

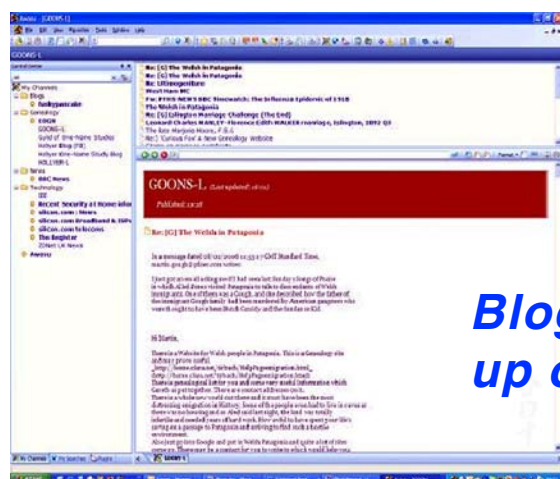
# Journal

## of One-Name Studies



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

# Surname Profiler – a website that asks "Where do you think you are?"



Part 2 of our special feature  
on a one-name DNA Project

*Blogs and Wikis and RSS – are you  
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All the latest Guild news of seminars, events and projects

# Guild

## of One-Name Studies

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A LIST of Regional Representatives  
of the Guild in a number of UK  
counties and overseas can be found  
on the inside back cover of this  
Journal. If you are interested in  
becoming a Regional Rep, please  
contact the Regional Representa-  
tives Co-ordinator, Sandra Turner  
(address and phone number on the  
inside back cover).

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

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## From the Chairman's keyboard . . .



By  
**PETER WALKER**

# Resolutions are passed in 46 per cent turnout vote on new Guild Constitution

**I** make no apologies for returning to the subject of the Guild's Constitution. I am pleased to report that the membership approved the new Constitution, with the two resolutions being passed with 98.4% and 97.5% of votes cast respectively being in favour, well above the required 75%.

Forty-six per cent of members responded, which is a good turnout as postal ballots go. What difference will this make? Well, to the ordinary member none of these changes will immediately affect you, but it will allow smoother management of the Guild by its Trustees. The Finance and General Purposes Sub-committee will now merge with the Executive Sub-committee to form the new Executive. No longer will all Officers automatically be considered ex-officio members of all sub-committees, which can sometimes be seen as an unwanted burden on the Officers.

### Recruiting

But it does mean that we need to recruit more general members to assist with the Guild's sub-committees. Yes, I know I have mentioned this before, as have other Officers in their columns, but it remains true that what the Guild can achieve is limited only by the volunteers that come forward to help, be it assisting with the Seminars, Publications or Marketing Sub-committees.

Of course, volunteers are already assisting in other ventures, such as Marriage Challenges, the e-library or even contributing to the new Guild Wiki. In recent years we have expanded the range of services offered to members. In most

cases, these started with an idea from an individual, which then caught others' imaginations and went on to be formally adopted as a Guild project or service.

### *Who Do You Think You Are? swamps GRO again*

**ONCE AGAIN, the interest of the general public in family history has been stimulated by the second series of *Who Do You Think You Are?* And once again there is a long backlog at the GRO for certificate issue, as more people catch the genealogy bug.**

What might this mean for the Guild? First, there is no such thing as a purely educational TV programme. Lord Reith's dictum about the BBC being there to educate, inform, and entertain may still be true, but many programmes, like this one, want to wrap all three concepts together. So it would have been good to tell viewers that it's a good idea to join a local family history society or check the Guild Register for your surname, but realistically this was never going to happen. No matter that you can order a certificate online from the GRO's website – it's far more televisual to have the subject visit the local registrar and collect the certificate in person, especially if it can elicit a few tears. But there

were some useful points made, such as how families were forced to migrate from rural unemployment to the grim northern mills to find work. We also learnt that the surname Paxman is probably a deliberately fabricated one.

But overall, whatever the criticisms, we should be glad our hobby has had some TV exposure. If it stimulates more people to take up family history, it has to be good for us all. That said, we neither hope for nor seek new members for the Guild from these programmes. A one-name study is not for the beginner and not to be taken on lightly, but we do hope it will generate more contacts for existing members. Indeed, this point is important.

*Perhaps in the past we have promoted the Guild on the basis of promoting the idea of joining and taking up a one-name study. Now we see our marketing challenge as being as much about promoting your studies and highlighting how you may be able to assist others. In turn, you get greater insights and information into the recent history of people with your registered name.*

**Many of you will have been saddened to learn of the tragic death of Marjorie Moore. Aside from her many other contributions to the genealogy world, such as the Society of Genealogists and local family history societies, she was the Registrar of the Guild from 1988–1990. An obituary appears elsewhere in this Journal. She will be missed by many.**



# March of digitised online genealogical material continues to gather pace

LAST TIME, I mentioned Ancestry's release of the 1851 census index with accompanying images. Since then, Ancestry has launched a beta trial providing access to images of the GRO BMD index pages. Like the existing 1837online service, it is not fully surname indexed but points to pages where your selected name might appear.

There are lots of errors and missing pages, but it is a remarkable resource since it is free. Whether this will continue when it is formally launched we have to wait and see. It would be very odd if it did remain free and would cause severe concerns for 1837online, which provides a similar service for a fee. Also, sites such as Family Relatives have surname indexed the BMD indexes for 1866–1920 and very useful this is, even if you have to pay.

Where is all this leading? The Office for National Statistics has announced that the digitisation of the historic BMD indexes is to go ahead and it will not just digitise the existing indexes, but add the useful information we rely on in the more recent ones. So it will contain the age at death for death registrations, mother's maiden name on birth registrations and surname of the other party for marriage registrations for all records from the very beginning, the September quarter of 1837. Good news indeed!

In a competitive market, we can expect to see much of the essential information being available to us at low cost. Fees will still be charged but this will be increasingly ploughed into the digitisation of more obscure sources for which we may yet be prepared to pay significant sums. The Guild, through its representatives on various bodies, promotes the interests of one-namers who have to collect large amounts of data about a single name. We are

not always successful, but our volunteers are helping you all gain better access to records.

## DNA Group

*SUSAN MEATES's article in the last Journal on DNA Projects caused quite a bit of interest among members and those of you on e-mail, will have seen the questionnaire I sent out on her behalf with my Newsflash 12, seeking information on members' existing projects and thoughts about starting one. Her second article appears elsewhere in this Journal. I have asked Susan and a small group of volunteers to form an ad-hoc DNA Advisory Group, initially to advise the Committee about what the Guild might do to promote and support members with such projects. The group cannot offer individual advice at this stage, but this is clearly a subject we need to embrace and many of us look forward to two DNA talks at the Annual Conference in April.*

## Newsletters

LAST quarter I mentioned members' newsletters. Many of you have been sending the Guild your newsletters for a long time. But we have no library premises, so you will be aware of our plans to create a digital library. Our former librarian John Colloff tells me some members are still sending their newsletters to him. If you are one of these, please would you now send them to our Secretary, Kirsty Gray? Ideally, we would prefer them in electronic format, as then they could, with your agreement, become part of our e-library. If you don't know how to create a newsletter in digital format, such as the preferred PDF format, the Guild can advise and help you with this – contact the e-librarian Colin Patrick or myself. You need to let us know whether you are sending

newsletters merely as a safe archive or whether we can copy and distribute to others. The point of a digital library is that you don't loan out the physical artefact but send a digital copy of the item, so we need your permission. Finally, if there's anyone who would like to be the Guild's physical librarian and look after our small stock of books and material we won't be digitising, please let me know.

## FFHS

WE ARE a member of The Federation of Family History Societies and over the years there have been close links between us and the FFHS. Alec Tritton, a past Guild Chairman is the current Chairman of the FFHS and many others have served both "the Fed" and the Guild. Each year, we appoint a committee member to act as our representative to the FFHS – this has been Peter Copsey during 2005/6. As part of reviewing its future, the FFHS is asking all its member societies to answer a questionnaire. This questionnaire is also open to all members of member societies, so if any Guild member is interested in expressing a view about what the Federation has achieved or needs to do in future, please feel free to complete the questionnaire at:

**[www.ffhs.org.uk/Societies/Reference/Future.shtm](http://www.ffhs.org.uk/Societies/Reference/Future.shtm)**

You will be answering as an individual Guild member, not speaking for the Guild as a whole, so feel free to express your own views.

*It's conference season again. Without doubt, the Guild's Conference is the highlight of our year and I hope to meet many of you at Yarnfield. Kirsty Gray has organised this year's conference and I'm grateful to her and her team for putting together such a varied and interesting programme. ○*

# DNA testing of tremendous value in sorting out variants in my one-name study

By Susan C. Meates



**I**N THE last issue of the *Journal* (January–March 2006) SUSAN MEATES, one of the Guild's American members, related her extensive work on a worldwide DNA Project as part of her Meates One-Name Study. In this second article, Susan describes more of her investigations. She also relates how DNA Projects are producing more information for one-namers.

THE FIRST part of this article covered the start of the DNA Project, through the testing of the surnames Meates and Meats for all family trees worldwide, and the surname Mates for those trees that go back to Ireland. Testing had just begun for Mate and Mates family trees that go back to the UK. All these test results were for 25 markers.

At about this time, when the Mate and Mates of the UK started to be tested, the vendor, FamilyTreeDNA expanded their product, offering to include a 37-marker test. These additional markers were expected to provide more differentiation between family trees. Since the vendor provides 25 years of storage with each test, it was easy for the participants to upgrade without requiring another test kit. This feature was also invaluable for deceased participants, such as my brother.

The results at 37 markers was very interesting, as shown in the chart below:

The important mutations, which are called a defining mutation, are the mutations highlighted in yellow. These mutations occurred in the distant past and signify major branches off the ancestral tree.

Since all the participants, such as all the Meates of Ireland, have the same result for a marker, such as the 20 shown in yellow, why is this considered a mutation? The ancestral result for each line or family tree is compared to the ancestral result of the progenitor of the surname, which is shown above the dashed line in Table 1. The result for the progenitor of the surname is a calculated result, which takes into account the result for the participants in the project with various variant surnames, as well as results for other surnames, with whom these participants are related prior to the adoption of surnames.

## Faster rate

At 25 markers, the ancestral result for the progenitor of the surname is easy to calculate, and can be done from participant results. The additional 12 markers in the 37 marker result mutate at a faster rate, and it is difficult to determine the ancestral state for the progenitor of the surname. For this reason, the results from other surnames with whom these lines are related prior to the adoption of surnames are also used.

