just £5 for an individual, or £6.25 for a couple. (These discounts cannot be combined with any others that may be offered).

The address of the LostCousins website is:

<http://www.LostCousins.com>

At present, members have to upload data person by person and for those with larger one-name studies this might prove a challenge, but you could reduce the burden by initially only entering heads of households.

Of course, there is no time limit in entering your data. LostCousins fully support the Guild's approach to one-name studies and expect all those qualifying for the one-name study category to respond to any approach from another LostCousins member.

Conference

The AGM and Conference season is fast approaching and this year we look forward to a West Country welcome at Bideford. Janet Few and Chris Braund have been regular conference attendees, so I'm sure they will lay on a fine event and the range of speakers and themes is excellent.

At the AGM, as usual, I will announce the new Committee, but I can tell you now that, as fewer than 15 members stood for the Committee, there will not be a contested election as we had last year.

Farewell to Roy

But there will be some changes in the Committee and, in particular, after 10 years as Journal Editor Roy Stockdill is standing down.

Anyone who has scanned our 100 Journals CD will appreciate just how much improvement Roy has made over the 10 years. Not just once, but on several occasions, he has refreshed the design of the Journal, including changing it from black-and-white to a full colour publication.

As is well known, it has twice won the Elizabeth Simpson award and this achievement has been almost entirely down to Roy's editorial and design skills.

He will be a hard act to follow, but I'm sure you will join with me in wishing him all the best for the future. ○

Supercharging GenMap UK and Surname Atlas to create maps not possible when programs are used on their own

GUILD MEMBERS are familiar with Archer Software's GenMap UK and the Surname Atlas CD-ROM. GenMap UK is a general purpose mapping utility, adept at mapping

a variety of one-name study data which can be geocoded with its comprehensive gazetteer. The Surname Atlas, on the other hand, is limited to performing queries, summarizing data and mapping the 1881 Census.

The most recent revision of GenMap UK (2.2 January 2007) incorporated a few bug fixes, extended the gazetteer to recognise additional census division names and built in the ability to geocode by map reference.

Despite the powerful search features built into the Surname Atlas, have you ever found yourself saying "I wish I could do....."? Well, it is possible to extend the features and functionality of the Surname Atlas through GenMap UK. By integrating the features of both programs you can create graphics that would not be possible when the programs are used alone. Additionally, the ability to map by map reference opens up a new range of mapping possibilities for GenMap.

Export ability

Let's begin with the Surname Atlas's capability to export its tables (the "Copy table" command). Most users apply this function to print reports of their search results. However, why not paste it into Excel, and save it as a db4 file? This file can in turn be imported into GenMap.

What are the advantages

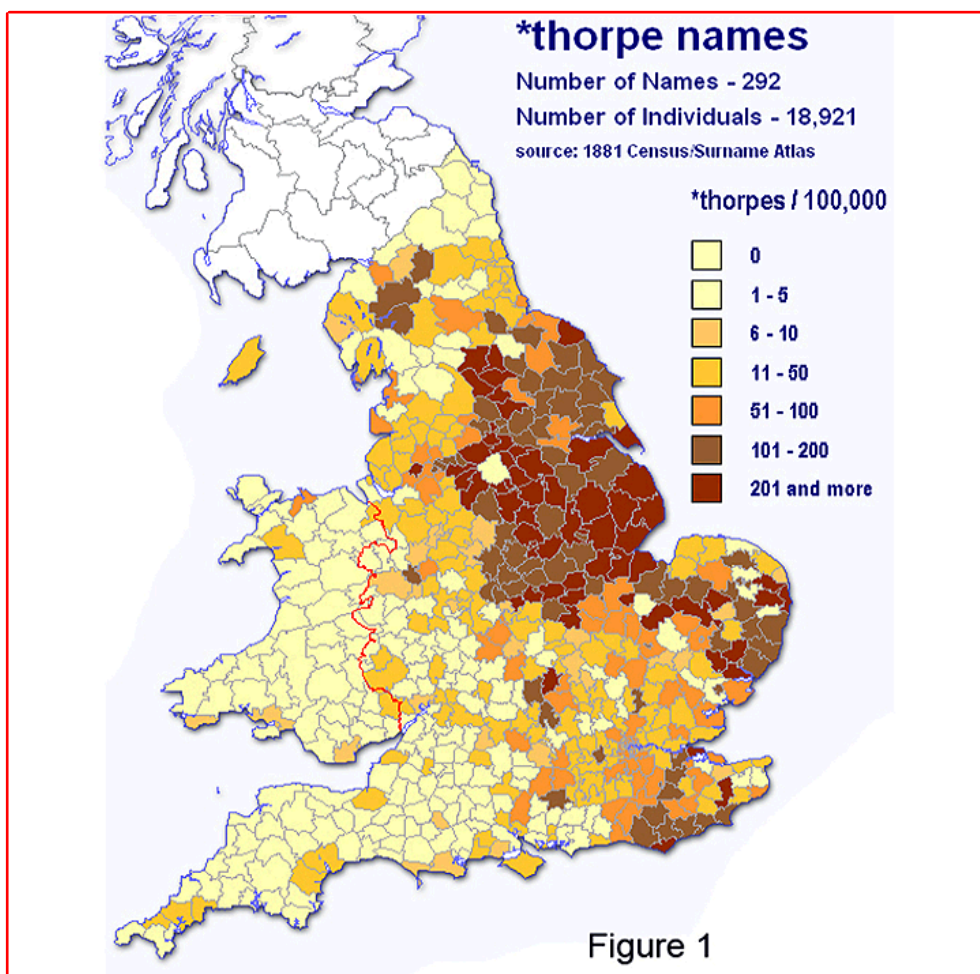
of this process? First, your maps can be viewed full screen in GenMap in contrast to the restrictive window provided with The Surname Atlas. All the same mapping options are available in GenMap, but

they are generally more flexible. For example, the labeling feature in the Surname Atlas is an all-or-nothing option, whereas in GenMap you can selectively label symbols or areas. You also have much more flexibility in terms of map annotation and in structuring the title.

In addition to floodfill maps, GenMap gives you the option of displaying maps with proportional circles. The Surname Atlas is restricted to floodfill maps. While this may seem a minor point, consider that each mapping style has its particular strength and a



By HOWARD MATHIESON



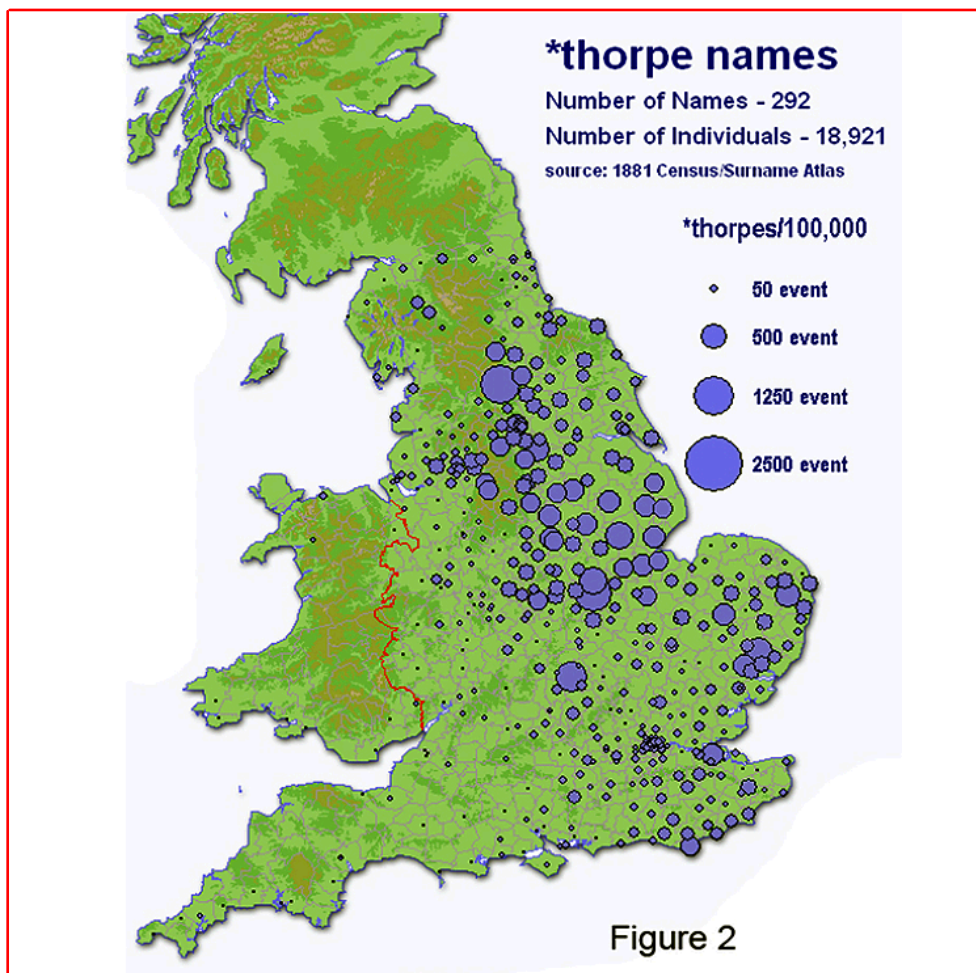


Figure 2

level. You may be thinking that makes perfect sense, but it sounds like a difficult exercise. In, fact it is rather easy using Excel and GenMap. When a search is performed by the Surname Atlas it tells us the value per/100,000 for each geographic unit. It also gives us the same value at the national scale.

In our *thorpe example the national index value is 72.47 per 100,000. The corresponding value for the Pateley Bridge Poor Law Union is 1,129 per 100,000. If we divide the Pateley Bridge index by the national index, a Banwell value of 16 results. This tells us that *thorpe surnames are 16 times as concentrated in the Pateley Bridge Poor Law Union. Why not create this simple Banwell Index in Excel before importing the file into GenMap?

GenMap isn't finished! In the symbols property menu you can set the "minimum

given map can normally do only one thing well. Floodfill maps have the advantage that it is easy to interpret values as each colour represents a range of values. What it doesn't do as well is give as good a sense of spatial distribution. In contrast, proportional symbol maps portray distributions well, but the values are more difficult to interpret.

Advanced query

An illustration: an advanced query of the Surname Atlas for all names containing the *thorpe element produces a table with 292 surnames, including 18,921 individuals. Both maps (Figures 1 and 2) tell the same story but clearly emphasise different elements of the distribution.

GenMap will also allow you to analyse the distribution with a greater level of sophistication. Figures 1 and 2 display the distribution as a ratio /100,000. But what is a significant value? Colin D Rogers addressed this issue in *The Surname Detective: Investigating Surname Distribution in England Since 1086* (P.21).

Rogers suggested using the Banwell Index to measure the concentration of a surname within a restricted geographic area. A Banwell index of one (1) would tell us the surname was just as concentrated in the smaller geographic region (in this case a Poor Law Union) as it is at the national scale. A value of two (2), on the other hand, would tell us the surname was twice as concentrated at the local

event display threshold". The options start at one and go up. Therefore you could display only Banwell values above one, two or three times the national value (see Figure 3 on the next page).

At the outset I mentioned a feature added to GenMap 2.2 that has been largely overlooked. This is the ability to map by map reference rather than by place/parish. This means data – any type of data – can be mapped, providing a valid map reference is associated with the information. Immediately I can think of several practical applications for the map reference function.

Import places

For example, It could be employed to import place names containing the *thorpe element. The place name references can be queried from *The Gazetteer of British Place Names* or Genuki's gazetteer. Both sources list the map reference. The pattern of place references could be compared with the *thorpe surname map or Banwell index map.

One feature that is absent in GenMap is the ability to map multiple layers at the same time. However, if you have access to image software that can handle layers this shortcoming can be overcome. Using this approach, the *thorpe place references could be overlaid on the Banwell Index map, or the *thorpe name map. (see Figure 4, next page)

Have you ever thought of mapping your contemporary study members in order to compare

the present day location with the distribution in the 1881 census?