The one mutation shared by all the Ireland Meates and Mates shows that they all descend from

### Ancestral Results at 37 Markers

Ancestral	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Ireland Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Ireland Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	15	14	16	19	35	35	12	10
Ireland Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Ireland Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Ireland Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Ireland Mates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
UK Meats	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	19	33	35	12	10
UK Meats	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	19	33	35	12	10
UK Meats	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	19	33	35	12	10
UK Meats	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	20	33	35	12	10
UK Meats	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	15	19	33	35	12	10

Table 1 – Ancestral results at 37 markers. Mutations that were resolved as occurring in current or identified generation are not shown. By removing the mutations that occur in current generations from consideration, the analysis becomes easier since ancestral results are compared

one man who lived after the progenitor of the surname. Most likely, the man who migrated to Ireland had this mutation. The mutation occurred either with his birth, or a prior generation. If we find the mutation in any other trees, we will have a clue as to where to attach the Ireland Meates/Mates to the ancestral tree.

The Meats also all have a defining mutation, a different mutation which is also highlighted in yellow. This defining mutation shows that all Meats descend from one man who lived after the progenitor of the surname. The surname Meats is first found in Derbyshire and later in the other counties.

Green mutations are suspected to have occurred in recent generations, but there are no surviving males to test to determine if this assumption is correct. The mutations in blue are expected to have occurred in the last 200 years, plus they are suspected to be parallel mutations, where the same mutation occurs in two different family trees.

## Ancestral homeland

As the testing of Mate and Mates proceeded in the UK, research was undertaken to find the ancestral homeland for the Meates of Ireland. Starting with the 1881 UK census and working back in time, frequency distributions of the various surnames were prepared. The surnames included Mate, Mates, Meates and Meats. The results were inconclusive. From parish register data, frequency distributions were then prepared for the surnames Meat and Meate. The results clearly and overwhelmingly indicated Staffordshire.

A study of Staffordshire parish registers showed Meat and Meate families who seemed just to disappear, especially during the late 1500s and early 1600s. As I read through one parish for about the 20th time, it seemed to me that the Meate family that was there from 1561 to 1599 might have become Meyott after the curate change in the early 1600s. The other possibility is that the family moved out of the parish and the Meyott family moved into the parish, just as the curate changed.

Following the Meyott family further forward in time, it then seemed that this family was turning into Myatt in the 1700s. Could Myatt and Meates really be variants?

I decided to DNA-test five random Myatt males from different Myatt lines. Two of the participants currently resided in Staffordshire and three were in the USA. Of those in the USA, one had no idea of their origin, and two thought their family tree went to Staffordshire.

The test results showed that Mate, Mates, Meates, Meats and Myatt are variant surnames! As a

result of this discovery, the DNA Project was expanded to include testing of all Myatt lines. The discovery regarding the Myatt surname also has a downside – the Myatt population in the 1881 census of Britain is far greater than the Meates/Meats/Mate/Mates population. Therefore, the DNA Project includes the Myatt surname, though my one-name study does not.

Testing the various Myatt lines is providing very interesting information, which will later be helpful to determine how the different lines of Mate, Mates, Meates, Meats and Myatt connect to the ancestral tree. Some Myatt lines have defining mutations which will provide more information about the ancestral tree, once all Myatt and Myott lines are tested. In addition, one Myatt line has a different result and is not related. This DNA test result could either indicate that the surname evolved from two origins or an illegitimate birth or informal adoption occurred in the past. An answer wouldn't be found until many more Myatt lines are tested.

Further study of the Staffordshire parish registers has shown a slew of variants, including Meot, Miot, Miat, Mayte, Mete, Meote, Meyott, etc. Most of these variants did not survive to the present day.

Research in early records show the earliest recording of the surname in 1281 as Mayot. In the 1300s and 1400s, the surname appears stable as Mayot, Mayott, and Mayote. In the 1500s many different forms of the surname arose, including Meate, perhaps as a result of the Great Vowel Shift.

## Managing a DNA Project

As a DNA Project Administrator, I have access to pages at the vendor's website which provide tools to help me manage the project, such as a list of members and a Genetic Distance Report. Another valuable tool is the analysis for the time frame of the common ancestor. For example, the Meates of Ireland were shown to be related to each other within 300 years at 37 markers. When comparing the Meates of Ireland to one Mate line of England, the time frame is most likely within 400 years.

The recent announcement of the Genographic Project by National Geographic and IBM should make it easier to recruit participants to a DNA Project. The Genographic Project is open to any participant anywhere in the world, and will be extensively marketed by National Geographic, including media coverage. In the short time frame since the project was announced on April 13, 2005, over 100,000 public participants have purchased a test kit.

The primary objective of the Genographic Project

### Results for Meates and Myatt

Meates	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	20	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10
Myatt	12	22	15	10	13	15	11	14	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	8	11	24	16	20	29	12	14	15	15	10	10	19	21	14	14	16	19	34	35	12	10

Table 2 – results for Meates and Myatt, showing they are variant surnames



is to test over 100,000 members of indigenous populations around the world in order to map the migration of ancient humans. The project is also open to public participants.

DNA testing has provided fascinating information about the evolution of the various surnames in my project and more information will be discovered as testing continues. From the testing performed so far in the DNA Project, combined with genealogy research, it has been determined that there is a large group who evolved from the surname Mayott in Staffordshire. The Mayott surname evolved to many different forms and stabilised to the forms Mate, Mates, Meates, Meats, and Myatt. These forms have been confirmed with DNA testing.

## No match

The Meates in London and the Meates in Wales don't match each other or any one else. Most likely, these two forms represent an evolution from a different origin. A DNA match will be found eventually for these two family trees. At the current time, the Mate and Mates trees of England are being tested looking for a match, and testing has begun for Matt and Matts trees.

As the numerous Myatt and Myott family trees are tested, I expect to be able to determine if there were multiple origins for the surname, or an illegitimate event or an informal adoption.

Testing of Mate and Mates family trees globally is moving along. Mate and Mates are surnames with multiple points of origin in multiple countries, so multiple different results were expected. At the end of the project, it will be determined how many different origins occurred. The Miot and Miott surname is also being tested, as well as the Mayot and Meat surname of France. In the case of Miot, the results have been helpful in sorting out the records in Colonial South Carolina, where both the surname Myatt and Miot are found.

## Conclusions

DNA testing has been of tremendous value to my one-name study, and has provided information about the evolution of the surnames that I would not have figured out from the records alone. Testing has also helped my family history research, such as determining the prior surname and location for families that migrated, and with sorting out unrelated families in the same location.

DNA testing is also an excellent tool to identify mistaken connections in a family tree. Due to the frequency of the Myatt surname, several mistaken connections have been identified in contributed family trees.

Combining the knowledge from DNA testing with the genealogy research has provided many fascinating discoveries. The testing provided proof that Meates and Myatt were variants. We now know all Ireland Meates/Mates descended from one man who lived after the progenitor of the original surname.

We also now know that all the Meats are related and descended from a man who lived after the progenitor of the original surname. Knowing that the Meates of Wales aren't related to any Meates or variant is important knowledge to prevent mistaken connections when tracing their family tree back in time.

## More to come

There are still many more discoveries to come. Here are just a few questions waiting to be answered...

- What was the prior surname from which the surname Meates evolved for the Worcester/London family tree? Was it from Mate or Mates, which appear to have multiple origins around the UK? Or was it from Matt or Matts?

- Are there two points of origin for the Myatt surname?

Are those with the Myott surname related?

- Did the surname Mates also evolve from any Matt or Matts lines?

- Are there any other forms of the surname that evolved from Mayot?

- Are any of those with the Meat surname or the Miot surname in France related?

***DNA testing has been of tremendous value to my one-name study. ○***

For further information

Article about the Meates DNA Project:

[http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts\\_genes.asp?act=show&nk=3.6](http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts_genes.asp?act=show&nk=3.6)

Website: <http://www.meates.org>

Vendors:

FamilyTreeDNA.com

Relativegenetics.com

DNAHeritage.com

Genographic Project:

<http://www5.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/index.html>

Free monthly educational newsletter from

FamilyTreeDNA:

<http://www.familytreeDNA.com/fgregister.asp>

Past Issues of the FamilyTreeDNA newsletter:

[http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts\\_genes.asp?act=past](http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts_genes.asp?act=past)

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## Opening up a whole new area for one-name studies

DNA TESTING opens up a whole new area of information for one-name studies. This powerful tool can be combined with traditional research to significantly increase the knowledge about a surname. In addition, DNA testing can identify any incorrect prior beliefs or conclusions about the surname.

DNA Projects are being set up by genealogists every day. Several Guild members have reported that they discovered a DNA Project already established for their surname. This situation creates a dilemma for a Guild member. Do you join the

proceed and take advantage of participants who find the project.

Establishing a DNA Project is also important because it provides project pricing, which is lower than retail pricing. The vendors typically have a minimum number of participants required to establish a DNA Project. In the current market climate, you should be able to negotiate to eliminate the minimum number of participants.

### Cost

You may think that the cost of DNA testing is an obstacle. Research and acquiring documents also has a cost, which may not be as obvious if it is spread out in small amounts. In addition, many participants will pay the cost of testing, and donations can be raised to help fund the cost of tests for key participants.

Your recruiting skills will improve over time, as well as your confidence level in asking an acquaintance or stranger to pay for their test. You will convince the person to participate by providing information and benefits to motivate them to purchase the test. Often, participants outside the UK will gladly contribute funds to test UK persons, in the hope of finding their ancestral homeland.

The marketing by the DNA vendors and the Genographic Project by National Geographic, as well as media stories, are bring DNA testing into the mainstream. These efforts will bring participants to your DNA Project over time.



existing project as a spectator, try to get involved as a co-administrator, or set up a another project at the same or a different vendor?

What if the existing project isn't being run with adequate research standards or the conclusions are incorrect, or perhaps even the variants established for the project aren't correct? These situations can complicate the decision process as to your course of action. None of the solutions identified above are ideal.

To prevent this situation from occurring, Guild members can establish DNA Projects for their surname. This can be accomplished with a minimum investment of time. This approach will work even for those who want to move slowly into this new area, and don't have a lot of time to invest. Establishing the DNA Project will enable others to find your project.

There is no requirement that you invest time and recruit participants, though you will need to be prepared to deal with participants once they find your project. One way to view establishing a DNA Project is that you are reserving the surname, so you don't discover in a year or two that a project has already been started. The project can then

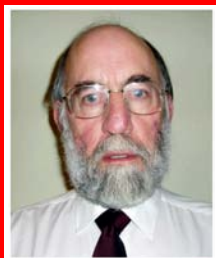
The DNA testing industry is in its infancy and it is important to select a vendor with care, and consider all the factors. There are many factors involved in selecting a vendor - it is not as simple as the cheapest price. A few of the factors are: price, sample storage, product mix, number of markers, marker mix, database size, participant tools, administrator tools, customer service and scientific track record, to name a few.

Price is a factor, though only one of many, and most likely not the most important factor. To me, sample storage is the most important issue. My project started with a deceased participant and several of my participants have also died, yet their sample can participate in future scientific advances. This is very important for the last male for family trees or major branches. For my participants their tools are the most important, such as automatic inclusion in the database and match e-mails where they are notified of new matches. Happy participants recruit other participants.

**Scientific advances are occurring rapidly. Family Tree DNA just announced the availability of 59 markers and reduced their prices on some products, including the 37 marker test. ○**

## Focus on the Roseblade One-Name Study...

# A detective story – a Roseblade link between Goodworth Clatford, Hampshire and Siddington, Gloucestershire



**By MIKE  
WALTON**

**T**HE EARLIEST ROSEBLADE record I have to date is a lease for three lives, dated September 4 1354, to "John Roseblade and Alice, his wife, and Margerie their daughter", of a cottage and curtilage in Laverstoke, Hampshire. My records then pick the Roseblades up again with a series of parish register records in Hampshire, almost all of which were at Goodworth Clatford, near Andover, from the mid-1500s to the late 1600s, after which the name seems to have disappeared from Hampshire until the late 1800s.

A concentration of Roseblade records then appears in South Gloucestershire with a series of parish register records, almost all at Daglingworth, from the mid to late 1600s.

The earliest Gloucestershire Roseblade record I have is the will of William Roseblade, dated 1640, which describes him as a yeoman of Siddington and in which he leaves bequests to "Susan my eldest Daughter", "Else my Second Daughter" and "Margaret [my] therd daughter". He makes "Jone my Wife" his executrix "not doughting but that she will [bring up] my other two small Children in that godley.....". A Giles Handcox witnessed William's will.

### Missing registers

The parish registers for Siddington seem to be missing and there are no other Roseblade records in the bishop's transcripts for 1578–1812, apart from a marriage between Marie Roseblade and John Handcox on January 21 1641 [*Dates in this article are new-style, i.e. January 21 1640/1 is shown as January 21 1641*].

So did "Siddington William" move to Gloucestershire from Hampshire?

The only records of William Roseblade baptisms I have which are earlier than 1640 are from Goodworth Clatford, Hampshire (see Appendix). There were three potential "Siddington Williams" born

there at about the right time:

- William No. 1 was baptised in 1573.
- William No. 2 was baptised in 1590.
- William No. 3 was baptised in 1607.

A William died at Goodworth Clatford in 1590 but children with a William as their father were being baptised there from 1600. One possibility is that William No. 2 died in 1590 as an infant and that William No. 1, who could have been aged approximately 27 when the first of these children was baptised, was the father of these children.

### Potential

That leaves Williams No. 1 and No. 3 as potential "Siddington Williams" – so which of them, if any, was he?

A William, whom I assume to be William No. 1, married Suzane STRONG in 1599 and their first recorded child was Suzanne who was baptised in 1600. This couple then had the following children baptised: Jeane 1601 (bur 1602), Phylipe 1603 (bur 1603), Als 1606 and Margaret 1609.

So far, so good. The three surviving children tally with those named in the will. But there are two more young children mentioned in the will. Are these, too, the children of William No. 1?

There is then a gap of 18 years before a Joane (1627) and a John (1629) are baptised. So, were these more children of William No. 1 or are they children of the later William, William No. 3?

To make progress, I worked on the assumption that William No. 1 and Suzane ceased to have children after the birth of Margaret, who was baptised in 1609, since there seems no reason otherwise for the potential gap of 18 years. Also, Susan would presumably be approximately 50 years of age in 1627, and that Joane and John, therefore, were the children of William No. 3 and his wife (name as yet unknown). Susan, "wife of William" (No. 1?) was buried in 1631.

### Assumption

I then noted that a William had married Joan SMITH in Hurstbourne Priors, about six miles from Goodworth Clatford, in 1633 and again worked on the assumption that this was William No. 1 remarrying, as it would fit with the death of Susan in 1631, with the baptism of Mary in 1634 (below) and, on the basis of the foregoing analysis, William No. 3 had married earlier and he and his wife were having

children baptised from 1627.

There are then two more baptisms...

- William, son of "William the Younger" [William No. 3?] in 1633; and...

- Mary daughter of "William the elder" [William No. 1?] in 1634.

Why has the person making these entries in the parish register made the distinction between the two Williams when the same was not done in the case of the baptisms for Joane and John?

If my previous assumption that William No. 1 (the elder) and his wife Susan had ceased to have children is correct, then the father of John and Joane (William No. 3) was obvious to all in the village at the time and there was no need for the person who was completing the parish register to give any more detail. However, in 1633 William No. 1 married again and, with his (younger?) wife, fathered another child, so that there were now two Williams baptising children.

William No. 3, his wife and their three children then moved to Hurstbourne Priors where in 1637 William No. 3 was buried.

William No. 1, the only William still in Goodworth Clatford, and Joan then had a further child, George, who was baptised in 1636.

This would then leave William No. 1 with three daughters – Susan, Alse and Margaret (baptised in that order) – a wife, "Jone", and another "two small children", Mary and George. This fits the 1640 Siddington will perfectly!

## Options

If Mary is the Marie who was married to John Handcox in Siddington in 1641, then there would seem to be two options. The first is that she was baptised some time after her birth and might have been the illegitimate child of William No. 1 (or another father) and Joan Smith, and was already living when the marriage between William and Joan Smith took place.

The other alternative is that Marie/Mary was remarkably young at the time of her marriage – not completely unknown then but extremely unusual, and more in the nature of a betrothal, according to Peter Laslett in *The World We Have Lost*. I have, as yet, found no record of another Mary Roseblade who could have been the one who married John Handcox nor of the burial of Marie/Mary Handcox. It is a pity that the Parish Register for that time seems to be missing.

A William (No. 3?) was then buried at Hurstbourne Priors in 1637, followed by the burial in 1643 at Goodworth Clatford of John "S of Joane widow". This suggests either:

- That John was the son of William No. 1 and his wife Joan (née Smith), which would wreck my carefully crafted hypothesis; or

- That Joan SMITH married William No. 3, not William No. 1, which, again, would be a problem for my hypothesis; or

- That both William No. 1 and William No. 3 married Joans, which, coincidentally, would mean that the baptisms of William and Mary – above – could not be distinguished by inclusion of the names of the wives and, therefore, reinforced the need for a description of the Williams in terms of their ages.

In trying to resolve this, I found a reference to a marriage in the IGI between "Mr Roseblade" and Joane SKEATE dated April 5 1635 at Grateley, Hampshire, which would confirm that both Williams married Joans. This led me on a fruitless search for that marriage – particularly since Phillimore's Index of Parish Registers shows Grateley's deposited parish registers as starting in 1654 – and there the matter rested for some years. My hypothesis still had a gap that needed to be filled.

## Licence bond

Then recently, on one of my regular searches, I found on the Family History Online website a transcript of a Sarum Marriage Licence Bond dated December 5 1626 between William Roseblade, aged 24, husb[andman], residing at Clatford (Goodworth), and Joane Skeate, spinster, aged 28, residing at Newton Tony, Wiltshire, to be married at Newton Tony.

Whilst William No. 1 would be approximately 53 in 1626, the age (if correct) of William in this transcript would fit with the baptism of the assumed William No. 3 if his baptism followed about five years after his birth and, furthermore, the baptisms of Joan and John in 1627 and 1629 would also fit if the marriage took place soon after the bond was issued.

It then occurred to me that the IGI reference to the marriage might be a reference to a will, so I searched for, and found, a reference to a Thomas Skeate dated April 6 1635 in the IGI. So, I assumed that there would be a will of that date for Thomas Skeate of Grateley and checked with the Hampshire Record Office who confirmed that they had one of that date. I bought a photocopy, which was very faint, but, by good fortune, among the lines that are legible, is "Item I give and bequeath to Jone Roseblade my first daughter one shilling ....."

## Will

So that's it. Joan did not marry in 1635 – she was merely mentioned in a will at that date and, although I have as yet been unable to find the record, it would appear that William 3 married Joan Skeate in 1626/1627 and so both William No. 1 and William No. 3 married Joans.

Another suggestive consideration is the fact that, on the basis of my current information, a total of four Williams were born in Hampshire in 1573, 1590, 1607 and 1633 but only three are buried there (in 1590, 1637 and 1694) so the fourth in Siddington, whose will we have (but no burial as yet) would complete the set.

So, to summarise a somewhat complicated chain

of events:

1) Three Williams are baptised in Goodworth Clatford between 1573 and 1607, of whom two (Williams No. 1 and No. 3) survive.

2) William No. 1 marries Susan STRONG and they baptise five children between 1600 and 1609 of whom three – Susan, Alse and Margaret – survive.

3) William No. 2 marries Joan SKEATE in 1626/27 and they baptise two children Joan (1627), and John (1629)

4) Susan dies in 1631 and William No. 1 then marries Joan SMITH in 1633

5) At the end of 1633 William, the son of William No. 3 (the younger), is baptised and, at the beginning of 1634, Mary, the daughter of William No. 1 (the elder) and his fourth surviving child, is baptised.

6) William No. 3 moves (?) to Hurstbourne Priors in 1636, where he is buried in 1637, followed by his son John ("son of Joane ROSEBLADE widow") at Goodworth Clatford in 1643.

7) After William No. 3 has left, George, son of William No. 1, and his fifth surviving child, is baptised at the end of 1636 at Goodworth Clatford.

8) William No. 1 dies in 1640 at Siddington, Gloucestershire, leaving in his will bequests to his three eldest children, and leaving his wife Joan with the responsibility of raising his two younger children.

In summary, therefore, I think that the fit of William No. 1's family, as I have suggested it, with the Siddington will of 1640 is so good that, on the balance of probabilities, it is correct and that "Siddington William" – and perhaps the later Gloucestershire Roseblades – originated in Hampshire.