Dr. David H. Mellor discussed this possibility in the Guild Journal (Vol 8 Issue 8). Due to the proprietary nature of postcode boundary data, electronic mapping with GenMap is not possible. At some point in the future postcode data may become freely available. See New Popular Edition Maps project at:

<http://www.npemap.org.uk/>

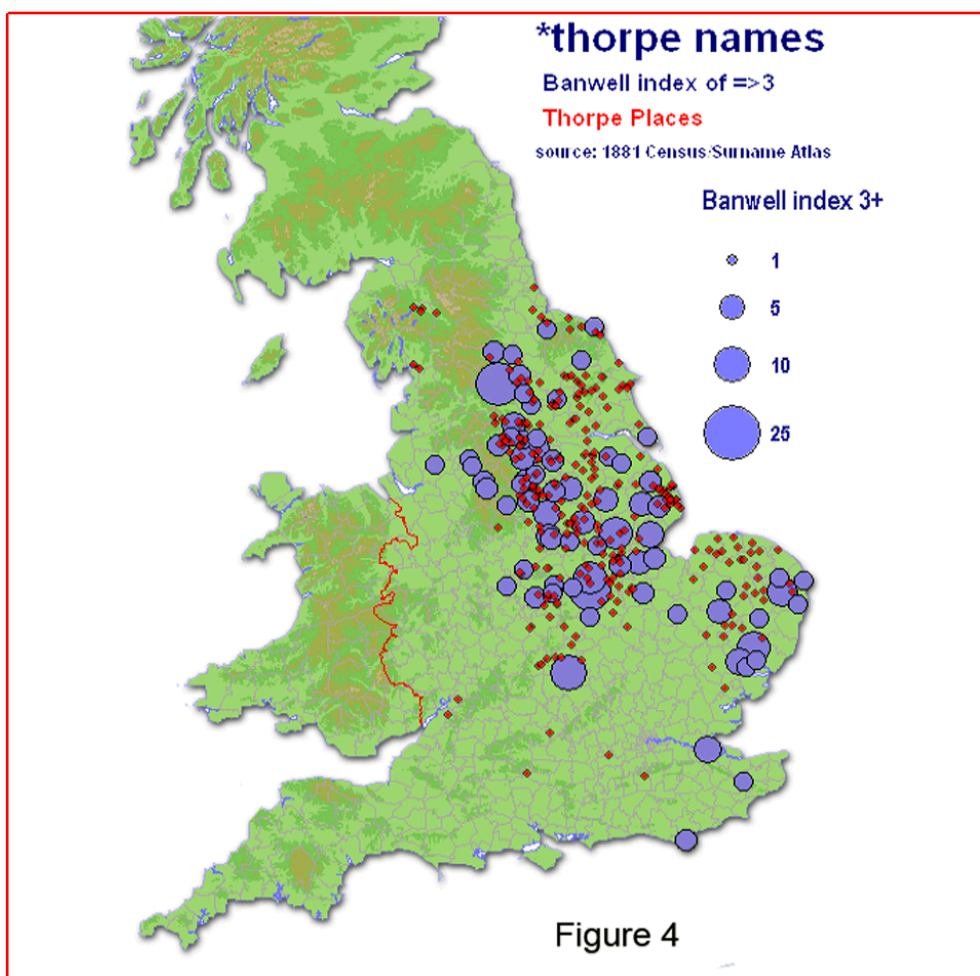
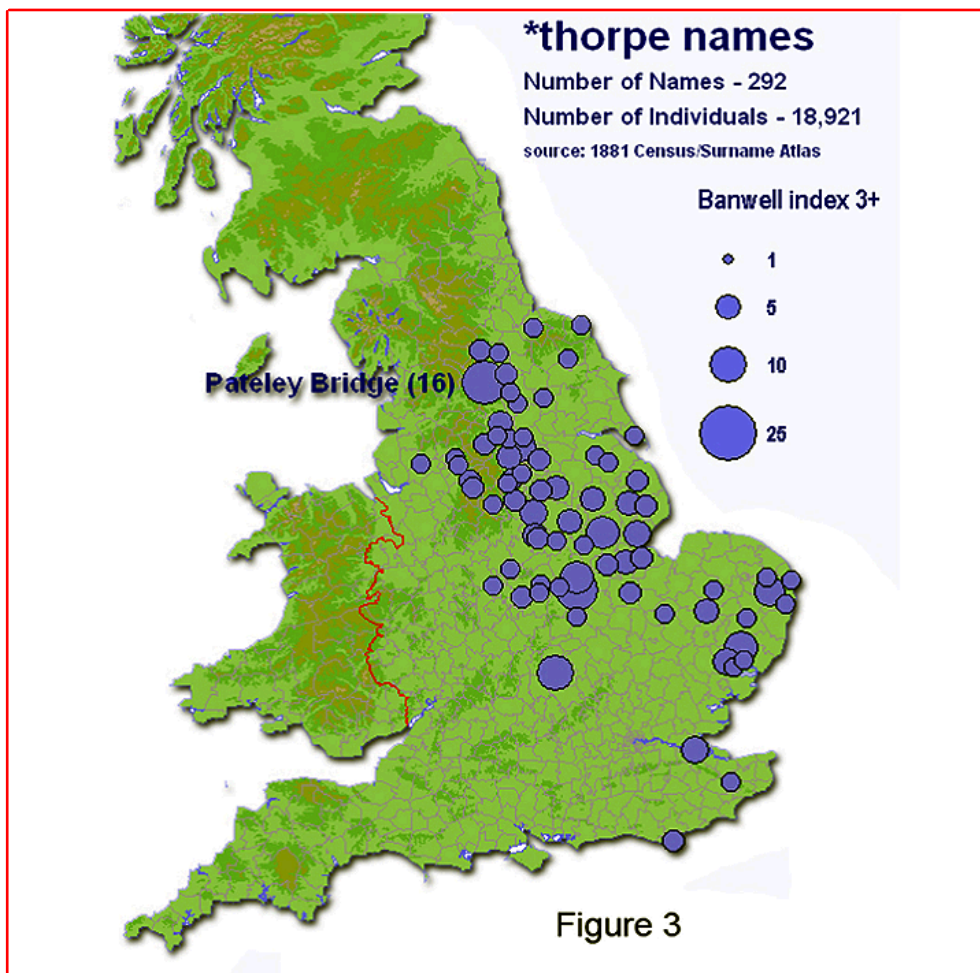
You don't need to wait. It is possible to map postcode locations using a postcode centroid (the geographic centre of the postcode). If you have data in Custodian or another database program that includes the postcode of study members, why not include a field for the corresponding map reference?

Websites such as www.streetmap.co.uk/ will accept a query by postcode and the related map references can be extracted from the site. This value can be used as the centroid of the postcode. Simply cut and paste the values into your database and then map your study by map reference.

Similarly, if you have a DNA study it would be possible to map DNA signatures using GenMap's pointmap/polysymbol style based on the postcode centroid of study members.

In summary, both The Surname Atlas and GenMap UK are valuable stand-alone programs. Used in conjunction with one another, the ability to analyse distributions or to produce powerful graphics for websites or one-name study publications can be greatly enhanced. ○

HOWARD MATHIESON
Member 4328



Have you hit a brick wall in your genealogy research? DNA testing worked for me

Back in the late 1950's my father Charles E T Cotton started research on his Cotton and Reutlinger genealogy. Often it was hard work, since older people did not want to release some family information and much of this was due to surname changes or other reasons, such as to hide past misdemeanours. It was however very rewarding whenever they found some answers.

Let's face it, times were rough in those days and our ancestors, especially mine, went through some hard times.

Through his diligence and perseverance, my father was able to find most of his family back four generations in England to Thomas and Mary Ann Cotton of Kenilworth, Warwickshire. Thomas was born in 1808; and Charlie was able to find most of his other cousins in Canada and the USA.

In the foreword to his family tree, Charlie wrote:

"Two boys were out hiking. When they came to a beach, a small voice whispered to one, 'Pick up a few pebbles and put them into your pocket. Tomorrow you may be both glad and sorry.' Surreptitiously, he gathered a few and hiked on. After camping at night, he put his hand into his pocket and discovered that his pebbles were precious gems."

"If the pebbles I have gathered from the yesterdays give pleasure to someone tomorrow, I rate them precious stones and I am glad that I gathered them, but sorry I did not gather more."

"The effort to find some of the answers to the above question was inspired by a desire to entertain my beloved grandchildren, to whom I dedicate this project."

My father died in 1976 and, in preparation for my retirement, I picked up the reins when I acquired a computer in the early 1980s. With the help of a nephew, Thomas Cotton, who went to England on a holiday, we were able to extend our lineage back several generations, since it seemed those Cottons lived in Kenilworth, married within the area and didn't travel very far.

Over the next few years, with fantastic research from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), both by researching films and visits to their library in Salt Lake City, and with tremendous support of my wife Barbara, my family and the assistance of others, I was able to find my William

Cotton who had married Mary Toone in 1736 in Kenilworth. However, I soon became blocked and frustrated and finally recognised what a brick wall is, since I came up against one, trying to find earlier records on William. I spent nearly 20 years trying to find him and his ancestors. I finally did and with DNA-Y testing was able to extend my lineage back to the 11th century.

I decided I had to change my approach, so decided to start an ONS and I joined the Guild of

One-Name Studies in 1989. My one-name study now consists of over 95,000 records in 10 databases within the PAF5 genealogy program and in WordPerfect format, covering the world.

My first major item with the ONS was to transcribe all the COTTON births, marriages and

deaths registrations from the LDS Index films for England from 1837 to 1910: some 30,000 records, including the records of the British East India Company.

In my employment I travelled a lot and was able to research Cotton records from more than 200 very old books and some 120 volumes of the Visitation Section of The Harleian Society publications. This was done whenever I was in the Washington Library of Congress or the LDS library in Salt Lake City. In each case I would make photocopies of the various pages I found with Cotton information.

Gold mine

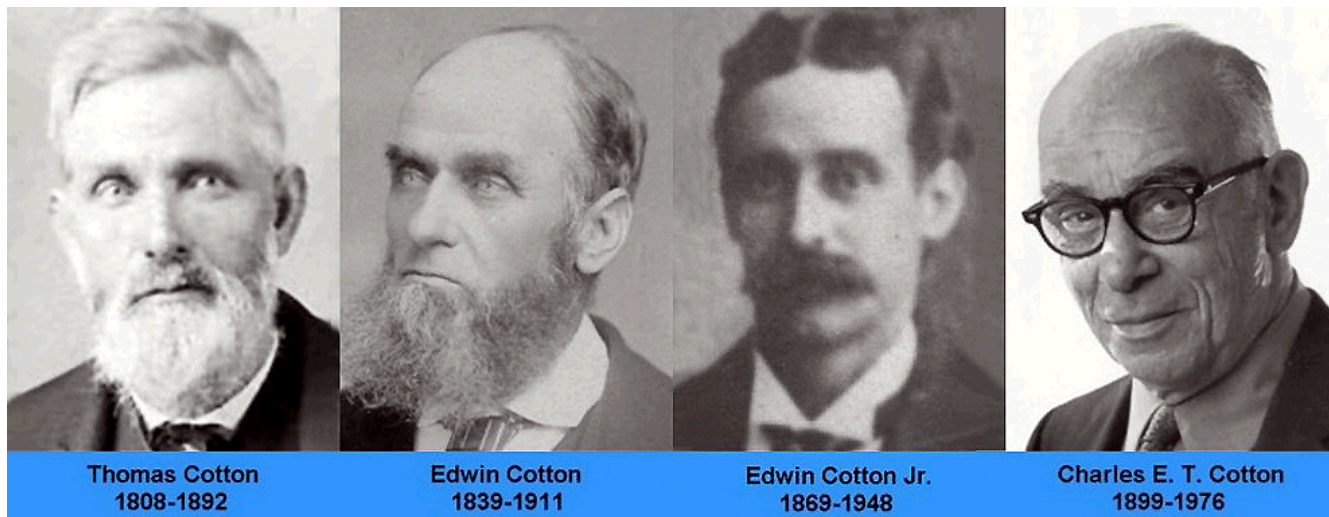
Many of the books have complete family trees, with the names and dates of various children and descendants. Then, the next job when I got home was to input the Cotton data and family trees into my computer databases, usually indicating the source for most entries. I also scoured around for genealogical books authored by other interested persons on their Cotton families. In one case I found a gold mine of 17 boxes of Cotton family records in the archives of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, researched by Frank E Cotton back in the late 1800s, covering many US families. It took me months to enter that into my databases.

The next major item was to transcribe to my computer records from the Boyds Marriage Index films on the Cotton surname in England: some 4,600 records and another 500 in Ireland and Scotland from other sources.

Of course, during this time my own two children



By ROSS COTTON



A line-up of ancestors of author Ross Cotton at the Cotton DNA Project website. Left to right: his great-great grandfather Thomas Cotton of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, great-grandfather Edwin Cotton, grandfather Edwin Cotton Jr and father Charles E T Cotton.

got married, so in between my ONS work I had to research the family history of their in-laws as well, so my personal family history database also became quite large: about 8,000 records.

With later expansion to include other countries, it was necessary to maintain different databases for various parts of the world and they soon stretched out to exceed 10.

DNA testing

All that work didn't help me find my William Cotton, nor his ancestors, and in 2000 another idea came to mind: the emerging technology of DNA, testing of the Y-Chromosomes in the male lineage. Since Mike Cotton, who had previously made suggestions for my research in areas close to Kenilworth, lives and was born in Warwickshire, I asked him if he would agree to have his DNA-Y tested.

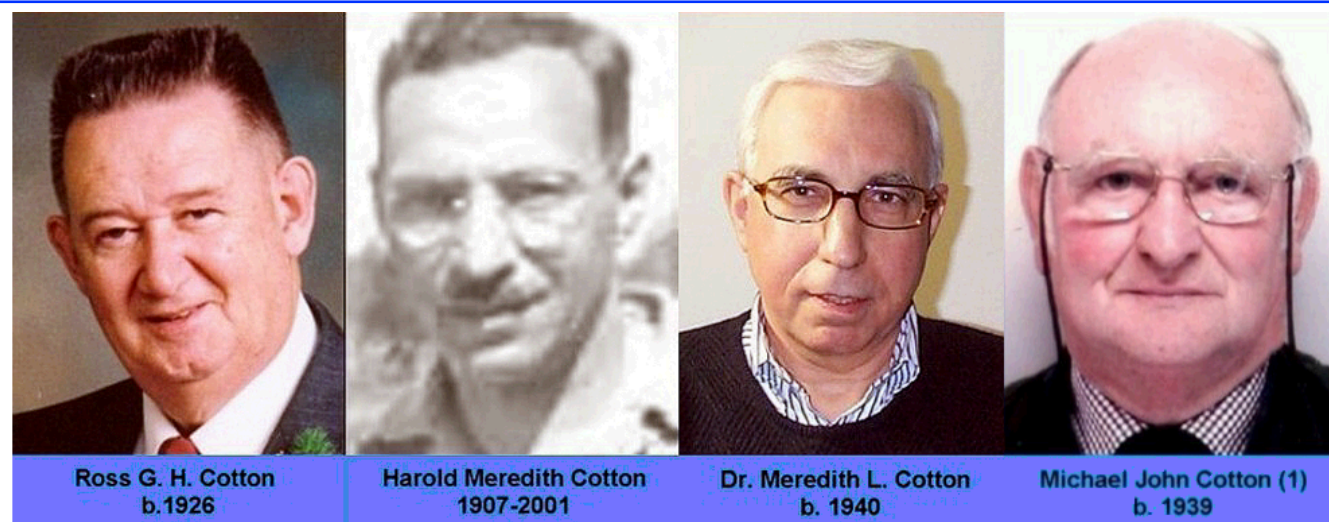
The result was that both of us, even though we

descend from the same geographical area of Warwickshire, have completely different values (Allele) for the various markers (Loci), and this told us we are not related.