*If anyone finds records which will further confirm – or, heaven forbid, demolish – this hypothesis, I would be pleased to receive them. ○*

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## APPENDIX

### Extracts from Hampshire parish registers

Type	Date	Given names	Father/Husband	Mother / Wife	Parish
bap	25/04/1573	William [1]	John		GC
bap	08/07/1590	William [2]	Richard		GC
bur	19/07/1590	William [2]			GC
marr	18/06/1599	William		Suzane Strong	GC
bap	01/09/1600	Suzanne	William		GC
bap	16/03/1601	Jeane	William		GC
bur	07/04/1602	Jeane	William		GC
bap	02/04/1603	Phylipe	William		GC
bur	07/04/1603	Phylippe	William		GC
bap	10/12/1606	Als	William		GC
bap	06/02/1607	William [3]	George		GC
bap	03/11/1609	Margaret	William	Susanne	GC
bap	15/04/1627	Joane	William		GC
bap	10/12/1629	John	William		GC
bur	17/10/1631	Susan		("Wife of William")	GC
marr	29/09/1633	William		Joan Smith	HP
bap	13/10/1633	William	"William the younger"		GC
bap	17/02/1634	Mary	"William the elder"		GC
bap	12/12/1636	George	William	Joane	GC
bur	01/12/1637	Wm			HP
bur	14/05/1643	John		S of Joane widow	GC
bap	04/11/1656	Edward	William	Rebecka	GC
bap	25/03/1660	Anne	William	Rebekah	GC
bap	24/05/1663	Rebecca	William	Rebecca	GC
bap	11/02/1666	Joan	William	Rebeckah	GC
bur	28/01/1684	Joan			GC
bur	25/04/1694	William			GC

GC = Goodworth Clatford, Hants

HP = Hurstbourne Priors, Hants

Dates in "New Style"



# Blogs, Wikis and RSS – what's it all about?

By PETER WALKER

**J**ust when you thought you had understood the basics of the information technology useful to genealogists, another batch of jargon turns up to confound and bamboozle us! In this article, PETER WALKER explains...

**OVER 80% of Guild members have an e-mail address and so may be considered to be online members. Much of the remaining 20% are content without the aid of modern technology in carrying out their one-name studies and there's nothing wrong in that.**

For many people, the Internet is something that they have come to live with just in the last 5–10 years. To most members, the Internet is the Web, e-mail and perhaps mailing lists like the Guild Forum. Sadly, it is also about spam, viruses and scams.

But in the early days of the Internet, before the web became the predominant technology on the "net", there were other technologies that we rarely now hear about. Only one of these early technologies is still alive and well and that is File Transfer Protocol (FTP) which many of us use to upload web pages to our websites.

But the others are known to only a few who were probably those working in IT at universities in the

1980s. Telnet allowed you to access remote computers over the Internet, Gopher provided an index to FTP sites while WAIS (Wide Area Information Service) attempted to garner all the intelligence into an early version of a search engine. Almost all these tasks are now performed via the Web.

In more recent times, people coming online for the first time will have learnt how to browse the Web, use search engines, send and receive e-mail and perhaps join in mailing lists and online forums (as I wrote that, I reflected that I might have said "surfing the Web" but that sounds so 1990s). But Information Technology doesn't stand still. It races ahead and there's a gaggle of new technologies appearing on the scene which challenge how we use the Internet. So what are Blogs, Wikis and RSS and how might they be relevant to genealogists?

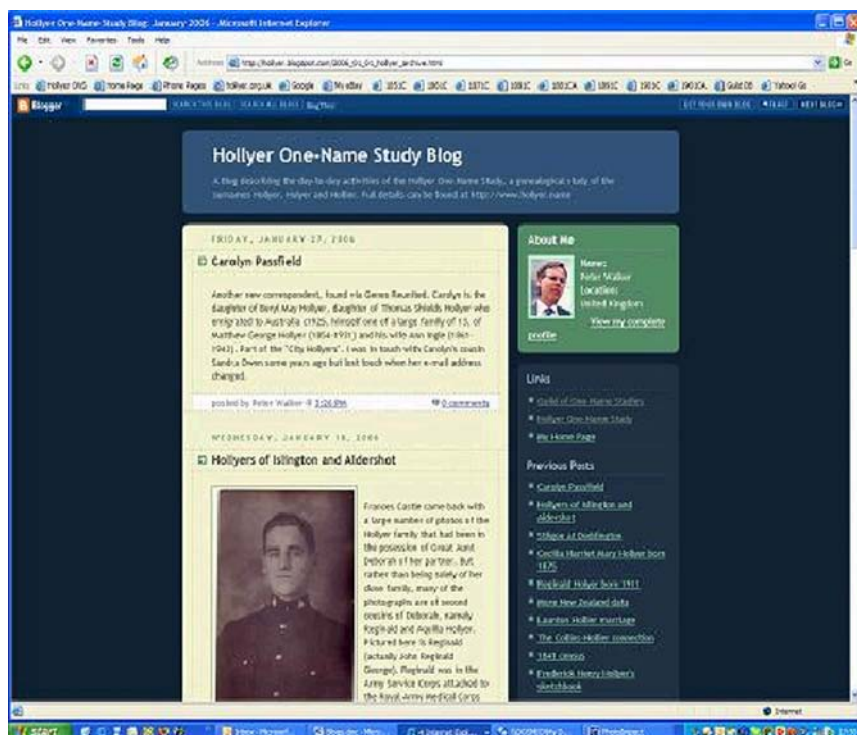
## Blogs

What a name! It's used as a noun (a Blog) and a verb (to Blog) and doesn't even mean what it says, as the word is an abbreviation of Web-Log. A Blog is a web-based diary that can record all the important or trivial events in one's daily life. Some Blogs are boring, many are bizarre – is this a club you want to be a member of? You could generate a Blog by editing your website every day and adding new events.

But Blogging software (or more often Blogging websites) take out all the complexity and allow you to post new messages about events on the web in an easy way. Others can comment on your messages, which would be more difficult with a regular website.

Why would a genealogist or one-namer want to do this? I have started a Blog for my one-name study and use it to record all the new discoveries, enquiries dealt with and work progressed in a way that I hope will provide more dynamic content for my website audience, since new pages appear rather infrequently on the main site.

The idea flowed from the fact that my one-name mailing list has been of limited value, as I seem to be the only one to post to it. A Blog allows visitors to browse the archive of daily messages in an easy way. It can



Blog for the Hollyer One-Name Study

contain pictures as well, so far more interesting than wading through a mailing list archive. My blog allows me to publish little nuggets about branches of the families that might never warrant a full-blown web page. It gives visitors a sense of how diverse a one-name study can be. You don't have to be a Pepys, but a Blog can add interest to your online publishing.

## Wikis

Many of you may associate the term "Wiki" with Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, but in fact Wikipedia is merely one example of a Wiki. A Wiki is a way of constructing web pages in a collaborative manner online, in real-time, without having to know how to write HTML or use a web editor. Anyone can add to or edit the work done to date. The concept of creating pages without specialist knowledge is similar to the Guild Web Profiles that many of you are already familiar with.

So where does the term "Wiki" come from? The Internet is full of jargon and the community loves myths and in-jokes, such as that which led to unsoli-



cited commercial e-mail becoming known as "Spam", apparently derived from the famous Monty Python sketch. The origins of "Wiki" are similarly obscure. Wiki means "rapid" in Hawaiian and the original joke term was "WikiWikiWeb" (as a variant



of World-Wide Web) and seems to have been derived from the name of the shuttle buses at Honolulu International Airport!

The Wiki concept shares some features with Blogs in

that you don't need the normal web-creation skills and uploading mechanisms. You just write online and it's there instantly for all to see – or re-edit!

The Guild has started an experimental Wiki in the website members' room which we are calling the Guild Knowledge Store, with the aim of capturing members' knowledge about carrying out a one-name study. This is a truly collaborative venture and anyone can contribute their knowledge to it. Over time, we hope it will be an important resource to assist members with their studies.

## RSS

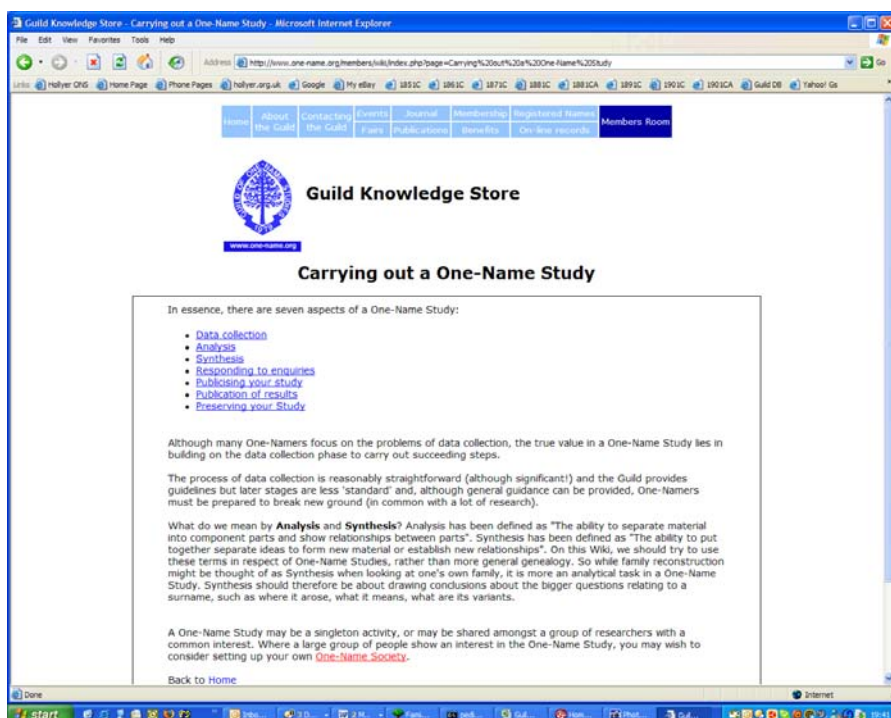
Nobody can agree what RSS even stands for. Most use the phrase Really Simple Syndication, while others suggest it means RDF Site Summary (boring!) or even Rich Site Summary. At its heart, RSS is a technology that allows you to produce a customised aggregation of news, events, mailing list messages or even Blog messages all in one place.

Instead of having to browse your favourite websites to pick up news or the latest messages, the news is brought to you.