We have 25/46 different Allele and, therefore, our ancestors come from completely different areas in Europe. My early ancestors come from the Balkans/Bosnia area, whereas his come from Germany and the Netherlands.

In 2004, having found three more generations of ancestors for my William Cotton, going back to John Cotton, born abt 1610 in Shrewsbury, Shropshire (some 12 generations), another idea came to mind: considering the similar idea of a one-name study and looking at DNA-Y testing of anybody of the surname Cotton throughout the world, I decided to consider a one-name study of DNA-Y testing for the Cotton surname.

Another person who was born a Cotton in the US and changed his citizenship 20 years ago to



More photos from the Cotton DNA Project website. From left to right: author Ross Cotton, his Uncle Harold Meredith Cotton, first cousin Dr Meredith Cotton and Michael John Cotton, of Warwickshire, who is not related at all

Japanese had started on DNA-Y testing of his surname, so we teamed up with some other interested Cottons or Cotton descendants to start a Worldwide Cotton DNA-Y Testing Project.

Still growing

I became the coordinator of the project and, to date, we have close to 100 persons in Australia, Canada, England, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA who have had theirs tested. We are still growing and we hope to expand it to Ireland.

Incidentally, we now know that Mike Cotton of Warwickshire, mentioned above, is a distant cousin of the Cotton who now lives in Japan and who has changed his name to Hikaru Kitabayashi. He is the Webmaster of a Cotton Website and has the most experience in interpreting DNA-Y test results.

There are only three slight differences in the Allele in their test results, which indicates a interconnection of their lineage at about the 10th generation. That interconnection is more commonly referred to as the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA).

What is DNA-Y?

In discussing this subject with people, they usually think that you must obtain a test sample from each person you are related to. Not so. In the bodies of all males, the non-transferable portion of the Y-chromosome (about 95% of the total) is the same as our father, our grandfather, our great-grandfather, and so on. In fact, those Y-chromosomes are practically the same for hundreds of generations with only very small changes or occasional mutations. However the Y-chromosome does not exist in a female body, since a female is given two X-chromosomes and a male is given one X-chromosome and one Y-chromosome. The existence of these chromosomes create not only the gender but is a good diagnostic tool for genealogical research of the male-line relationships.

To take your DNA-Y sample, one receives two or three sterile swabs from the testing laboratory. These are used to brush against the inside of your mouth and teeth, replace them in an envelope provided, sign and seal the envelope identifying it is part of the Cotton Family Project, or other, and then return them by snail mail in the self addressed envelope provided. Within two-three weeks you receive the results back.

The results come as a series of numbers, with each number measuring the number of times a certain strand of otherwise non-essential DNA (known as an STR in scientific literature) located at a certain defined location on the Y-chromosome, repeats itself. Because the DNA which is measured is non-essential (sometimes affectionately referred to as "garbage"), it tells us nothing about the race or physical appearance or condition of the person concerned.

Thus, this type of DNA-Y testing is not to be

confused with the DNA tests carried out for legal identification of persons. By itself, it is useless for forensic or medical purposes, except as a means of eliminating general classes of people. Nevertheless, the ability to eliminate certain individuals or groups of individuals as possible relatives, and to suggest others as distinct possibilities, is of immense value to experienced (and sometimes, not so experienced, such as I) genealogists.

In my search for persons interested in being tested, one of the persons I contacted was Sir Thomas Robert W Stapleton-Cotton, of London, England. He is the 6th Viscount of Combermere and a baronet and his Cotton ancestors came from Shropshire and Cheshire, back in the 1200s. His ancestors are documented in the book, *Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage*, and he is of the understanding – though not proven – that his ancestors came over to England from France with William the Conqueror in 1066.

When one compares the results of his DNA-Y test with those of mine, the values are the same except for four small differences in the Allele values.

The Viscount and I had a common male ancestor possessing the surname, Cotton. Thus, just before my 78th birthday, I found that due to the results of the ONS on DNA testing of my Y-chromosomes, showing a common line of descent with the Viscount of Combermere, my Cotton family of Burlington, Hawkesbury, Montreal, and Sherbrooke in Canada, and before that of Kenilworth and Hunningham in Warwickshire, and then earlier to Shrewsbury in Shropshire, are certainly descended from known persons who lived in the 1100s.

When I asked for an opinion on the DNA-Y interpretation and comments on our ancestors, from a more qualified person than I, he commented: "Your DNA markers are extremely rare for someone of English origin. This would lend credence that your ancestors came from the Continent. What is absolutely sure is that the ancestry of both of you had to have diverged after your common ancestors adopted the Cotton surname. The best guess would be that the ancestry diverged sometime between the years 1350 and 1550". That would indicate our MRCA was about the 14 to 18th generation.

Results comparison

Experience has proved to me that we should request the DNA tests for 46 markers, even though it is possible to test only 12 or 24 markers. When comparing two persons with a 12 or 24 marker test, it has often shown a 100% match, which indicate a very close MRCA. In fact, when those two persons were retested with a 46 marker test the results show the MRCA as being 15 to 25 generations back, thus giving false information.

Our group has created another CottonDNA website, open for all to view and coordinated by the webmaster, David Michael Cotten, in which all the various test results are indicated along with the

researched lineage of that person and in some cases a picture of him for comparison. Our website for you to visit is at: <http://home.comcast.net/~cottondna/>

We show the test results of nearly 100 different persons, most with the Cotton surname, from around the world, and have shown connections between various families, most of whom had no prior knowledge of their connections with each other, and the fact that they are clearly distant cousins.

Interpreting results

The interpreting of test results is still a bit of an art. Test results without genealogical knowledge gained by traditional methodologies are useless. Value is generated by the interplay of traditional genealogy with the emerging technology of genetic genealogy.

For instance, the rarity of my particular genetic pattern combined with a common surname and common geographic origin with the Viscount was conclusive. If my particular genetic pattern had been a common one and the Viscount's surname and geographic origin been different, the four minor differences between the numerical value of the Viscount's markers and mine would not have been minor at all, but would have been quite major.

In order to further refine our knowledge with regard to this relationship, however, we need to find others who belong to this same line of Cottons but who are only distantly related to either myself or the Viscount to participate. It is likely an active search will turn up such individuals and there is a fairly good chance that, as the Cotton DNA project becomes more and more known, other matches will appear.

With each new match, our ability to better interpret the existing genealogical record to the benefit of all concerned will be improved as the various points in time at which divergences would have taken place will become clearer.

Wall chart

Our most recent find is a male Cotton living in New Zealand and we believe his test results will prove that he is descended from Sir Henry Cotton and Anne le Flemming, of Suffolk, in the 1200s. Our findings are based on a large wall chart that I have in my possession, together with a book that was commissioned in 1923 by a descendant, Cecil Cotton

of London. If we are lucky, it will prove to be a connection to Rev John Cotton, the puritan minister of Boston MA.

At least one testing agency has developed a website, with the assistance of Sorensen Molecular Genealogy Foundation (SMGF). DNA.Ancestry is the latest to get involved. The result is that a person is able to input their test results for all markers tested, and the computer will identify the MRCA for many other persons (often of different surnames), that have been tested.

It will include markers compared as well as the percentage match for those markers and then identify the MRCA generations in graph format. We suggest, if interested, that persons reading this article access our CottonDNA website for a better understanding of the results and how comparisons are made to show the interconnection between families of different persons.

Next, we hope some of you with connections to the names Cotton, Cotten, Cottam, Colton or Calton will consider becoming a participant and join our group, with the objective of breaking down your brick wall and extending your genealogy roots back further in time in order to find new cousins, some of whom may be living. If you want further information, don't hesitate to contact the writer, as I would welcome any communication.

Less authentic

Anybody who has done their genealogy knows that as you extend your lineage beyond some 6–10 generations the availability and dependability on the records become less and less authentic and the probability of finding a living distant cousin becomes less and less.

However, with DNA-Y testing it will prove beyond any doubt that the interconnection is there and will identify the estimated MRCA. I hope you have not forgotten to record your sources?

Reviewed with input by:

HIKARU KITABAYASHI

Chair, Department of English, Daito Bunka University, Japan, webmaster of Cotton DNA testing Project.

ROSS G H COTTON

Member 1437

Burlington Ontario, Canada

Coordinator for Cotton DNA Testing Project

"As you extend your lineage beyond some 6–10 generations, the availability and dependability on the records become less and less authentic and the probability of finding a living distant cousin becomes less and less."

From a farm called Pooty Pools to Pettypool – truth may indeed be stranger than fiction

By CAROLYN HARTSOUGH

WHEN THE SURNAME one is researching is comprised of commonly understood elements, it seems that more than the usual amount of speculation occurs as its origins.

Take the surname PETTYPOOL, my mother's family name. A look at the surname dictionaries¹ reveals the quite obvious meanings of "junior," "young," or "small" for the fore part "Petty", while "Pool" denotes "at the pool." What could be simpler? Our medieval ancestor had lived "by the small pool" during the distant time when surnames were developing.

I soon discovered, however, that upon careful review of what already had been written about my 17th century American immigrant ancestor, other researchers more creative than I had supplied a cornucopia of possible etymologies. Most insisted that the family had originally been called Pool² but that the fore part had been appended later, typically for reasons involving potential financial reward.

There was the version, for example, in which there had been litigation between two groups of heirs, the older Pool group and the younger or "petty" Pool group³. The younger group had lost the inheritance, but forever commemorated the loss by retaining the court-applied designation.

Hyphen

In another version, a propertied woman named Petty had married a penurious Pool.⁴ Not wishing to lose her identity in this disadvantageous merger, she insisted that they use the hyphenated form Petty-Pool. In time, however, the hyphen became superfluous and was lost.

Still other suggestions, while amusing, were certainly less flattering. One branch of the family, Francophiles perhaps, believed the name derived from "le petite poulet" or "little chicken".⁵ Another source suggested the derivation could be from "pettipol" for "small head".⁶

In the meantime, I had decided to trace the immigrant ancestor to his overseas origins. Using the International Genealogical Index and Boyd's Marriage Index, I quickly deduced that the Pettypools most likely originated in Essex.

A search of the Personal Name Index from 1500

by the Essex Record Office staff yielded six references for variants of Pettypool between 1364 and 1617, including the spelling Potypole. In addition, the printed Essex Lay Subsidy for 1327⁷ listed a Johanne Podipol in the village of Wimbish.

What came next can be described only as serendipitous. Quite by accident, as I was browsing in the British section at the large university library where I teach, I found the book, *The Place Names of Essex*, by P. H. Reaney.⁸

Not really knowing what to expect, I casually flipped through the index – only to note a farm in the parish of Roxwell called Pooty Pools. What a wonderful surprise! This might explain the curious Essex spellings I had encountered although, as yet, I was uneasy about the reasonableness of such a conjecture.

From that time forward, however, I was of a more prepared state of mind. Consequently, when I next visited my local genealogy library and chanced upon an article in *Genealogists Magazine* called "Surnames derived from

Placenames,"⁹ I sensed that I had struck paydirt. Using Essex place names as examples, the author, the late Dr. F. G. Emmison, described the process by which many surnames had originated from towns or villages, but he wrote "an even larger number...have come down to us from the name of a farm or house."¹⁰

Elated, I was now convinced that I had solved a minor but personally intriguing mystery and forever put to rest the need to speculate about the origins of this particular family name. Pooty Pools, the farm, I was certain, had supplied my ancestral progenitor with our family name.

When I wrote to Dr. Emmison about my findings, he was encouraging but suggested that I try to collect even earlier references. Heeding his advice, I obtained *Feet of Fines for Essex*, a series of volumes containing abstracts of land transactions between 1182 and 1547. For the Easter term of the year 1206, the following transaction was noted:

"Michael de St. Philbert, dem. by William de Boven: Thomas Fitz Abraham, ten. *All the land which Richard de Pudipol held of dem. in Pudipol. Ten to hold of dem. by the free service of 4s. yearly Cons., ½ mark silver.*¹¹ (Italics mine)

This citation is, of course, not conclusive evidence that Richard would have passed Pudipol on to his



sons as an inherited surname. It is clear, however, that as early as the turn of the 13th century, the farm that is now called Pooty Pools had supplied a landholder with a by-name.

All that remained now, or so I thought, was actually to visit Pooty Pools in person. This I eventually did, taking special delight in the apparent pride of the present owners who have acknowledged the name's distinctiveness by painting their barn with a large logo displaying it.

I also spent a bit of time at the Essex Record Office, trying my own hand at unearthing early information about Pooty Pools and the Pettypool family. Although my stay there was too brief to do more than just scratch the surface, I did locate one item of information that adds a final ironic wrinkle to the story.

Curious as to whether the "pooty" part of the Pooty Pools might have a literal referent, I consulted the Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words.¹² To my mild consternation, I discovered that, at least in the north of England, pooty denotes, or denoted in earlier times, "snailshell." The joke clearly was on me. Intent on rescuing the family name from the ignominy of such origins as "small head" and "little chicken," I had instead possibly ended up with "snail pools."