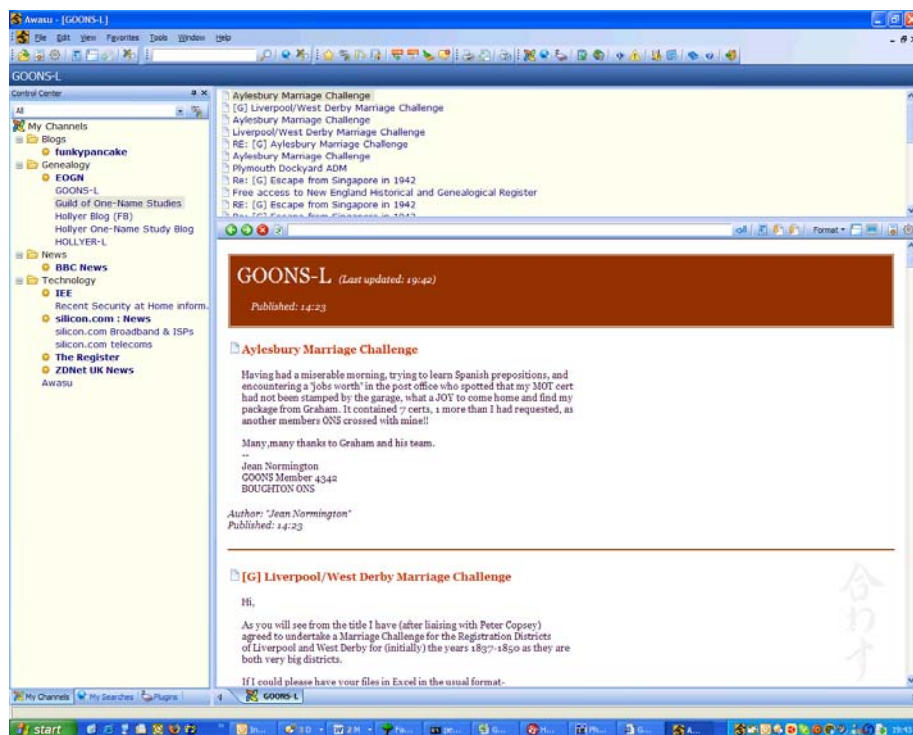
It can either be brought to your own computer where you would run an RSS reader, often called an aggregator, or to a website customised to your requirements. So it's like reading a newspaper where you have chosen what columns you want to see. In order for this to be possible, sites that generate news, messages, Blogs etc., have to produce a News-Feed, which is designed to be machine readable in a language called Extensible Mark-up Language (XML).

## Feeds

An RSS aggregator works by checking up from time to time (you choose the frequency) the various feeds you are interested in and displaying them in an easy-to-read manner. Most serious news sites, such as the major daily papers and the BBC, provide an RSS feed. The Guild Forum can be read via its RSS



A part of the Guild Wiki or Guild Knowledge Store



### The Guild Forum displayed on an RSS reader

feed (good for the many who lurk and don't post).

The Guild has also started its own experimental RSS feed to publish news about the Guild as an adjunct to our other means of publication, such as this Journal, the Forum, and the Newsflashes. You can even read my Blog via RSS.

But, I hear you say, why would I want to do this? The answer to that question lies partly in what is happening to e-mail and partly in the lifestyle you choose to lead.

Let's look at e-mail first. Most of us are becoming acutely aware that not all e-mail gets to its destination. The industry reckons that e-mail is overall only 98% reliable. On top of that spam filters may block mail even though it is quite genuine, and when it's done by your ISP you may not even know.

### Newsflash

When I transmit the 1,650 messages for a Chairman's Newsflash, I get a handful of undeliverable messages each time and several members comment that they appear to have missed out on any earlier Newsflash. So e-mail is becoming less reliable and many organisations are finding that RSS is a more robust way of promulgating messages. That's because it is a so-called peer-to-peer technology. Messages go straight from the newsfeed to your computer without going via mailboxes, mail relays or spam and virus filters.

Then there's the point about lifestyle. If you're retired and have plenty of time to browse the web in a relaxed way, then RSS won't solve any problems for you. But if you are very busy and one of those modern breed of people whose time is very precious, you may value being able to catch up on

multiple sources in a simple aggregated way.

Be honest, how often do you visit those genealogy web forums, where (unlike the Guild Forum which is e-mail based) you have to visit the site to see if anyone has posted anything interesting recently? I suspect not very often. But if you could subscribe to a feed which gave you a summary of any new item posted, that might be useful to you.

That's where RSS can come in handy – assuming the forum in question has an RSS feed. Sites that have RSS feeds usually adver-



### Some RSS symbols

tise the fact via small orange symbols.

What's the next big thing? Well there's always something new turning up. The new buzzword on the block is Podcasting – whereby

you can download soundbites to your iPod and listen to them when convenient. I can't think of a genealogy angle on this yet, unless the Guild wants to publish edited highlights of its Committee meetings – perhaps not!

### Conclusion

Be assured, you don't need any of the above to carry out a one-name study. But there was a time when many of us didn't think we needed a computer to do a study and, while some still feel that way, the majority would now find it hard to live without one.

*The Guild continues to be at the forefront of Internet technology, offering the Forum, Profiles, Archives, the online Register and now the Wiki. If it's useful to you, then use it. The Guild Wiki and RSS feed are still experimental and we would value your comments and feedback.* ○

### References

The Hollyer One-Name Study Blog:  
<http://hollyer.blogspot.com/>

The Guild Wiki:  
<http://www.one-name.org/members/wiki/>

The Guild RSS Newsfeed:  
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/peter.walker6/RSS/news.xml>

The Guild Forum RSS feed:  
<http://archiver.rootsweb.com/rss/g/goons/GOONS.rss>



A new academic website dealing with surname distribution in Britain got lots of media publicity and had family historians avidly discussing it – including on the Guild Forum – earlier this year.

Not all the first impressions and comments were complimentary, so – ever keen to get the facts for one-namers – the Journal asked our intrepid reporter KEN TOLL to investigate.

**T**HE WEBSITE, [www.surnameprofiler.org](http://www.surnameprofiler.org), was created to demonstrate the results of a “Surnames as a quantitative evidence resource for the social sciences” research project, based at University College London and funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

The URL is an alias for [www.spatial-literacy.org](http://www.spatial-literacy.org) and the front page to the site is actually at...

[www.spatial-literacy.org/UCLnames/default.aspx](http://www.spatial-literacy.org/UCLnames/default.aspx)

The site itself is straightforward and easy to use. You simply enter a surname, select 1881 or 1998, and off it goes (see Figure 1). You get a nice map showing areas of pretty colours. But what IS it showing? The “counties” don’t look like the ones I’m used to and the screen is helpfully uncluttered by any explanation of what is being presented, though it is explained on the Help screen.

The results presented did not fit in with my pre-conceived ideas of the distribution of my surname. I tried a few others and obtained equally confusing results. So my first reaction to this site was abject horror.

Undaunted, I decided that I would try to determine what the underlying data was and how it was being displayed, readying myself for writing a Mr. Angry-type e-mail missive.

Delving a little deeper, it appears that it is showing data grouped by postcode. Not unreasonable for 1998, but rather a shock for 1881, especially for someone used to demonstrating Stephen Archer’s *Surname Atlas* CD on the Guild Bookstall (CD available from Howard at his usual member’s discount price).

### 1881 data

It is still unclear how 1881 parish-based data has been converted to postcode, but I suspect it has been “normalised” using Quick Address or some other Post Office Address File (PAF) process. Anyway, all the individuals appear to have been counted and allocated to top-level postcodes (the first letters in a postcode). The underlying software then determines where the majority of individuals are and allocates a colour code. This seems to be based on density of the name in each area (number of individuals divided by total population in the area). These are



We look at the Surname Profiler website that asks...

## Where do you think you are?

then ranked by density and the colours allocated to each of five bands – see Figure 2 on page 18. A more detailed explanation of the maps can be seen by selecting Help from the map results screen.

The method chosen to analyse the numbers gave me the impression that the results had been distorted. A name that occurs primarily in Lancashire, with a small branch in central Wales, can appear as a Welsh name with a small

branch in Lancashire, due to the vastly different populations in each area. Note that the site’s designers considered the opposite position, where a

high density area like Sheffield could skew the results if it was done only on raw numbers. On the Palgrave example I have used there appears to be a Lincolnshire bias to the name where none exists. This is because there are a couple of Palgrave families near King’s Lynn, Norfolk, and this has a PE (Peterborough) postcode rather than an NR (Norwich) one. PE covers a wide swath of countryside around The Wash, embracing parts of Lincolnshire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

I’m sure this effect is primarily due to the rarity of the surnames I’ve checked – Smith & Jones are far less likely to be impacted as they will be more evenly spread and those individuals who stray just over postcode boundaries will have far less

impact. Names registered with the Guild, however, are inclined to be the less frequent ones (with a few notable exceptions) and, therefore, many other of “our” names will suffer a similar fate, primarily due to the new boundaries being “structured” rather than the “organic” ones of our ancestors.

Another problem with postcodes seems to be that they are optimised for current-day populations. In much of Great Britain top-level postcodes are similar sizes to traditional counties. However in London this is definitely not the case. *Surname Atlas* shows the second largest density of Palgraves in 1881 to be in London/Middlesex. With Surname Profiler you’d need a good magnifying glass to spot them.

I’m not sure of the postcode they are in. At a guess, I’d say it was NW but, as it is only a couple of pixels across, it is very difficult to find them, let alone tell where they are. For London and similar urban conurbations, it might have been better to merge some of the districts – but that would probably have introduced some other distortion instead.

Help is context sensitive and, helpfully, on the mapped results pages the site provides a postcode map. You can click on it to get a slightly larger version and then use a zoom symbol to view it in detail. I tried printing it out three different ways, but on each occasion it only gave me Scotland. It looks as if the image has been divided into four quarters, but I can only get the top left section to print. This may, of course, be a problem with my browser (IE6).

### 1998 data

This data appears to be based on the 1998 Register of Electors. When comparing it with 1881, two datasets are therefore missing – the under 18s and those who chose not to register (a legacy of the Poll Tax protests?). This again distorts the results for low frequency names. As with the 1881 data, the information is converted to postcode-based densities, using (I presume) 1998 population figures.

Again, the results appear to be distorted by the populations of certain areas (see Figure 4 on page 19). There is a very prominent purple area on the map of my TOLLs, indicating a high density around Telford. This was rather a surprise, as I thought I only have three households in the area in 1998!

### Supplementary data

On the map pages, there are links to tables of supplementary data which whilst interesting, need to be treated with caution. It has an algorithm for determining categories of surnames. It identifies Palgrave as a locational name with a settlement ending of “grove”, which seems quite reasonable. Most names ending in “er” are identified as occupational, although it did recognise Dover as locative, so it is not quite as simplistic as I first thought. However, it decided that Tolley (probably from the



By KEN TOLL

Figure 1 – the Surname Profiler search page



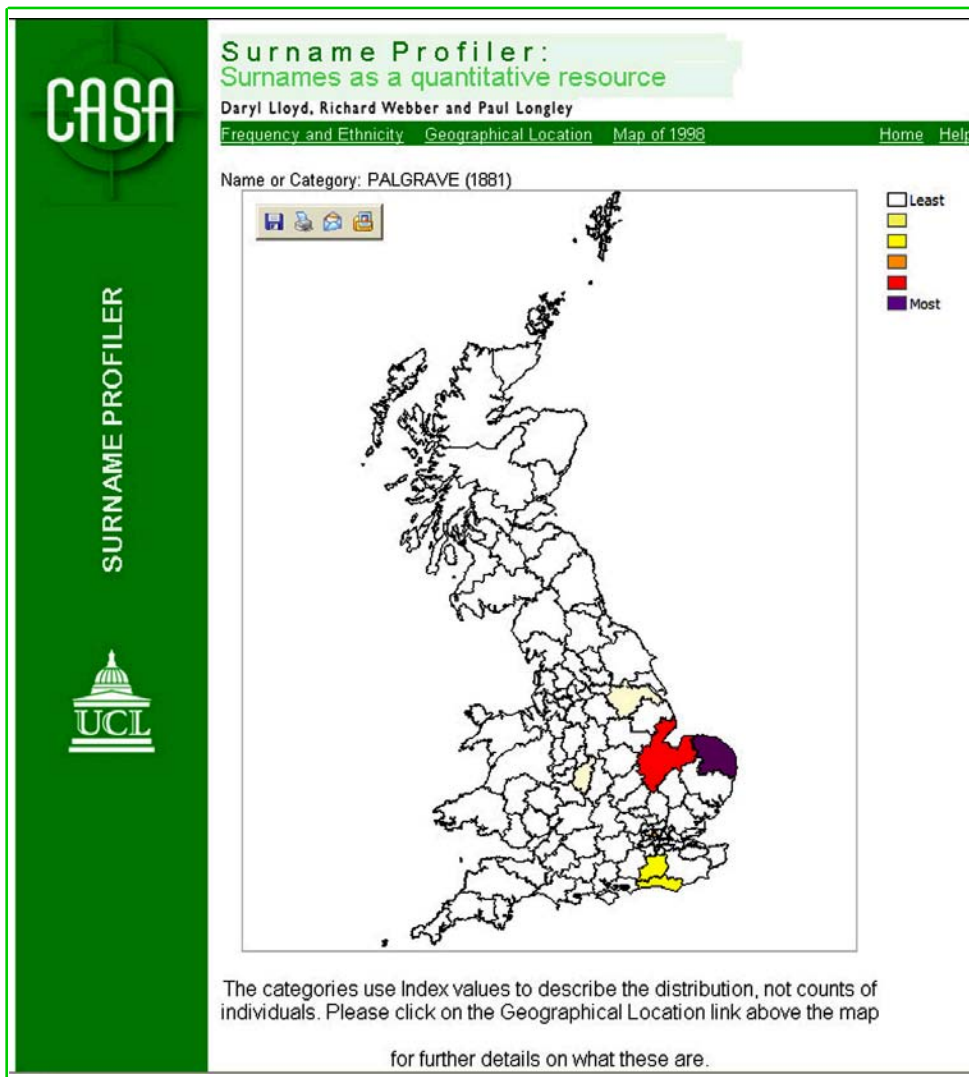


Figure 2 – Palgrave data from the 1881 census by modern postcode

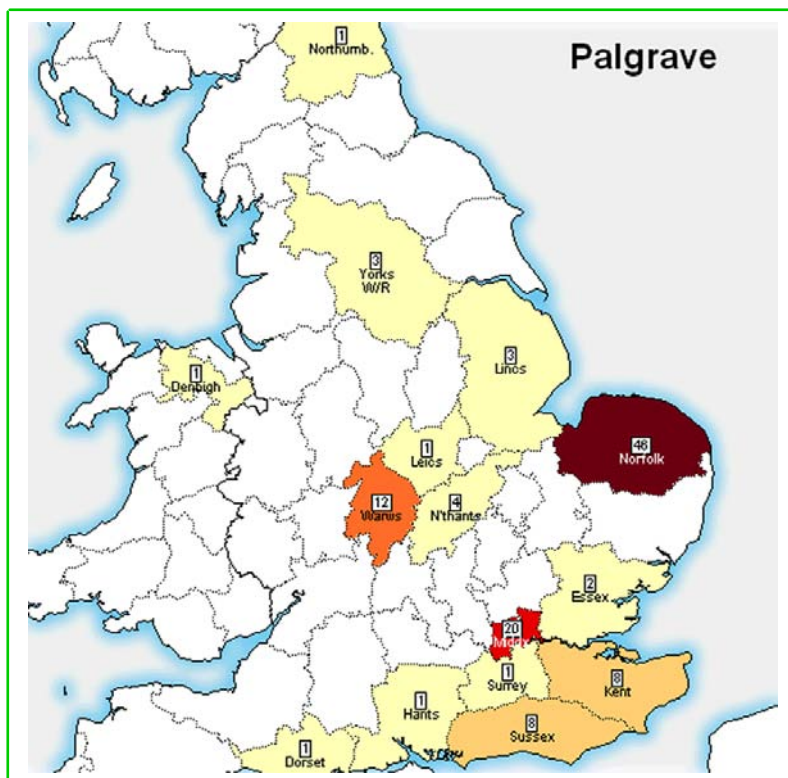


Figure 3 – Palgrave data from 1881 in *Surname Atlas*

personal name Toli or Tolly) was locative because it ends in "ley" – so I don't think it is perfect.

It also gives information on geographic spread. For Toll it indicates the "top state" in Australia is Northern Territories. Whilst an explanation is given on how this is determined, it goes against my understanding of the distribution of my name in Australia – especially as there were no Tolls in NT in the 1990s when my Australian Electoral Register data was gathered.

I have read and re-read the accompanying Help screens, but I'm still confused. As always, extreme caution should be applied before placing any reliance on the data provided.

## Conclusions

I don't think Surname Profiler was ever intended to be a definitive genealogical resource. The site's creators claim it was to enable geographers and economic historians to measure the movement of groups of names to different regions of

the country and overseas. If this was its aim, and appropriate names are grouped together, then it probably could do this well. However, I was unable to find such a facility on the website.

## Cut-off

Currently the site claims to have 25,630 names, using a cut-off of 100 individuals to be in the GB 1996 (sic) Register of Electors. Therefore, some of the rarer Guild-registered names will not appear. Apparently, it is hoped to add a further 250,000 names at some time in the future.

On the minus side, the data can be misleading for rarer surnames unless you fully understand what is being presented – and if you do understand the information, then you probably don't need this site!

On the plus side, the site is free and gives us useful maps to prompt further investigation. It also gives useful back-

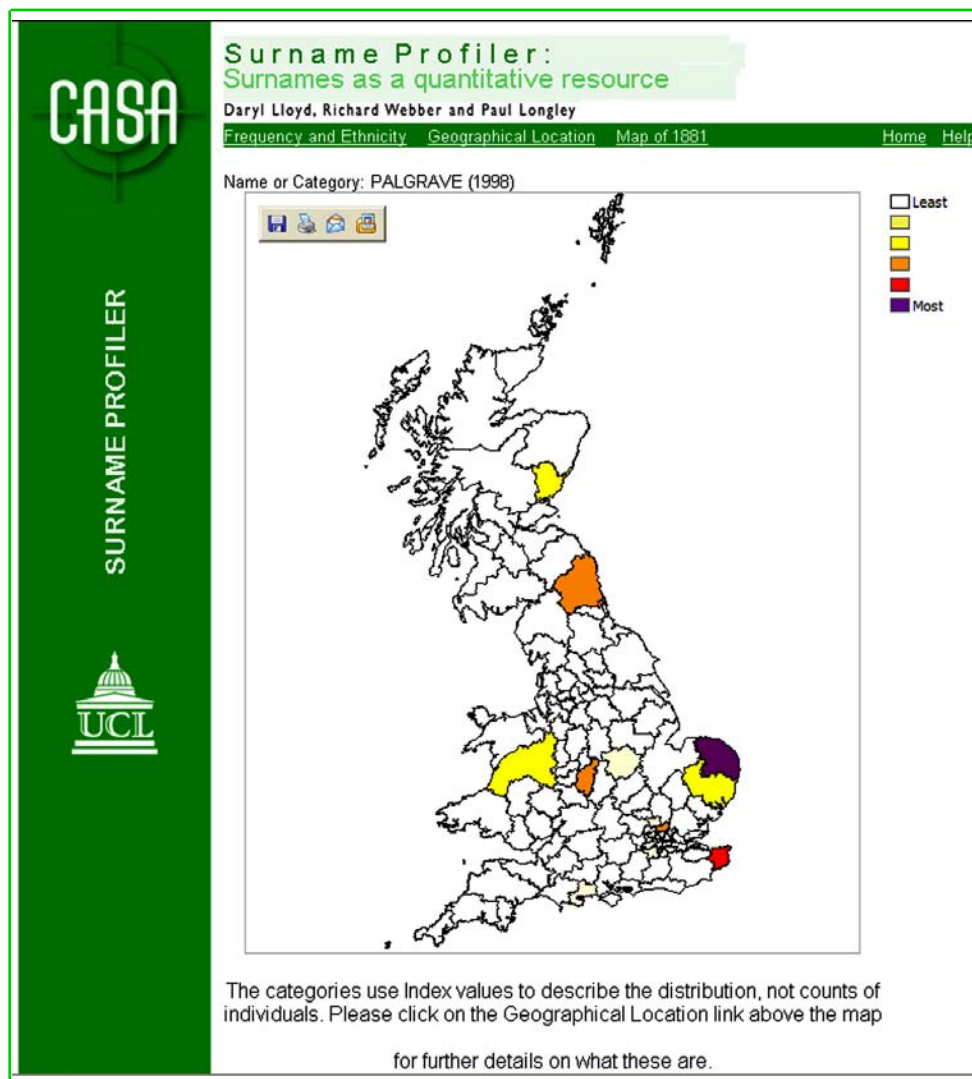


Figure 4 – Palgrave data from the 1998 electoral register

## Postcodes – how they work and what they are used for

**POSTCODES** were designed primarily to help the UK Post Office deliver mail and were introduced progressively from 1959 to 1974.

The codes are in two parts. The first element is the "outbound" code, which determines the sorting office that mail should be sent to, and the second element is the "inbound" code, which identifies a small group of properties on a post round. See...

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UK\\_postcodes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UK_postcodes)  
and...

<http://www.evboxfacilities.co.uk/evboxps.htm>  
for further information on postcodes.

Postcodes have subsequently gained popularity for other UK-based geographical applications in business research, planning and management.

They are, therefore, well placed for use in current-day spatial analysis, but are not necessarily suited to applications using pre-postcode data. Much of the information we use as genealogists is based on the historic (pre-1974) counties and their own administrative sub-units. ○

ground information – from the search screen select Help for information on Name Classification or select Welcome and follow the links to several interesting papers on surnames.

Some 2,500 names on the website are Guild-registered names. Our Chairman is already liaising with the authors of this site to encourage them to suggest that any enquirers whose names match Guild-registered names should contact the relevant Guild member.

This will give the opportunity to provide more accurate information. In return, we have agreed to assist improving the presentation of the site and making it clearer.

Did I write my Mr. Angry missive? No. The site has great potential and I think there is considerable merit in helping to make it more useful to the public.