Ah well, such are the hazards of genealogical discovery – but the journey there is surely great good fun. ○

1 Charles Wareing Bardsley, *A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1980), 600, 614; also, Constance Mary Mathews, *English Surnames* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1967), 145, 268.

2 Dr. David Bruce P'Pool, *The Pettypool Family History, Beginning about 1700 AD and down to the present time* (Typescript; Library of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D C, 1960), 2.

3 Ena MacQueen, comp., *Some leaves, twigs and branches of our family tree: MacQueen, McDonald, Jones, Swift, Anderson, Catron, Logan, Burnett, Pettipool*. (Sweetwater, Texas: n. pub., n. d.), 22.

4 Oral interview with Berneeta Pool Gray, January 30 1990 by Carolyn Hartsough, in which Mrs. Gray reported results of her own inquiry to a commercial surname organization as to the origins of the name Pettypool.

5 _____, (Cerulean, Trigg County, Kentucky), May 23 1936, noted in Don Simmons, *Trigg Co. KY Newspaper Genealogical Abstracts, Vol. IV*, (Melber, Kentucky: Simmons Historical Publications, 1986), 33.

6 Dr. F. G. Emmison to author, February 6 1989. Letter in possession of author.

7 Jennifer C. Ward, ed., *The Medieval Essex Community: The Lay Subsidy of 1327*, (Chelmsford: Essex Record Office, 1983), 55.

8 P. H. Reaney, *The Place Names of Essex*, (Cambridge: The University Press, 1935), 265.

9 Dr. F. G. Emmison, "Surnames derived from Placenames," *Genealogists Magazine*, Vol. 22 (March, 1986), 13–15.

10 Ibid., 14.

11 R. E. G. Kirk, ed., *Feet of Fines for Essex, Volume I, (A D. 1182–A.D.1272)*, (Colchester: Society at the Museum in the Castle, 1899–1910), 40.

12 James Orchard Halliwell, *Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words, Vol. 2, J–Z*, (London: John Russell Smith, 1878), 637.

CAROLYN S. HARTSOUGH
Member 4248

Farewell to the Editor's chair after an exciting and satisfying decade at the cutting edge of genealogy



By ROY STOCKDILL

THIS IS MY final issue as Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies after almost 10 years in the hot seat. I assumed the formal editorship in the spring of 1999, but I had been doing the page layouts and sub-editing for several issues previously.

The decade during which I produced and edited the Journal has been amongst the most satisfying experiences of my life. I endeavoured to make every issue not only informative but entertaining, accessible and eye-catching. I hope members will feel I succeeded – well, at least some of the time!

I am especially proud of the fact that the Guild's quarterly flagship publication twice won the Federation of Family History Societies' Elizabeth Simpson Award, in 2000 and 2003 – in effect, back-to-back triumphs, since we were not permitted to enter for the intervening two years – and also achieved a third place in 1999 in only my second year in the Editor's chair.

If anyone cares to look back at the issues in the early years of my editorship and compare them with today's publication, I think they will find there is no comparison. I altered the appearance of the Journal substantially during my editorship, but always subtly and gradually over a period of time. It went from being a black-and-white publication to a glossy, all-colour magazine and I pioneered a changeover in production method from litho printing, using film and plates, to electronic production direct from PDFs.

However, I feel the time has come to achieve a painless handover to a new Editor. It is time for a new hand at the helm, with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. I also want to devote more time to my own personal family researches and my

STOCKDALE/STOCKDILL and WORSNOP One-Name Studies, all of which have been sorely neglected these last 10 years!

When I look back on the last decade I can scarcely believe that, as well as the presentation of the Journal, the world of genealogy has changed out of all recognition. When I first assumed the Editor's



Journal Editor Roy Stockdill receives the Elizabeth Simpson Award for 2003 from the award's founder, the late Elizabeth Simpson herself

chair in 1999, the extraordinary explosion in Internet genealogy had still to happen.

In that same year we glimpsed the future for the first time, with the publication of the 1881 British Census and National Index on CD-ROM. This was followed by a positive revolution, with all the Victorian censuses coming online at various commercial websites and a cornucopia of genealogical data accompanying them. These advances revolutionised one-name studies and took them into a new millennium, bursting with previously undreamt-of opportunities for collecting data worldwide.

The Guild has constantly been at the cutting

edge of this revolution, being perhaps the most advanced family history society of all in respect of computerised and Internet genealogy. We have pioneered a number of advances in this field, especially the Guild Marriage Index (featured on other pages in this issue) and the Guild's Electronic Archives.

The term, "worldwide", also prompts me to mention that, during my editorship, I have always tried to publish material not just from the UK but from every country where the Guild has members. Indeed, it is perhaps a coincidence but also appropriate that this, my final issue, carries no fewer than three major articles from members in North America.

Benefit

The other major benefit I have gained from the last 10 years has been in making so many good friends through the Guild, especially at our seminars and annual conferences. When I attended my very first conference, as a hesitant newcomer, it was a very modest affair at a hotel in Northampton.

Since then the Guild has moved into a different stratosphere, with seminars at prestigious venues and annual conferences attended by numbers in excess of 100.

I want to say a big thank-you to everyone who has contributed to making the Journal a success, but especially to Committee members, both present and past, for giving me whole-hearted support – and for producing their copy on time, even if sometimes it took a little chivving!

I shall, of course, assist my successor in any way I can and I am sure you will all give the new Editor your full support. I intend to be around in the Guild for many years to come yet, so I shall still be seeing many of you at conferences and seminars.

My thanks again to one and all and I wish the new Committee every success in carrying the Guild still further forward to even greater heights. ○

Meet the Journal's new Editor, Keith Bage

KEITH BAGE, 45, was born and bred in Middlesbrough. He is married to Karen, with three adult sons.

He relocated to Ely, Suffolk, 10 years ago and works as a Global IT Support Manager, Ltd, specialising in SAP software.

He first began researching his own family tree around 1993 after his brother-in-law had shown him the work he had done



on his own tree. Says Keith: "I hadn't even

known any of my grandparents and just wanted to find out something about them. Like most of us, after tracing my own line to the early 1700s I hit a brick wall and began collecting other references to the name BAGE, just in case there was a link.

In 2005 I finally took the plunge and joined the Guild (Member 4451) where I am a regular lurker on the Forum." ○

Ninth edition of Guild Marriage Index has nearly a quarter of a million entries – see maps of coverage

By PETER ALEFOUNDER

Guild of One-Name Studies Marriage Index 1837-1911

THE NINTH EDITION of the Guild Marriage Index is now available in the Members' Room on the Guild website. There are 245,846 entries online.

Guild member Steve Archer has used his program, GenMap, to produce the accompanying maps. The large main map on the opposite page shows the coverage of the Guild Marriage Index, relative to population figures taken from the 1881 census.

Ideally, total numbers of marriages in each registration district would be used, but these figures are not readily available.

The smaller map below (left) shows the actual numbers of entries. On the right is the London area in greater detail. Again, the numbers are relative to 1881 population levels.

The effect of Cardinal Points is

evident here. These have been gathered for St Giles, Mile End, Stepney, St George in the East, Lambeth and Camberwell – all the districts shown as having the highest numbers of entries.

Cardinal Points are the first and last marriages in each parish register in each quarter in the GRO Index. A complete set allows the location of any Anglican marriage to be found just from its GRO reference – an invaluable resource for those doing marriage challenges in highly-populated areas.

Lost registers

They have even been used to deduce which marriages appeared in registers destroyed in World War II.

Knowledge of the Cardinal Points (1891 onwards) for the

parishes alphabetically adjacent to Mile End Old Town St Benet allowed the GRO page ranges for that parish to be deduced and added to the Guild Marriage Index as "virtual Cardinal Points".

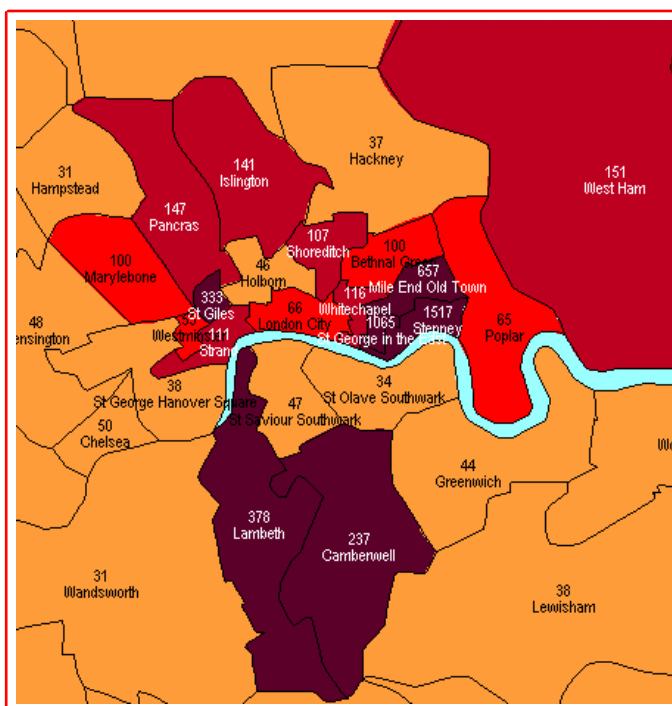
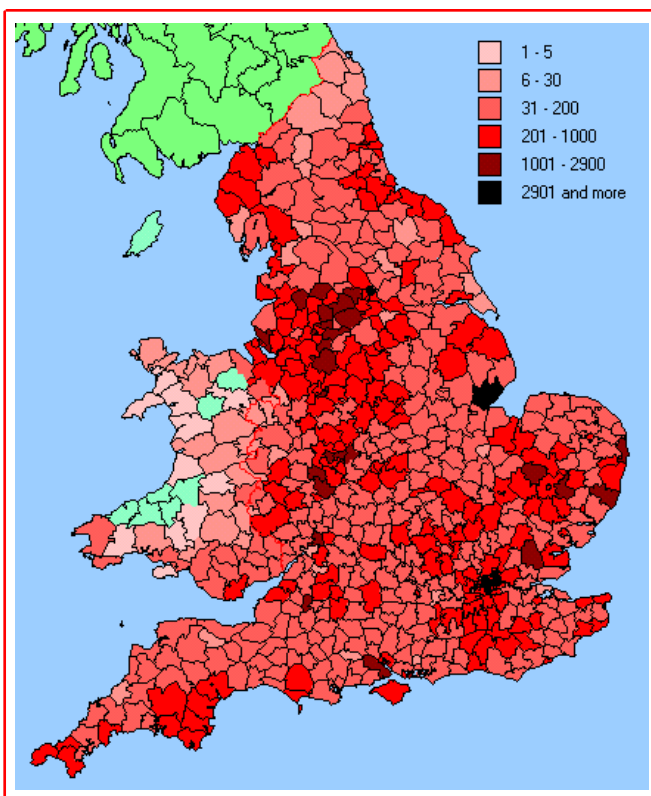
Those looking for one of these marriages can at least find out that they need waste no time searching registers: a certificate will be required. There are now 45,841 CPs in the GMI, 18.6% of the total.

Spreadsheet

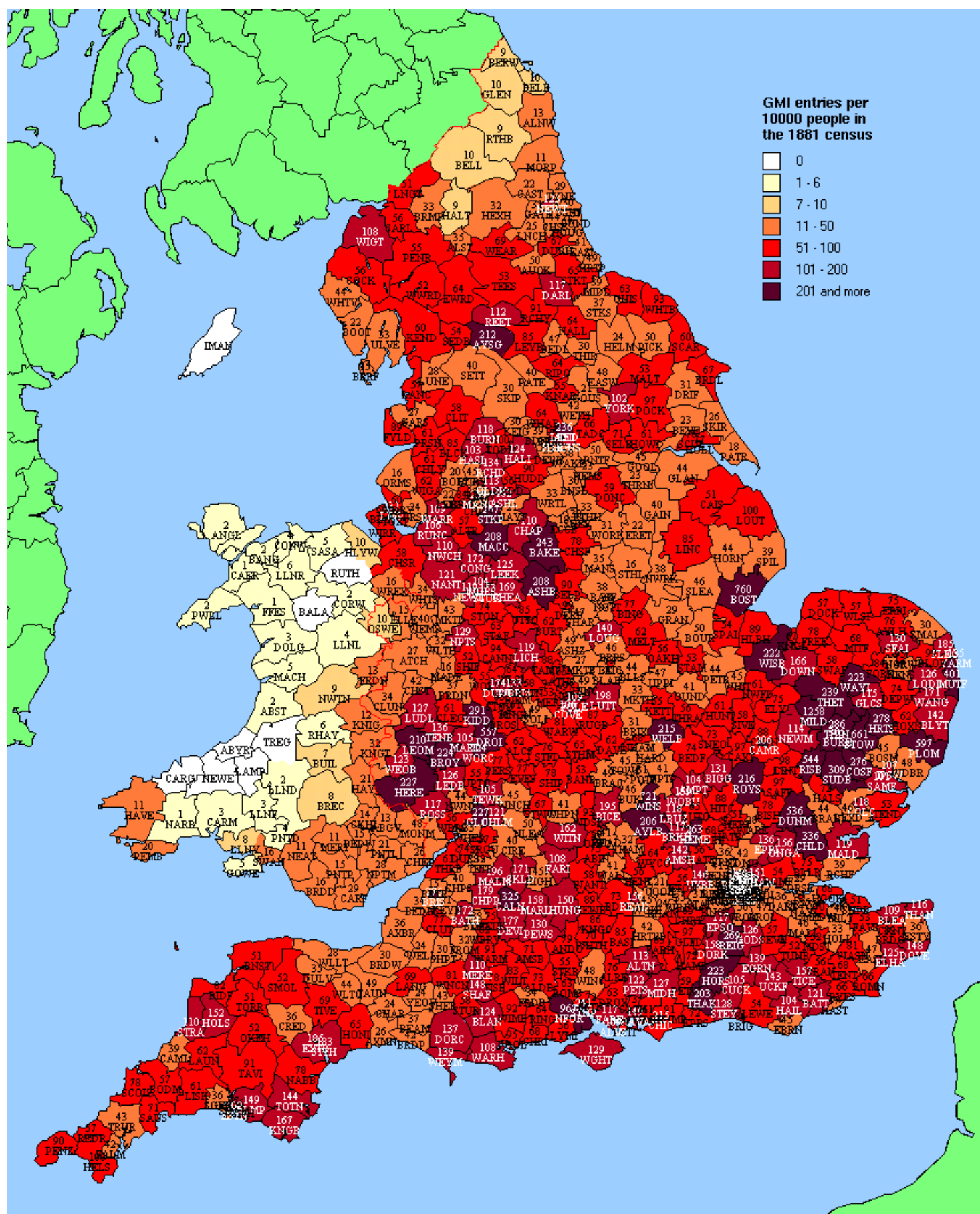
To help in the recording of Cardinal Points, a template spreadsheet file that can be used with Excel or OpenOffice.org is available on the Guild website at:

www.one-name.org/members/GMI/CardPointCollect.html

GenMap is available from the Guild Bookstall. ○



Map, left, shows the actual numbers of entries in the GMI. Above, the London area in greater detail



Coverage of the Guild Marriage Index, relative to population figures taken from the 1881 census. • Map by Steve Archer, using his program JenMap

Guild's Midland Seminar gave a varied and fascinating focus on Warwickshire industry

THE GUILD'S Midland Seminar, at Solihull on Saturday, February 16, proved to be a varied and fascinating programme with a focus on Warwickshire industry, people and places.

Approximately 45 of us were entertained with talks ranging from the cement and lime Industry in North Warwickshire to the Midland Railway, moving through Nuneaton's brickyards, collieries and quarries, via some Warwickshire Crimes and Criminals and culminating in researching local newspapers.

The speakers were knowledgeable and enthusiastic about their subjects. John Frearson (Member 4688) took the first session, describing the cement and lime industry around Rugby and other sites in North Warwickshire.

To complement his presentation he had brought along a very interesting display of posters and other documents, including information about some of those employed by the

BY JANINE BROOKS

industry over the years.

A little-known fact was a pipeline that carries slurry to Rugby from Dunsmore, particularly interesting for me as it runs through the Watford Gap, close to my home.

Railway records

Our next speakers were Christopher and Judith Rouse, who gave an overview of the history and staff records of the Midland Railway. The records contain a wealth of information about the working lives of staff from recruitment to retirement and all stages in between. Christopher reminded us that the Midland Railway staff records can be accessed at The National Archives at Kew.

After a delicious lunch and a chance to view the Guild Book-stall, plus displays on the Parry One-Name Study and a fascinating display of venerable newspapers, we began the afternoon

sessions. The first was taken by Peter Lee, who gave us an insight into Nuneaton Brickyards, Collieries and Quarries, including a number of industrial steam engines.

Next we were entertained by Graham Sutherland, who described several Warwickshire crimes and criminals, some solved, some cold cases. His talk reminded us that our ancestors found enjoyment in the most gruesome of spectacles, the "swing 'em" fairs being just one.

Newspapers

Richard Heaton (Member 3231) took the last session of the day and gave an excellent presentation on using local and national newspapers to put flesh on the bones. He described how newspapers can be a rich and unique source of information for family historians. His display of newspapers was well worth perusing and one even contained information about one of my own study names – it's always worth looking!

All in all, it was a good day and well worth attending. As always, the icing on the cake was meeting fellow one-namers.

Family history can become an armchair hobby these days with so much available online. However, it would be a pity to miss out on the networking that attending seminars provides. ○

JANINE BROOKS
(Member 3471)



Some of the audience at the Guild's Midland Seminar at Solihull

English Palaeography Workshop

**London Metropolitan Archives EC1R 0HB
Saturday May 10 2008 10:00a.m. to 16:30 p.m.
Is Your Surname Obvious ? – for GOONS**

DO YOU have trouble reading the documents you examine?
Are you confident that what you read is correct and can you truly recognise your surname when written in an unfamiliar script?

Stop peering at the past and learn to be confident in your knowledge of English palaeography and the hands used by our ancestors. The Guild of One-Name Studies, in conjunction with the London Metropolitan Archives (LMA), is pleased to announce a study day of lectures and workshops that will help the beginner and the more experienced understand and read more fluently the hands (Secretary, in particular) in use throughout the 16th to the 18th centuries.

The cost of this workshop will be £20 per person. The closing date for applications is April 30 2008. Please use the booking form which is available from the Guild website. If you have difficulties with this please phone the Helpdesk on 0800 011 2182 and a form can be posted to you.

Further information may be found on the website or by contacting Sandra Turner, 2 St Annes Close, Winchester SO22 4QJ, email: seminar-bookings@one-name.org

Future Seminars

August 9

Hands-on Computer Seminar at Durham University.

THE FOCUS is on "Data Capture" from the internet. There will be some presentations and an opportunity to practice, and it is also planned that several of us will be able to share wide experiences of using Excel and other tools to tidy up and manipulate the data tables.

November 15

Pre-19th Century Sources at Poundbury, Dorset.

February 2009

Poster Seminar – London (Date and venue to be confirmed)

WE CAN all learn from each other. Along the lines of international workshops, every attendee will mount a poster or laptop display, either posing a question or plea for help or demonstrating something they feel will be of use to other Guild Members.

Guild Electronic Archive is extended to include members' census data

AS MEMBERS will recall, the Guild provides a facility, the Guild Electronic Archive, for storage and search of certain basic types of one-name data.

Details of the Archive may be found at:

<http://www.one-name.org/members/archive/archive-description.shtml>

The Archive currently allows birth, marriage and death data from England, Wales and Scotland, as well as civil probate records, to be stored.

I am pleased to announce that the Guild Electronic Archive has been extended to support the storage of census data from England and Wales for all censuses from 1841 to 1901.

Storage

The data format to support the storage of census data is much more complex than that for other, existing, data types and space does not permit a full description here. A full description may be found on the Guild website at:

<http://www.one-name.org/members/archive/fileformats.html>

My colleague Roy Rayment, who has worked with me in developing this extension to the Archive, has also kindly agreed to help any members in adding their census data. He may be contacted via e-mail at:

guild.helpdesk@one-name.org or via the Guild Helpline on 0800 011 2182.

PAUL MILLINGTON
Administrator
Guild Electronic Archive

Marriage Challenge Update

Church order often changed in GRO Indexes

IN THE October 2007 edition of the Journal I mentioned the importance of the Challenge finding all the Anglican churches within their selected registration district.

Marriages in Anglican churches are listed in the GRO numbering system in alphabetical order of parish. Marriages in Anglican churches come before other marriages (register office, Non-conformist, Roman Catholic, etc). If there is more than one Anglican church within a parish, the ancient parish church usually comes first, followed by the remaining churches in alphabetical order of dedication. These are general rules and there appears to be many exceptions and interpretations.

Take West Ham Registration District, for instance. The parish order used in 1890 was Canning Town, Forest Gate, East Ham, West Ham, Little Ilford, Leyton, Leytonstone, Plaistow, Stratford, Upton Park, Victoria Dock, Walthamstow, Wanstead and Woodford. In 1891 the order changes to: Canning Town, East Ham, Forest Gate, Little Ilford, Leyton, Leytonstone, Plaistow, Stratford, Upton Park, Victoria Dock, Walthamstow, Wanstead, West Ham and Woodford. It can be seen that East Ham and West Ham were treated alphabetically

as Ham East and Ham West before 1891. Little Ilford remains before Leyton and continues to be treated as Ilford Little; neither

Marriage Challenge



By **PETER COPSEY**

does it take its more modern name of Manor Park.

Key date

The first quarter of 1891 seems to be a key date in church ordering. At that time the GRO must have issued new guidelines to its indexers. For every district that I have examined, there always has been some change to the ordering in this quarter. For Pancras RD, the order of churches found in 1891 has little resemblance to the order in 1890. On the other end of the scale, the change can be minor with only one church moving in position. For Chelmsford, for instance, Highfield Parish Church was moved from its position after Writtle (Highfield was originally part of Writtle) to

its new position after the Hanningfields.

But changes to church order may occur at other times also. Prior to 1885, Canning Town churches were located between Plaistow and Stratford in the West Ham District; I assume because Canning Town was considered as part of Plaistow. In the first quarter of 1885 these churches moved to head the list.

Finding out and understanding the church order in the GRO listing can be fascinating; it is another aspect of Marriage Challenge that adds interest beyond the searching for marriages. It helps Challengers understand the District of their choice and to become experts in the field.

Why not volunteer to become a Challenger. If you are interested and would like to know more about what it involves, please contact me on: marriage-challenge@one-name.org

For more information on Marriage Challenge, see the article in the Journal of October–December 2005.

Below is the list of forthcoming Challenges. All Guild members are encouraged to send requests to the Challengers by e-mail or post (address in Register). Send the information extracted from the GRO Indexes for the named registration district between the years given (Year, Quarter, Surname, First name(s), full GRO reference). Challengers will search for and often find your marriages in the deposited church registers and then send you the full particulars. ○

Registration District and Period	Deadline for Requests	Challenger	Challenger's e-mail
Huntingdon 1837 - 1911	28 th April	Maurice Hemingway	hemingway@one-name.org
Westbourne 1837 - 1911	1 st May	Roger Goacher	goacher@one-name.org
Westhampnett 1837 - 1911	31 st May	Colin Ulph	ulph@one-name.org

S **TAGE ONE (1837–1860)**
of my Portsea Island
Marriage Challenge has
been completed and
results despatched to every mem-
ber who sent me entries, either
by Excel spreadsheet or Word
page, attached to an e-mail, or
by post on the member's pro-
forma.

I received a total of 547 entries, of which 62 could not be found as they were certificates issued by the Registrar and, therefore, not available in the copies of certificates for marriages at Anglican Churches. Registrar's certificates include those for weddings at Non-conformist churches, as well as those performed by the Registrar at the Register Office.

A further eight entries could not be found, although they were all in the same place in Anglican Church number ranges, i.e. between Holy Trinity, Portsea, and St James, Milton.

After sending the results to the eight members, I received an e-mail from one of those members, Terry Pook, to say that his family records show that one of these marriages was at St Paul's Church.

Destroyed

Apart from St Pauls, Southsea, which apparently started in 1931, I could not find a record of a St Paul's Church in the list of holdings for Portsmouth Record Office. However, later that week, when visiting Portsmouth RO to start looking for certificates for Stage 2 (1861–1880), I noticed that there is a note at the top of the page recording their holdings for St Paul's, Southsea, which states that the church and most of its registers were destroyed by fire in 1941.

They do hold some baptism records from 1839 as well as from 1931, but the books containing the church's copies of the marriage certificates from 1839 to 1923 were all lost. The note adds

that copies are held at the Portsmouth Register Office. I understand that the usual fees apply for a copy certificate.

I have been asked some interesting questions by members, ranging from "Where is Portsea Island?" to "Why do you need the details from the IGI entries to find the certificates?" and from "Why have you just sent me back the information I sent you?" to: "As several of my marriages certificates show the same person as a witness, could he be related to so many couples or might he be a person found when the happy couple only brought one relative or friend with them?"



Answering interesting questions about a Marriage Challenge

By MICHAEL BLISS

These have made me realise that a Marriage Challenger should not assume that members have the same knowledge or information available to them as the Challengers! So, to help members understand their results or to assist with subsequent Stages or other Challenges, here are a few answers.

Most of today's City of Portsmouth, Hampshire, is located on Portsea Island, which is separated from mainland UK by a narrow stretch of tidal water. In the 1800s it was a slightly smaller island on which could be found the town of Portsmouth and the Parish of Portsea, which had several hamlets, such as Southsea, Milton, Copnor and Landport, which all grew rapidly during the 1800s.

When the City of Portsmouth was created at the start of the 1900s, Portsea was swallowed up and its hamlets became suburbs of Portsmouth as it is today. Originally, there were two

churches: St. Mary's, Portsea and St. Thomas, Portsmouth. But as the population grew and spread into surrounding land, extra churches were built, including Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Unitarian and Independent. By 1900 there were 35 churches of these various denominations in the Portsea Island Registration District.

Copies

For each marriage at an Anglican church, four copies of the certificate were required: one for the happy couple, one for the church to keep, one for the Registrar Office (RO) i.e. the Registrar for the District, and one for the Registrar General's Office (GRO). At the end of each quarter, the latter copies were sent to GRO and assembled into a certain order: for each district, copies for Anglican churches, in alphabetical order of the places, then other churches, followed by those issued by the Registrar.

Portsea was grouped with other districts in Sussex and Hampshire into Volumes VII (or 7) up to 1851 and 2b from 1852. Bundles for each Districts were piled in order starting with the eastern end of Sussex, working west through Hampshire almost to Dorset. Finally the copies were given page numbers, four marriages for each page number unto 1851, two from 1852.

Hence, for each quarter, low numbers would be for Sussex, higher for Hampshire and within each of these ranges, low for districts on the east side going up to those in the west; within the number range for each district, low numbers for Anglican churches in places beginning with A and higher as you go through the alphabet, going higher for Registrar certificates.