*I'm sure the Guild's combined knowledge of surnames, migration and distribution means we are in a good position to advise academics on displaying the rarer surnames registered with the Guild, or at least on interpreting the results. ○*

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• WE know a good many Guild members have looked at the Surname Profiler website because some of you have debated it keenly on the Guild Forum. What do YOU think of it? Have you come across any glaring anomalies relating to your own data and ONS or have you found it useful? Write to the Journal and let us know.

THE EDITOR

# How I wrote and published my one-name history

By COLIN ULPH

*WE are always delighted to hear about a Guild member publishing a book on their one-name study. What better way is there to preserve your research for posterity? Also believing that members should share their expertise with others, the Journal invited COLIN ULPH, member No. 501, to write this article about how he got his book on the ULPH One-Name Study into print.*

**H**AVING BUILT up my one-name study over some 24 years, and issued a newsletter twice-yearly since 1985, I decided in 2001 to bring my findings together and present them in a more polished and durable form. And so, in an edition of *ULPH Family News*, I announced my intention to write and publish a book on the names and families covered by my research.

I wanted it to be a hardback, coffee-table type of book, with plenty of illustrations. As the readership was unlikely to extend beyond families with an interest in ULPH, HULF, ALP and variants, I invited newsletter readers to give me ideas as to contents. Not one responded, so I pressed on with my own "brainstorm". I decided the book would be a narrative, describing first how, when and where the surnames had originated, and how the families had spread from East Anglia to the rest of Britain and overseas.

It would not include family trees for three reasons...

- Their size and elongated shape.
- Readers can always get their own tree from me on request.
- Few people are interested in the trees of others!

## Spelling variants

Nor would there be pages of unrelieved statistics. However, there would be a table showing the 86 spelling variations I and other researchers had found (not bad for a 3-4 letter surname) and where and when each one had first occurred. I would include also a few simple sketch maps showing, for example, where the Domesday ULFs occurred and where our earliest surname holders lived. In later chapters I would use my records to produce analyses of family size, longevity, occupations and Christian names. There would be brief pen-pictures of name-holders known to have emigrated, men whose armed service careers we had traced and people who had become famous (or infamous) in our history.

The book would also show how we had accumu-

lated the facts and where readers could go to find evidence of their ancestors and sources for further research. The final two chapters would be an analysis of statistics and trends to discover whether or not we are an endangered species, and a light-hearted look at some of the coincidences and funny stories encountered during the research.

I should mention at this stage that my one-name study is not a large one, although it's quite big enough for me. I have about 7,000 individuals in my card index, the number of births, marriages and deaths from 1837 to date is around 6,000 and the number of living name-holders (including spouses) worldwide is just over 1,300. Even so, the completed *Ulph Family History* ran to 83,000 words on 256 pages measuring 240cm x 180cm.

Having decided the contents, early in 2003 I began to type the draft into my computer, using

Microsoft Word. For some of the text I used some extracts from earlier newsletter articles, but most was original, using my records as the source. As the first drafts of each chapter slid out of the printer, I sent copies to fellow researchers and other family members for read-over and comment. I needed to know not just the errors I had made, but also whether the text was easy to read and what photographs, etc., I might use to break it up and illustrate the content.

As the replies came in, I reviewed and revised where necessary. I had already accumulated several suitable photographs of people and places. In the end, I selected 73 photographs, reproduced in black-and-white, and nine maps and sketches.



**Colin signs copies of his book**

As I had found when organising our first one-name gathering, there were no existing books to guide me. There's plenty of advice on writing a family history, but nothing aimed specifically at one-namers. So, once again, I was on my own. Experi-



ence in producing books on other topics had taught me that, although it involves more work, it's cheaper and more fun to be your own publisher.

However, my last involvement was about 10 years before and I had never published a hardback, so I had no idea of cost. I realised this would depend on the numbers printed and the print run on how many books I could sell, this number, partly, on the selling price and the price on how many were printed and at what cost. It was a chicken and egg situation! Here's what I did...

## Estimates

When I was about half-way through drafting the text, I had gained a rough idea of the number of words and pages to expect. I found, by recommendation, a book producer in my home town who could scan, print and bind, laminate the cover and box the books, so I asked for estimates for print runs of 50, 100 and 200 copies.

I then met the producer to examine previous work they had done and to discuss things like paper thickness and style of binding. Based on the estimate given, in November 2003 I sent a questionnaire to all readers of the newsletter. This outlined the book's likely size, contents and price range and asked potential buyers to let me know how many copies they might take.

Although I promised I would not hold them to it, the replies suggested I might sell about 100 copies. I guessed that others might want to take up the offer later on (which they did) and also had to allow for complimentary copies. In the end, I decided to opt for a print run of 250. I was able then to fix the price. If all non-complimentary copies were sold, the cost per copy would work out at £18, so I decided to utilise a small subsidy fund I had built up to hold the cover price at £15 a copy.

## Popular

This proved to be popular, and to date I have disposed of about 140 copies. I then decided what to charge for packing (using Jiffy bags) and posting, after getting estimates from the printers as to likely weight and the Post Office for postal charges. I was then able to fix p&p charges of £4 UK (first class), £5 Europe and £9 overseas rest of world.

Under the Copyright Acts of the UK and Republic of Ireland, publishers have a legal obligation to send one copy of each book to the British Library, the National Libraries of Scotland and Wales and the University Libraries of Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin – a total of six complimentary copies. I also wanted to send free copies to various organisations – including the Guild – that had assisted me in my research over the years.

As I needed the book to be listed in various catalogues, including the British National Bibliography and Amazon, I applied for an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and, a few months before publication date, sent details to the Data

Preparation Department at Nielsen BookData. In summer 2004 I sent a sample chapter to the printers, which they printed for me to check and make any last-minute changes. It was fine, so I went on to complete the other chapters. As I neared the end of the drafting stage, I enlisted the help of a young cousin who had just begun a career in graphic design.

He seized the opportunity to design the book's cover, using colour and plenty of white space. Once I had agreed it, he emailed it direct to the printers, to ensure that the colour shades were exactly as designed. By coincidence, the design was rather like the one used by the BBC for the *Who Do You Think You Are?* series, but I had finalised mine months before the series began – honest!

## Indexing

Once all the draft chapters had been read over and I had made corrections, I gave the whole thing one more read and made a few late changes to ensure consistency and cross-referencing. Then came the worst job – indexing. This required several attempts before I was happy with it. Though limited to people and places, the index still ended up with the names of 1,000 people and 400 places. But I maintain an index is essential in a book like this.

The draft, annotated to show where I wanted the illustrations inserted, went off to the printers just before Christmas 2004. I received and checked a final proof copy in January and early in March 2005 the copies were ready for me to collect. After a gestation period of three years, it was a wonderful feeling to actually hold a copy in my hand.

In view of the "limited edition" nature of the book, I numbered each one as "1/250" etc. inside the front cover. In the November 2004 newsletter I had asked potential readers for their firm orders and, if possible, to attend the official launch at a clan gathering at Burnham Ulph, Norfolk, in April 2005. I signed and handed over 50 copies at the gathering and, on return from Norfolk, posted another 60 to people who couldn't come.

The whole project was hard work and had caused a major backlog of other tasks in the Ulph household. However, it was certainly rewarding and, judging from readers' comments, has brought a lot of pleasure to many people.

***As I warned in the preface, "The project continues. It is an ongoing journey of discovery and the book is a summary of what, between us all, we have discovered so far." But, at least, we now have an official history. ○***

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## Everyone learned something new in another highly successful Internet Seminar at Epsom

By Gordon  
Adshead

**T**he 45 attendees at the Epsom Internet Seminar on Saturday, February 11, were asked to grade their Internet skills as Beginner, Intermediate or Advanced.

If you think about it, this is quite a difficult question to answer, as there is a very wide range of experience amongst Guild members and the Internet world is constantly changing.

Our resident computer gurus, Jeanne Bunting and John Hanson had clearly put a lot of thought into providing something for everyone. Aided by Graham Walter, they provided an excellent mix of two plenary presentations, two sessions with hands-on terminals and some superb handouts.

### Websites

John set the scene with a rapid and comprehensive look at websites of interest to one-namers. He based this on a list of some 60 websites divided into 13 categories, and was able to summarise their strengths and weaknesses and provided a few hot tips on their use.

We then divided into two groups in the two computer rooms in the Rosebury School, each containing about 32 terminals. The introductory screen contained pointers to all of John's selected websites, and there was free access to 1837online and Ancestry.

There was plenty of opportunity to resolve individual issues, as

well as to discuss issues on a group basis. With some help from the school technicians, it was possible to download extracted data onto floppy or onto our amazing £30 1GB flash drives.

After the lunch break, Jeanne addressed the tough question of how to extract and manipulate the data gleaned from websites.

Unless there are only a very few items of interest which can be safely retyped, it definitely pays to cut and paste to minimise the occurrence of further transcription errors.

### Data

Jeanne very wisely chose to exclude opportunities for Basic programmers and Access experts, and concentrated on some of the ways of using Excel to manipulate the extracted data.

Jeanne's talk was accompanied by some very good notes and tips for using Excel on data from several different types of web sources. I thought Jeanne tackled this admirably, but I was still left with the impression that some of

the beginners would conclude that it might be easier to type all the data back in again to suit their own requirements.

A second hands-on session followed and to challenge the "experts", the hand-outs contained a list of 16 tantalising research tasks along the lines of: "James Robertson died in the 1840s in Shetland. What caused his death and when was he born?"

There was some good interaction at the final plenary Question and Answer session and the challenging wide scope was illustrated by questions ranging from "What is a URL?" to "Can FreeBMD really stop members sharing Excel Add-ins?"

*In conclusion, everyone agreed that they had learned something new. Thanks to the efforts of Janet Heskins and other committee members, the seminar was well organised, well sited and well constructed and, as usual, provided a very good opportunity to meet and interact with other Guild members. ○*

## Reunions – Morgan Society AGM

THE MORGAN SOCIETY Annual General Meeting has been arranged on May 20–21 at the Speech House, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

Built in 1676 and originally Charles II's hunting lodge in the Royal Forest of Dean, the Speech House is an ideal venue, linking the traditional Morgan counties of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire with Gloucestershire, where many Morgans have resided over the centuries. Aquaspa facilities such as sauna, solarium and mini-gym are available for relaxation.

All Morgans or related families are cordially invited to attend the meeting and support the growth of The Morgan Society, which is dedicated to the search for information about the name.

Hotel accommodation can be reserved by ringing 01594 822607 or faxing 01594 823658. The e-mail address is [relax@thespeechhouse.co.uk](mailto:relax@thespeechhouse.co.uk)

## Dominic takes over as Seminar Sub-committee Chairman

**W**e have a new Seminar Sub-committee Chairman. Dominic Johnson, well-known to a number of you as a former Guild Registrar and Committee member, has offered to take the chair, with her formal appointment after the AGM.