This gives Challengers the ability to trace the place for GRO numbers for each page held in the Church copies at today's

Record Offices. Having sorted all the entries from members into years, quarter and GRO page numbers, the next task is to match the page numbers to churches.

To find the number range for a church, we look at the first and last certificates in that quarter and find the page numbers from the GRO index. This would take a long time to do so for every one. However, if the date and place of the marriage have been found from the IGI or other finding aid, not only finding that certificate, but also converting GRO numbers to churches and dates is made much easier. Hence, supplying IGI dates and places with your entries is a great help to the Challenger.

Mistakes

However, finding a certificate may not be as simple as it seems as several problems can occur, including mistakes by the GRO indexer with numbers, missed entries and spelling errors, mistakes in the FreeBMD indexes used for finding the entries for their names and mistakes by the member in copying their entries for Challengers.

To add to this, there are errors in the IGI and even errors in the sorting of certificates before indexing the page numbers at the GRO. I have tried to point out errors which may have come from members' records, by showing on the results sheet their entry, followed by my notes, followed by the entry which appears on the certificate.

Some members have just looked at the entry they sent me and not moved along the row to find my notes and the details from the certificate and have assumed that their entries

have not been found or I have sent them the wrong file.

Many of the certificates are difficult to read, so I have copied what it looks like, rather than guess. Some of the addresses and occupations mean more to me than to some members, but I have not elaborated or changed the words to make more sense. If you have any questions about what is on the certificates, please ask if you think I may be able to help you.

It is not usual to show the name of the minister, as this does not normally assist in family history research, but some of you may be interested to know that the vicar who performed marriage services at St. Mary's was one W. H. Redknapp. If you are not a follower of the so-called "beautiful game", Harry Redknapp has been the manager of Portsmouth Football Club for several years.

One of the witnesses for many marriages at St Mary's was a W. Hatch. Perhaps you might conclude that he was a church warden or caretaker, or organist etc., but when I tell you that he also witnessed marriages at St Thomas's, Portsmouth, think again.

Registrar

The 1841 and 1851 censuses show a William Hatch as the Parish Clerk and Registrar. Many of you will know that villages with a local council still have a parish clerk today. He may have been a church official as well in his spare time, but I think that he was there because he was the Registrar of the Portsea District, although some couples may have invited him to their wedding because he was a well-known local man and of some standing in the community.

I am now pressing on with finding the 523 entries received for Stage 2. Indeed, I have found 32 already after one visit to Portsmouth RO. However, much of the time spent on this Marriage Challenge is at home on the computer, collecting, sorting and processing information and I still have to prepare the Stage 1 results for inclusion in the Guild's Marriage Index.

So a thank-you to those members who have supplied me with a total of 143 entries for Stage 3. You may have a long wait, as I do not anticipate inviting entries for that stage until the autumn.

Please do not expect an 87% success rate for Stages 2 and 3, as the number of marriages at register offices and Non-conformist churches rose during the late 1800s!

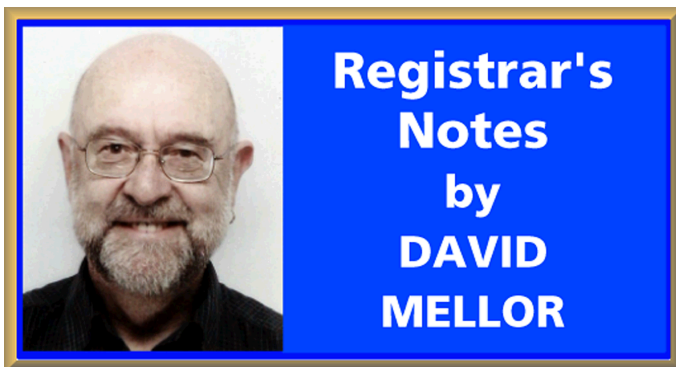
Valuable

Finally, many thanks to the member who have sent me details of websites which contain very valuable information such as GRO number ranges for each quarter for Portsea Island; Steve Scorey for help on the Knightroots site which, incidentally, has not just details of hundreds of entries for Portsea Island marriages but also baptisms, burials and marriages for a large part of southern Hampshire; and to Peter Copsey for his advice and support in times of need.

I am looking forward to receiving any questions or comments readers may have to Michael.bliss@one-name.org or to the address in the Guild Register. ○

MICHAEL BLISS
Member 4515

"Finding a certificate may not be as simple as it seems, as several problems can occur"



Future looks good for one-name studies and constructed trees as more sources will come online

"ONLY connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion, and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer." (E. M. Forster 1879–1970, novelist, quotation from *Howards End*, 1910)

Genealogists love making connections. It is, after all, the basic process we use when constructing family trees. It is what we have trained ourselves to do and what we are good at. However, the genealogist who does a one-name study can become frustrated in the earlier stages of his study as he amasses more and more fragments of data which seem to bear no relationship with each other.

A little help is often forthcoming from others who are researching their own family of the same name and who send a tree to the one-namer to add to his collection. Soon he may have a number of such family trees on file and can often use a little of his amassed one-name data to add to and embellish these trees. Nevertheless, most of his extracted census, baptism, burial, marriage, birth, death, probate, newspaper, migration, military, published, memorial inscription, deeds, taxes, court, education and occupation records data remain unconnected.

Powerful tool

With developments over the last few years, more help is now to hand. I refer particularly to the online publication of searchable indexes and images of the 1841–1901 censuses for England

and Wales, available to a greater or lesser extent from Ancestry, Findmypast, Genes Reunited, Origins Network and The Genealogist; the 1841–1901 Scottish censuses available from Scotlands- People; the 1850–1930 USA censuses available from Ancestry; and the 1851–1911 Canadian censuses available from several free sites.

These are complemented by the indexes of birth, marriage and death registrations for England and Wales 1837–1911-plus, available from FreeBMD and several commercial sites, similar ones for Scotland from ScotlandsPeople and the Social Security Deaths Index for the USA from Ancestry or FamilySearch.

Once the one-namer has extracted all the references to his study name from these sources and has put them in searchable databases, he has created a very powerful tool to enable him to construct reliable family trees, each with several generations within the period 1800–1930.

Tree construction

He no longer has to wait for others who share the same family name as his name-study to be in touch, offering a family tree of possibly doubtful reliability. He can actively start to construct descendancy trees until such time as he has most, or nearly most, of the names he has collected from the various censuses included in one tree or another.

One way of doing this gradually would be for him to take a new piece of information such as a Guild Marriage Challenge certificate, or a new passenger or military record, and

construct a tree using that information as a starting point.

Data from his other databases (e.g. occupation, migration and newspaper records) can then be used to expand, embellish and extend these trees. He will find that he can start to make links between the trees when matches appear in the included names. Once he has used most of his extracted census names to construct trees, he will be in an excellent position to start a DNA study looking for linkages between his constructed trees.

Future promise

The future is full of promise. The 1911 Irish census is soon to be online and we can but hope that the 1901 census will follow. As most of the previous Irish censuses were destroyed by fire or government, these two remaining complete records will be invaluable starting points for Irish trees when they come online.

The ability to extend constructed trees backwards from the period of census and civil registration will depend on the promised appearance online of reliable, comprehensive and searchable records of baptism, marriage and burial for different countries. The current International Genealogical Index is not ideal for this purpose, as it is neither comprehensive or reliable, and the National Burial Index for England and Wales is not comprehensive.

However the future is looking good for the one-namer who wishes to get most of his name references into constructed trees, so that they "live in fragments no longer". ○

Guild NewsXtra

Guild submits evidence to government's review of 30-Year Rule on releasing records to TNA and public

The Guild of One-Name Studies is among those bodies that have submitted evidence to a review of the 30-Year Rule, which covers when government records can be released to The National Archives and into the public domain. Chairman PETER WALKER composed the Guild's evidence and we publish it here for interested members.

THE GUILD of One-Name Studies (hereafter "The Guild") is grateful for the invitation to submit evidence to the 30-Year Rule Review.

• About the Guild

The Guild of One-Name Studies is the world's leading organisation for people interested in or conducting genealogical "one-name studies". A one-name study is a project researching facts about a surname and the people who have held it, as opposed to a particular pedigree (the ancestors of one person) or descendancy (the descendants of one person or couple).

The Guild brings together those with an interest in one-name studies and other forms of surname study (such as DNA projects). Many members register a surname in order to embark on a Guild-recognised one-name study and coordinate world-wide activity in studying the surname.

The Guild is a charitable organisation dedicated to promoting the public understanding of one-name studies and the preservation and accessibility of the resultant information. Founded in 1979, the Guild now has around 2,000 members spread across the world, studying over 5,000 individual surnames.

• Relevance of the Review to the Guild

From its inception in 1979,

members carrying out Guild-registered one-name studies have been encouraged to collect modern references to the surname in question, as well as historic data. So whereas many family historians will be searching for data from the early 20th century backwards in time, our members take an interest in the study of the surname at all times. In 1979, there was far less historic data available than today, so the modern telephone directories, for example, were one of the few publicly available sources from which the geographic distribution of surnames could be inferred.

Because of this interest in modern as well as historic records, Guild members have often been frustrated by the inconsistent closure rules on public records. The situation concerning censuses is well known, but problems arise elsewhere too. We often find that well-meaning civil servants believe that many classes of record should remain closed on the grounds of personal privacy. Sometimes the prevention of "identity theft" is advanced as the reason.

It is perhaps not the place here to state that so-called "identity theft" will never be solved by trying to restrict what personal information is publicly available – in this day and age we all live in a world where much can be

gleaned about each other. Rather, the problem must be tackled by organisations, including government, adopting stronger methods of establishing identity. It is ironic that the Passport Office still asks for sight of one's birth certificate, despite the fact that all such documents now bear the words "Warning: A certificate is not evidence of identity".

Another key point concerning privacy is that the Data Protection and Privacy legislation affords privacy rights to individuals even if the information about them is in the public domain. Many consider this odd, but it does mean that our members must respect living people's privacy even if the information about them is in the public domain. A further complication arises as our members are spread worldwide and collect information from many countries and there is no consistent global view on data protection matters.

• The 30-Year Rule

It seems to us that there are two rather separate issues relating to the 30-Year Rule. One is when departments should deposit records with The National Archives and the other is when records should be publicly available. The former is not one on which The Guild has a view, although several of our Trustees, as former senior civil servants, believe that space constraints rarely allow departments to hold onto bulky paper files for very long.

Making records available, in the era of Freedom of Information, seems to us to be a straightforward issue. The presumption must be that all records, deposited or not, should be available subject to certain limited overriding reasons that they should not be. Indeed, in public administration, and even in the governance of Charities such as us, the watchword these days is "transparency".

Clearly there will always be a need to protect national security and the commercial confidentiality of businesses, but there are

few such blanket reasons for exemption from records being made available. Furthermore, even if the data is considered "personal data", this should not necessarily dictate that the information should remain closed, since, as referred to above, individuals have privacy rights even with respect to publicly available data about them.

Given that this review should be forward looking, it should be recognised that records are increasingly being deposited in forms other than paper. The records themselves could contain non-text information. Making such records available to the public can be a challenge and cost is often quoted as a reason to deny a current FoI request. It is important, therefore, that attention is given not only to depositing records, but also considering how they can be retrieved and made available to the public in an appropriate form. We note that the Government has often used public-private partnerships here, but this sometimes means that people overseas, with little grasp of UK geography and culture, are being asked to transcribe British records and this leads to a poor quality output.

• Conclusions

The Guild supports the view that public records should be transferred to the National Archives as soon as they have no operational or policy reasons for being retained with the originating department. We further believe that the presumption should be that records should always be public unless there are specific identified reasons for not doing so. The fact that some documents may contain personal data is not of itself an overriding factor, as individuals have rights to privacy even in respect to publicly available data about them.

Peter Walker, Chairman
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Treasurer's Comments by CLIFF KEMBALL



THE GUILD has continued to improve the financial management of its assets and further changes are being made to our financial control procedures. You will find included with the April Journal a copy of the Guild Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended October 31 2007.

The Guild has had another very successful year, although, as budgeted for, the reserves were reduced by £6,755 in line with the targets of our agreed policy. The principal sources of the Guild's income are the subscriptions, registration fees, profits from the bookstall sales, donations and the associated Gift Aid refunds, totalling some £57,884. Income from the Annual Conference is broadly matched by the costs of this activity and the Guild aims to subsidise its seminar activities by up to 50%.

The production of the quarterly Journal and the annual Register of One-Name studies continues to absorb the majority of the Guild's income. Additional resources are continuing to be allocated to various projects and activities, including additional look-up services, the Guild Marriage Challenge and the activities of the Regional Representatives both in the UK and overseas.

As a result of my campaign to increase the number of UK members who sign Gift Aid Declarations, the income received from the UK Government in respect of Gift Aid has exceeded £7,000 for the second year running. I have sent off the Gift Aid refund application for some £5,000 whilst writing this article. As a result of my campaign, the number of UK members who have signed Gift

Aid Declarations now exceeds 66%.

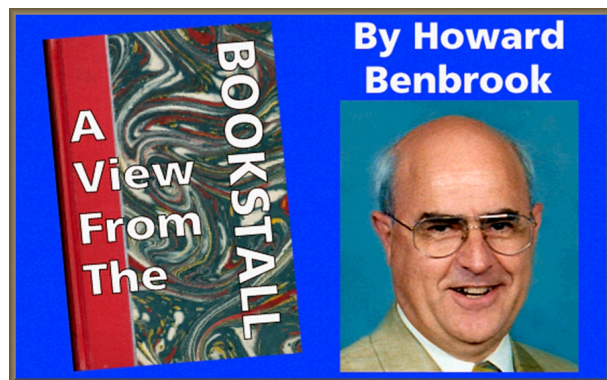
You will see that the Trustees' Report for 2006-07 provides a paragraph on the Guild's Public Benefit, a paragraph that will be compulsory next year as a result of the

implementation of the Charities Act 2006. All activities, services and facilities of the Guild have been, or are being, developed to ensure that they either provide direct benefit to the public or provide assistance to our members to enable them to expand on their knowledge of one-name studies and their own collection of one-name data for the subsequent benefit of the public.

We have set a neutral budget for this year where we plan to match the level of income with the outgoing expenditure. The Executive are developing a five-year budget plan to assist in extending the activities of the Guild and in identifying ways in which future income can be increased to pay for these activities. I am continuing to look at ways of increasing our income and this will involve a review of the level of subscriptions, an assessment of the scope for identifying additional revenue-generating schemes and increased emphasis on generating donations and legacies.

I am keeping an eye on the level of expenditure on governance expenses and I am satisfied that the Guild continues to obtain good value for money for managing the increasing activities. As an example, Committee expenses – the cost of holding the Committee and Executive meetings during the year – fell by over £317 last year to £1,166. In addition, members may be interested to know that Committee members donated some £421 to the Guild last year.

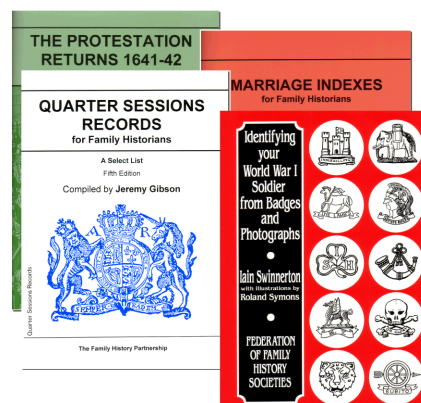
I would, of course, be most interested in hearing from members who have suggestions on how else the Guild can maximise its income. ○



By Howard Benbrook

Wow!
There's a
lot going
on in
family
history

excellent finding aids: *Marriage Indexes for Family Historians*, *Protestation Returns 1641-42* and *Quarter Sessions Records*. They don't exactly exude graphic

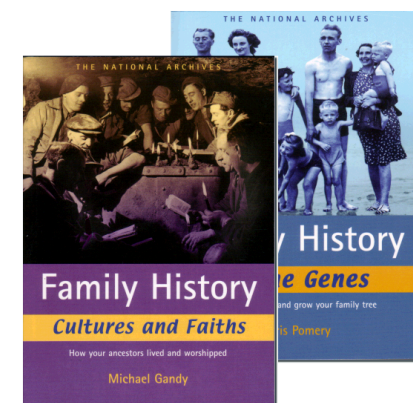


appeal through their cover design but, if it helps to tempt you, here's a pic:

I've been waiting for the new Chris Pomery book on DNA for a while. I'd have ordered more copies of the previous title, but that's out of print. Chris has now joined a prestigious imprint: no less than The National Archives. His new offering is entitled *Family History in the Genes*.

Cultures and faiths

Picking up on the same series, I noticed that my sometime-microfilm-neighbour at the LMA, Michael Gandy, has an interesting new title: *Family History Cultures & Faiths*. Some of you may have been at his talk at a previous Guild Conference. Now, I don't know about you, but this sounds like an excellent subject. It doesn't take long in family history research to realise that our secular age has forgotten the influence that religious authorities had over daily life. Michael's



WOW! THERE'S a lot going on in family history! Is this what they kept telling us about? The demographic shift? Is the "grey pound" an actively growing force and increasingly looking for new markets? Should I, for instance, invest in some Q10 Plus for my wrinkles? Well, I hope someone told them about The Guild Bookstall, because, well, bring it on! I hope your disposable income can stand it.

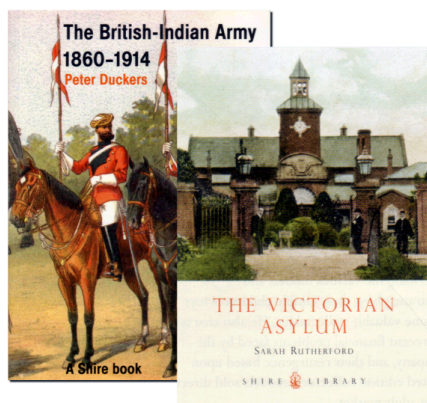
Actually, if you want the commercial bit, this has been a bit of a mixed year so far for The Guild Bookstall. Some events have been disappointing, and some have been reasonable. I think I can say that we've reached a phase, at least commercially, where the market now includes a new group of enthusiasts, most of whom believe that they can find all their ancestry by using the Internet.

They have yet to understand that they need those little books that offer advice and direction, not to mention some kindly tuition from those who have gone before. But some of those new starters will build on their early experience and become the sophisticated buyers in the future.

What's new, what's big?

There isn't anything really big this time, but the delightful little Shire books are getting a make-over. Their new owner, Osprey Books, has decided on a new look for any new titles that come along or existing ones that are up for a reprint. And the new versions will no longer be saddled-stitched (stapled down the centre fold), but will have a spine so

that you can see the title on your bookshelf. Nice, although they've edged in a price increase to go along with the change! I've added a couple more titles from their range: *The British-Indian Army 1860-1914* by the very successful Peter Duckers, and *The Victorian Asylum* by Sarah Rutherford, although that won't be available for a month or so.



Old faithfuls

Goodbye, FFHS hello, FHP. Yes, you may be ready to mourn the passing of the useful little A5 books produced by FFHS Publications, but don't put on those widow's weeds yet. A group of the usual suspects has banded together to offer you comfort and opportunities to part with your money. The Family History Partnership has picked up over 50 titles that were in the old FFHS catalogue. See their website at...

www.familyhistorypartnership.co.uk/

Among them I'm pleased to see old faithfuls such as *Nuts and Bolts*, *A Latin Glossary*, and *Local Newspapers 1750-1920*, but I've also decided to take up *Identifying your WW1 Soldier from Badges & Photographs*, by our very own Iain Swinnerton, and a few more of Jeremy Gibson's

book gives some insight into that world.

Talking the talk

Cardinal Points are cool. Well, I think so and, as I write this, I'm due to talk about them at the Society of Genealogists. I just hope I'm prepared! One interesting aspect is that I've received an enquiry from the LDS to make my handouts available, so that they can put them in their library. What does that mean? Did I stumble on something special? If so, someone needs to tell them the credit doesn't belong to me. Within the Guild, it was Paul Millington who raised the subject and he was working from the research work of Michael Foster (remember *A Comedy of Errors*?). If I can act as an effective messenger, then I'll be happy. It's a powerful tool.

I quite like this new development – giving talks, I mean. Of course, to some this seems to fit neatly with my dalliance in the theatre, but I did spend a long time in the IT world running courses and managing trainers, so I ought to have the experience. If you get to be there at one of my sessions, let me know what you think; and, please, don't be polite! If you liked it – fine. If you didn't, tell me why.

Of course, the biggest challenge with giving talks is having something to say. Once you've done the rounds of all the local family history societies with your favourite peeve or insightful advice, what do you do then? Well, I guess you hunt around for another subject. Suggestions are welcome...

Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE

Remember this last year? Olympia? We were there. It was colossal. The SoG's Family History Show was clearly the main draw, but the numbers from earlier years paled into insignificance compared with the hordes coming through the doors last year. And this year? You guessed it. It's planned to be even bigger. This

time, the organisers, Brand Events, have hired the larger Grand Hall and they're clearly looking for the broader heritage market, with displays and events about Military History and Archaeology, as well as Family History ("One Event - Three Shows"). It's clear they've also splashed out on their budget for celebrity fees, because they've secured the services of Natasha Kaplinsky, Alistair McGowan, Nicky Campbell and Peter and Dan Snow, not to mention the hard-working Tony Robinson (did I tell you that I once auditioned for a part that Tony landed? No, it wasn't Baldrick).



Where we've been, where we're going

Since my last piece, we've been to Barking, Bracknell, Crawley, the Guild's seminar in Solihull, Kidlington and Poole. By the time you read this, the Bookstall will also have been present at the family history fair organised by Cornwall and Devon FHSs in Plymouth. After that it's the Guild's Annual Conference in Bideford (but you'll be there, won't you?), and the following:

- Pudsey Family & Local History Fair
- Pudsey, W. Yorks, Sat April 5.
- Gloucs FHS Open Day, Gloucester, Sat April 19.
- Worthing FH Fair, Worthing, Sun, April 20.
- Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE, Olympia, London, May 2-4.
- Guild Palaeography Seminar, London Metropolitan Archives, Sat May 10.
- Maidstone FH Fair, Maidstone,

Sun May 18.

- Yorkshire FH Fair, York, Sat June 28.

Thanks to all

One of the wonderful things about running The Guild Bookstall is that I get to meet lots of people: members of the public, of course, but also Guild members. I love it when people come up and say hello and tell me they've actually read one of my articles!

Of course, I'm especially pleased to see members who are happy to help behind the tables. Last week, in Poole, I had a real-life hero helping me (Michael Woolrych, GM – you'll find him in the London Gazette)! It's not an onerous task, quite the reverse; actually, most of my helpers tell me that have lots of fun talking to other family historians, explaining what a one-name study entails or signing up a new member. Here and there, we sell a few things. And if you want to join in, you can – just get in touch when we're in your area. Take a look at: <http://www.one-name.org/fairs.html> to keep up to date.

And, of course, I'm grateful to the following members for giving me their support and (I hope) having a good time while they were doing it: Peter Copsey, Roy Rayment, Mike Walker, David & Brenda Horwill, Margaret Young, Ken Toll, Sonia Turner, Barbara Harvey, Denise Bright, Alan Moorhouse, Bonson, Michael Woolrych and James Brinsford. Thanks to you all.

And, while I'm on the subject of thanks, I'd just like to offer a big dollop of gratitude to the ever-tolerant Roy Stockdill, who has both guided and cajoled, but never bullied, me in this regular feature. Thank you, Roy. I hope to continue working with you in the future, wherever it takes us both.

If you'd like to contact Howard about any of the items he holds on The Guild Bookstall or to volunteer to help, you can write to him at bookstall@one-name.org, or 7 Amber Hill, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 1EB, UK. ○

Reviews Reviews Reviews

New genealogy books and CDs

Alderman One-Name Project a model for other researchers

THE ALDERMAN ONE-NAME PROJECT, 75 pages, A4 format, limited edition of 100 copies (available from the author, Bob Alderman, Member 2751).

THIS BOOK attempts to deal with two of the main problems genealogical researchers have to contend with – how to organise all the data and how to write up the results in a form that might be of interest to a wider public. It explains how the first problem has been tackled for the Alderman One-Name Project by reference to the house style used and for the second problem by summarising the data available and summarising the links between the regional family groups so far identified.

Health warning

The model of how a one-name study project can be organised as used by Bob Alderman comes with his own health warning about the commitment required in such an undertaking: "Working on this project feels rather like spending a lifetime struggling to complete a single jigsaw – hugely satisfying but time-consuming, expensive, and

just occasionally tedious".

The structure adopted by the Alderman One-Name Project comprises the following components:

- **Charts** – a set of charts for each family group. There are more than 1,400 charts in the Alderman One-Name Study and the majority relate to one generation.

- **Major databases** – the main databases that hold the project together includes births, marriages and deaths from the GRO,

The Alderman One-name Project



by
Bob Alderman

in collaboration with
Neil Alderman and Mari Alderman

census entries, wills (pre-1858 and post-1858), christening, marriage and burial records from parish registers and, finally, service records from WW1 and WW2.

- **Mini-databases** – capturing additional information that enables many people appearing on the charts to be given a short biography beyond birth, marriage and death and, where

available, adding a little flesh to the bones.

- **Miscellaneous documents** – general documents containing information that would not fit on any of the databases but which is known to be relevant to a particular family group.

- **Correspondents** – this project has attracted 872 correspondents from around the world, who are either Aldermans themselves or have an interest in their Alderman Ancestry.

One chapter explains in further detail the house style used and the Alderman data available and includes interesting tables on the number of charts drawn for each family group, also the number of Aldermans located in each UK census. Subsequent chapters deal with the family connections that have been made so far, the problems of establishing links and finally an analysis of Alderman births from 1837 to 1937.

The book uses an interesting concept of "scraps" to identify information on very small family groups (often just three or four people) whose connection to any of the larger family groups has been difficult to establish. This type of information is given the designation "scraps" until such time as they have been linked to a known family group.

Details are provided of the five major groupings located in Suffolk, Northamptonshire Buckinghamshire, Somerset and Hampshire, the research that has been undertaken and the evidence available to link family groups. This is followed by three smaller unlinked family groups where more research is needed to enable them possibly to be linked to one of the larger groups.

The chapter dealing with problems of linkage looks at a sample of 66 "scraps" that have been connected and 23 that are still unlinked to illustrate some of the problems that have made linkage difficult. The solutions in this book and the failures may offer some research hints that

other researchers may find useful.

The analysis of the Alderman births show the number of Alderman births in each decade, a breakdown of births by family groups, geographical analysis, infant mortality and the level of illegitimacy.

Other one-name study researchers could usefully identify ways in which they could report such information for their own one-name studies. ○

CLIFF KEMBALL
Member 3389

FAMILY HISTORY IN THE GENES,
by Chris Pomery, published by
The National Archives, £7.99.

THIS POCKET book aims to help people use DNA testing to help their family history research. According to the back cover, it includes practical advice, tips and techniques.

However, I find it unclear who this book is aimed at. It suffers from not following its own advice. For example, on page 205 the author recommends: "Diagrams and tables of numerical data can be worth a thousand words". The only table I can find is on page 37 (with one line on page 35). And there are no illustrations!

It is common in sources of DNA information to use diagrams and pictures to convey ideas and I feel the opportunity to clarify meaning has been lost. A clear distinction of Y chromosome, mitochondrial and autosomal DNA at an early stage would have helped the novice.

Success stories

The use of success stories is very good but, again, it would have been helped by some visual image to link the family trees to the DNA results. The opportunity to discuss problems encountered could have been addressed head-on, using these anecdotes from other studies.

For example, the issue of par-

ticipants who did not like the results no longer speaking to the study co-ordinator is a real and salutary piece of information for potential study leaders which I did not find in this book.

Statistical analysis of the results was mentioned but not addressed in a way that would help the reader understand that the interpretation of the results are all based on statistical likelihoods.

Missed

This book represents a missed opportunity to give clear guidance to family historians interested in using DNA studies to assist their investigations.

I would recommend interested readers to buy the author's previous book, DNA and Family History. It is much clearer, well illustrated and, to my mind, more helpful.

CLARE HARVEY

BADHAM DELVINGS: THE SURNAME ORIGINS AND HISTORY,
by Peter Badham, published on
behalf of the Badham One-Name Society.

THIS IS a well laid-out book with an effective use of colour for the maps and illustrations. The subtitle gives you an idea of what to expect and, on the back cover it does not need to state that it is the culmination of 50 years' research because that is

obvious as soon as you delve into the book. From an in-depth study of the 1881 census illustrated with the Surname Atlas software, the author takes the research back to the 11th century, when Badhams owned land in the Welsh Marches.

Hypothesis

The hypothesis is that the name is derived from the Welsh custom of the Ap prefix meaning "son of", but, in this instance, instead of Ap Adam becoming Padam it has evolved into Badham or Badam and a number of other variants. The possible impact of Welsh and English pronunciation is considered in depth. The research has traced men holding the surname who were priests and others with political influence.

The extensive use of various types of maps shows how the families spread outward from their original base in Herefordshire to other parts of the UK and then further afield to all parts of the English-speaking world.

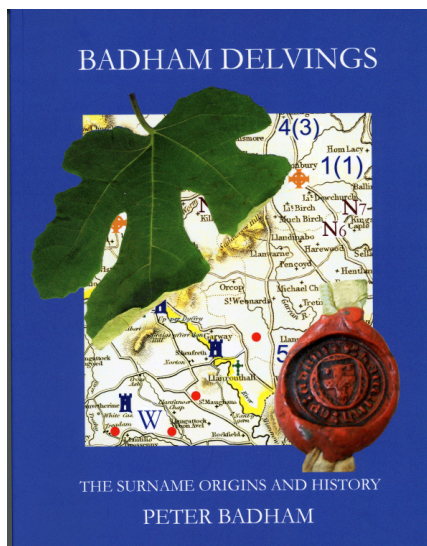
Pilgrimage

The final section, headed "The Great and the Ghastly" considers a wide variety of records, from the Baron John ap Adam's diary which starts with his marriage and ends on the day he leaves on a pilgrimage in 1311, through the vicissitudes of being Groom of the Bedchamber in Tudor times to the transgressors of the law and those who maintain it.

An extensive bibliography is provided, as well as a personal and a place name index. The latter includes places with Badham as part of the name.

The opposite of a coffee table book, this strikes one immediately with its scholarly approach. It is a fascinating book which well merits study in detail. I fully recommend it. ○

BARBARA HARVEY
Member 2616



Reunion report...

Blencowe Association enjoys 2-day event in Oxfordshire

OUR FAMILY ASSOCIATION has been meeting every two years since 1987. Apart from one get-together in Oxford and another in Vancouver, all the reunions have been in the USA. Our American cousins decided that it was high time they came to UK again,

The problem was to get someone to organise it. Peter and Anna Blencowe and their son, Rupert, did all the work.

On Sunday, July 7 2007, some 50 of us met at Marston St Lawrence, near Banbury, Oxfordshire, where the church has many Blencowe memorials. Seven had travelled from America, and two each from Australia and New Zealand.

It was not a Sunday for the regular church service, but Peter is a lay preacher and arranged to conduct a family service. He sent out an SOS for an organist and Wilfred Blencowe, one of the Australian branch of the clan, responded as he is an accompanist, retired in Belgium.

Bellringers

Some years ago the Family Association contributed substantially towards the cost of re-tuning and re-hanging the church bells, so the ringers were happy to greet us with a peal of welcome. A Blencowe led the service, another played the organ and Thelma Blincow, who had travelled with her husband Don from Colorado, read the lesson.

After strolling through the grounds of Marston Hall, occupied for 500 years by the Blencowe family, we headed for the village hall where the local pub provided lunch. We then moved on to nearby Weston Hall, a place of special significance to the family. At the turn of the 17th–18th century it was bought by Sir John Blencowe for his favourite

daughter, Susanna. Her husband died and she lived on there as a widow for more than 40 years. For six generations the house passed from widowed mother to widowed daughter until Sacheverell Sitwell lived to pass on the property to his son Francis and his wife, another Susanna. In addition to the many Sitwell memorabilia (including some of Edith's famous hats) there are Blencowe portraits and fine examples of Susanna's embroidery.

The re-publication of the *Receipt Book of Lady Anne Blencowe*, reviewed in the Journal, had been based on a version published in 1925 by George Saintsbury, a friend of the Sitwells. The original could not be traced; it was not to be found in the Bodlean or the British Library. To our delight, Susanna Sitwell had discovered it lurking on a top shelf of the library at Weston.

Christina Stapley, who produced the 2004 version of the



Christina Stapley beneath the portrait of Lady Anne Blencowe

cookbook, came dressed in a replica of one of Lady Anne Blencowe's dresses. While Susanna Sitwell and her daughter showed groups around the hall, Tina gave talks to the rest of us about the

early recipes and demonstrated condiments and other ingredients of the period displayed alongside the original "receipt book".

On Monday we met for an al fresco lunch at The Dragon School in Oxford, where Rupert Blencowe is a senior member of staff. After lunch we moved on to Oriel College, where we were given a conducted tour by the Librarian, Mrs Marjory Szurko.

Anthony Blencowe was Provost of Oriel from 1572–1618; on his death he left about £1,300 to the College to pay for rebuilding much of the main quad. In recognition of his benefaction, his coat of arms are displayed over the College gateway, in the main quad, and in the stained glass windows of the dining hall. The arms of one of his students, Sir Walter Raleigh, are in the same window. His portrait in the Provost's Dining Room is reproduced in a stained glass window in the College Chapel.

Books

Anthony also left his books to the College and Mrs Szurko had set out a display in the Senior Library, where some are held on open shelves. However, a 16th century atlas of the known world is so valuable it is kept in the College strong room.

A foursome from America travelled north to visit the ancestral home, Blencow Hall near Penrith. The hall has recently changed hands and their visit coincided with a press interview that had been arranged with the new owners. Two ruined pele towers stand like bookends at each end of the 16th century manor house; the house and one of the towers are being renovated to create a guesthouse suitable for small conferences or family reunions. If all goes well, the Association will meet there in a few years time.

During ANZAC Weekend 2008 this April the Association will hold a much larger gathering at Port Macquarie NSW. ○

JACK BLENCOWE
Member 2010

One-Name MAIL

Encouraging response to article on depositing Nonconformist registers at county record offices

I HAVE RECEIVED an encouraging response from several members to my article in the last Journal about rounding up and depositing Nonconformist registers that are still languishing in church safes. Some Guild mem-

bers are already in the process of indexing and depositing registers, while others are now exploring ways of doing so.

As far as Methodist registers are concerned, I have since received a note of support from

Philip Thornborrow, the Church's Connexional Archivist. He says it always has been the policy that registers should be deposited in the local record office when a church or chapel was closed.

Policy change

However, since 2005 there has been an important variation in this policy. Now, closed registers (and many other records worthy of permanent preservation) should be deposited with the local record office on permanent loan even when churches or chapels are still

open. The responsibility for supervising and arranging the deposit of church records rests with the Superintendent minister of each Methodist Circuit, so he/she is the person you need to contact if you suspect that your local Methodist registers have not yet been deposited.

Regulations

Unlike the Anglican Church, there is no legal requirement to deposit Nonconformist registers but if, as in the Methodist Church, there are internal regulations encouraging deposit, then we should do all we can to see they are implemented.

Mr. Thornborrow has kindly sent me the wording of the relevant regulation and schedule of recommended retention periods for Methodist records, and I will gladly send copies to any member who is interested.

COLIN ULPH
Member 501

Website move – change of search URLs

THE GUILD website moved to a new system on March 4 2008.

One of the results is that some URLs have had to change. If you have posted a "search-type" URL on to another website, for instance on to your own website or to a FamilyTreeDNA website, you should be aware that "cgin" has now changed to "cgi-bin". For instance, the URL:

<http://www.one-name.org/cgin/surname.cgi?find=smith>

should now be...

<http://www.one-name.org/cgi-bin/surname.cgi?find=smith>

Apologies for the inconvenience, but this change was unavoidable.

ANNE SHANKLAND
Member 1554
Website Manager

Cover feature

MY WIFE, Cheran, and I are avid marriage challengers. Having been fired up by one of Peter Copey's earlier articles in the Journal and having benefited from challenges carried out by other members, we decided to do our bit for the Guild by offering our services at the beginning of 2006.

The registration district we chose first was Steyning, mainly because it was the one that covered the area where we live. We quickly received an offer of help from fellow member Marion Woolgar, which we gratefully accepted and proved invaluable.

However, we soon regretted choosing Steyning as our first challenge because we found its parish registers are spread over two county record offices. Steyning covered not just the small West Sussex towns and villages we had expected but also a large chunk of Brighton and Hove, which were then in East Sussex. So our research had to be done at both Chichester and Lewes.

Although this added somewhat to the challenge, we found, and still find, marriage challenge to be a highly enjoyable and satisfying experience. We have since completed challenges for Worthing, East Preston and Thakeham, and overall have found 84.8% of the 864 marriages that Guild members were seeking. With a few notable exceptions, the Anglican marriage registers we needed for the years up to 1911 have all been deposited at the appropriate record office. Not all have been filmed or fished, so sometimes we have suffered the time-consuming process of ordering and waiting for original documents.

The main satisfaction comes from finding the marriages that other members request – the "Eureka" factor – and so it follows that we feel frustrated when we fail. After studying the page numbers and "cardinal points", we usually have to conclude that the missing marriages took place in either the register office or in a non-conformist church. The latter category includes Roman Catholic, Jewish, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and probably other denominations that were around before 1911. Why, we wondered, are nearly all Anglican registers deposited but not those of the non-conformist churches?

Regulations

Registers of Anglican churches are the subject of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure, passed by the General Synod in 1978. This stipulates that a Diocesan Record Office (usually the county record office) should be designated for each diocese. All non-current registers over 100 years old must be deposited there, as well as all other registers in which the earliest entry is more than 150 years old.

However, it seems there are no similar regulations pertaining to non-conformist registers, so these precious documents are held or deposited at the whim of the church, chapel or denomination concerned. Consequently, very few get deposited at a secure, central site where you and I can easily consult them.

As a member and preacher of the Methodist Church, I felt rather ashamed to discover that West Sussex Record Office held virtually no registers for the Worthing Methodist circuit which, over the years, has embraced some 16 places of worship and still has ten. As a regular user of the record office I felt I needed to do something about it.

I soon found out that several registers were still lurking in church safes, despite having been "dosed" many years ago because they were full. It transpired that, as far as marriage registers were concerned, there was a printed instruction on the first page of each register directing that they should be retained in the church safe and ministers over the years had interpreted this as being for ever and ever – Amen.

Guidance

In the early days of my enquiries, Guild member Marilyn Marshall drew my attention to some guidance just released (in 2007) by the Connexional Archives Liaison Officer of the British Methodist Church. This stated that the archivist for each Methodist District has responsibility to advise where Methodist archives should be deposited. It went on to say that "for church and circuit records this is usually the local authority record or archive office which covers the area of the main circuit church". Suitable records for deposit "would usually include completed baptismal, marriage and burial registers", plus other items such as minute books and membership rolls. The guidance concluded with the following paragraph detailing why records should be deposited:

"To survive, records need to be stored in very well regulated environmental conditions which cannot be maintained in a church or home. Record offices also usually have special arrangements to guard against fire and flood and to rescue any records should such an event occur. They also have the facilities to allow researchers to use the archives."

So, armed with this valuable ammunition, my next step was to speak to our Circuit Superintendent, the senior minister, who agreed unequivocally that such important records should no longer be kept in church safes and gave me authority to round them up and deposit them at the record office. Of course, I undertook to give each church a formal receipt for any registers surrendered to me and to

Rounding up registers not in the County Record Office



By COLIN ULPH

Colin Ulph's article, *Rounding up registers not in the County Record Office*, in the January–March 2008 Journal

Blencowe family celebrate with two-day reunion in Oxfordshire homeland



MEMBERS of the Blencowe Family Association enjoyed a two-day reunion in Oxfordshire, where they visited a number of houses and places closely associated with some illustrious Blencowe ancestors. Attendees came from the USA, Australia and New Zealand, as well as the UK. For a full report on the celebrations, see page 30.

Journal of One-Name Studies
April–June 2008
Quarterly publication of the
Guild of One-Name Studies
ISSN 0262-4842
£2.00 when sold to non-members