In the meantime, it falls to me as Seminar Sub-committee Secretary, to keep members informed of future events.

Our next seminar will be in Manchester on May 27. Sandra Turner is organising this and her update on the event is on this page.

Following on from Manchester, we have:

- Halsted Introduction To One-Name Studies, August 19. Venue: Hundred House Hotel, Worcester Road, Great Whitley, Worcester.
- Computer Seminar, November. Venue: London
- Publications Seminar, February 17 2007. Venue: Bletchley Park, Wilton Avenue, Bletchley, Milton Keynes.
- DNA Seminar, May 2007. Venue: Nottingham.
- Service Records Seminar, August 2007. Venue: The National Archives, Kew.

The dates for most of these later events still have to be finalised, so keep your eyes on this column for updates.

Booking flyers for each event will arrive with your copy of the Journal nearer each date and are also available on the Guild website in rotation.

*We look forward to meeting more of you as we progress around the country! ○*

ROD CLAYBURN  
Secretary  
Seminar Sub-committee

## Seminars update. .

### Methodist Archives, Industrial Revolution and FONS at North-West Seminar in Manchester

**AS YOU** know, we take our seminars around the country and on May 27 it's the turn of the north-west, so I hope all our members in the area will take this opportunity of meeting together and learning something of interest.

At Manchester University, Oxford Road, there is a library used by students called the John Rylands University Library of Manchester. This is where we shall be holding the seminar. It is here that the national Methodist Archives are housed.

We had hoped to have the seminar in the main John Rylands Library, which houses one of the most spectacular collections of rare books and manuscripts in the world. The building itself, constructed in the 1890s, is one of the finest examples of modern Gothic architecture in Europe.

#### Landmark

This magnificent neo-Gothic building is a landmark in the centre of Manchester. I hope you won't be too disappointed to learn, as I was, that the original building is at present closed for repairs and will be until the end of the year. Hopefully, though, you may decide to return on another occasion and look not just at some of the archives but the building, too.

Our first talk will be from the archivist, Dr.Gareth Lloyd. The Methodist Archives were transferred from London in 1977. The size of the collection was estimated at over 26,000 printed items and approximately 600 feet of manuscript shelving.

Since 1977 the archives have expanded considerably, with

approximately 60,000 deposits of new material.

Chris Makepeace, our second speaker of the day, is an expert on the cotton industry. He has broadened the subject to cover the Industrial Revolution in the north-west.

Although I didn't see the programme myself, I understand that in one of the BBC programmes in the series, *Who Do You Think You Are?*, there were details of people being transferred forcibly from the south-east to work in the north of England. The one person who knows all about this is our third speaker, Peter Park FSG, and he recently moved from the London area to Lancashire.

Our last talk's only connection with the north-west is the fact that the speaker lives not too far away.

Many of our members have used FONS, while newer members sometimes wonder who or what FONS is or is it worth asking for searches from FONS?

David Bethell has been searching old documents for many years. He is going to talk to us about a new development, in which he will be putting online during this year all the indexes he has searched. This will be free to search but there will be a charge to download images of the original documents. So, a real treat for those attending this seminar will be the inaugural launch of the site.

*Hopefully, this will have whetted your appetite and I look forward to seeing many of you there. ○*

SANDRA TURNER  
Seminar Principal

## Committee considers a collaborative Guild one-name study

**A**T A RECENT Guild Committee meeting we discussed the merits of the Guild undertaking its own one-name study. We would select a name and a project co-ordinator and attempt to get as many Guild members involved as practicable in producing our own ONS.

The purpose of this article is to gauge the popularity of this suggestion and to begin the process of selecting a name.

So why would the Guild do this? Aren't we busy enough already with our fascinating

By Peter Copsey

hobby without adding to the demands? Well yes, many of us are, but again, many of us would be happy to do a little more, whether it's a visit to a record office or some hours on the computer.

Even the sense of déjà-vu may be appealing to some. The continuing success of Marriage Challenge has shown that collaborative projects do work.

### Benefits

But what are the benefits to the Guild? There are two attractions to the proposal, both in line with Guild objectives. Firstly, the selection of a celebrity or historic name – Shakespeare, Nelson and Spencer came up in the committee discussion – is likely to give publicity to the Guild and promote one-name studies. In turn, this may increase Guild membership.

Secondly, it will help the Guild with its forthcoming publication

of *A Manual for One-Name Studies* (the title has not yet been confirmed), a guide to the preparation of one-name studies containing what we consider to be best practice. We would like members who contribute to the project to give feedback on their contribution with suggestions and comment.

### What name?

So what name shall we pick? This is where I seek your suggestions. The view is that the name should be relatively common but not so big as to be unrepresentative of the larger studies that some of us are undertaking. Shakespeare would fail on this count.

It should preferably be well distributed about the country, so that many members will be able to contribute. It should not be of a celebrity whose popularity may be lost in the coming years – like Beckham or Rooney, perhaps. And, of course, it cannot be a name already under study by one of our members.

Let me have your views on all this. Do you think that a Guild collaborative one-name study is a worthwhile project and likely to succeed in meeting its objectives? Would you be willing to help?

**And let me know of your suggestions for a name. Please send a note to the address below or e-mail me at the address below. ○**

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## Guild Marriage Challenge is a year old

**M**ARRIAGE CHALLENGE has passed its first birthday. From the commencement of the first Challenge in February 2005, a total of over 50 Challenges have been completed or are presently under way.

The latest Challenges attract an increasing number of requests as MC becomes better known and accepted by members. During the trial period of MC, announcements of Challenges were only made on the Guild Forum, so many of you will have missed the opportunity of submitting requests. But all is not lost because many of the early Challengers are volunteering to repeat their Challenge.

### Repeats

Challenges, both new and repeats, commencing in the coming months are shown in the table on the opposite page. If you would like to request a search for your marriages (registered names only) send the details from the GRO index (1837 to 1911) to the Challenger, either by e-mail or to his or her postal address given in the Guild Register. Also, keep a watch on the Guild webpage for Marriage Challenge as further Challenges are announced.

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

Anyone who would like to become a Challenger, or would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Marriage Challenge Co-ordinator on:

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



# Marjorie Ruth Moore, 1938–2006

*THE genealogical community was stunned by the tragic death of Marjorie Moore, one of the best-known family historians in the world, who was killed in a car accident while on holiday in South Africa on February 19. A Guild member for a number of years, she was Registrar from 1988 to 1990. This appreciation is by JOHN HURLEY, a Guild member and close friend.*

WE WERE all shocked and saddened by Marjorie Moore's tragic death. She was born Marjorie Thompson in Swindon in 1938, her father, "Jock", being a local chemist. Marjorie attended Drove Road School. She worked for 41 years at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham, marrying Richard Moore in 1978 and continuing to live in the Swindon area. She retired from her work as a housing officer at the college in 1998.

Marjorie wrote that her interest in family history began with her grandmother's handbag, a title she used for one of her talks. Her own ancestry was mainly in Durham, Northumberland and Scotland, and she had been

researching alone for some years when a friend suggested she join the Bristol and Avon FHS. She was asked to sit in on an evening class to try and promote more interest in Swindon, and at the end of the course was asked to be secretary of the Swindon branch of Bristol and Avon.

A national project was launched to transcribe monumental inscriptions and Marjorie became project co-ordinator for Wiltshire. For three years she was Wiltshire representative on the B&A Committee, and when Wiltshire FHS was founded in 1981 Marjorie became secretary of the society. She was member No. 1, and was elected the first Vice-President in 1988 when she retired from the post of secretary.

Marjorie's interests became national and international. She was elected Registrar of the Guild of One-Name Studies and became active in the Society of Genealogists, of which she was Chairman for three years. She regularly organised the SOG annual fair in London, which commenced in 1993 and is still continuing. She was also heavily involved in several Scottish societies. Marjorie



became known worldwide with Richard for talks and lectures, their tours including the USA, Australia and New Zealand. The last issue of the Federation of Family History Society's *Directory of Speakers* listed 34 titles, but she could speak on any aspect of family history. Marjorie and Richard's advice stall was regularly seen at many family history open days and fairs. She was involved in organising several national family history conferences, the first of these hosted by Wiltshire FHS at Dauntsey's School, West Lavington, in 1985.

## Thorough

Marjorie was a very thorough researcher; her talks were based on her research, not on text books, and she was meticulous in quoting the references of the resources she used. She was always extending a helping hand to others, not only in family history research but also in personal matters. She survived a breast cancer operation some 10 years ago, hardly pausing in her normal activities, and since then gave advice, hospital transport and visiting to many others.

Marjorie listed her other interests as swimming, gardening, upholstery, most needlecrafts and theatre.

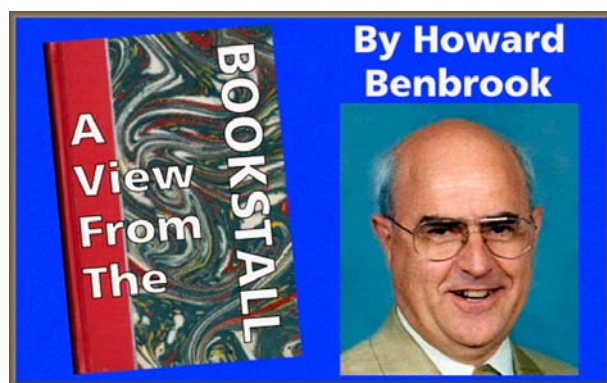
Our deep sympathy is extended to Richard and their families. She leaves a gap that will be impossible to fill.

• *Several hundred people, including a large number from the genealogical world, Guild members among them, packed Christ Church, Swindon, on Monday, March 6, for A Celebration of the life of Marjorie Ruth Moore.*

Registration District	Deadline for requests	Challenger	Challenger's e-mail
Lambeth	16 April 2006	Marion Hopkins	mharper36@tesco.net
Headington	16 April 2006	Sue Hedges	sue.hedges1@btopenworld.com
Uxbridge	20 April 2006	Mary Ghrist	ghrist@waitrose.com
St George in the East 1891 - 1911	30 April 2006	Howard Benbrook	howard@benbrook.org.uk
Horsham	3 May 2006	Roger Goacher	goacher@one-name.org
Pancras REPEAT MC	10 May 2006	Peter Copsey	copsey@one-name.org
Downham	15 May 2006	John Pepperdine	john@robertpepperdine.freemove.co.uk
Stow	20 May 2006	Sandra Stevens	Sandra.Stevens@btinternet.com
Edmonton	25 May 2006	Kirsty Gray	secretary@one-name.org
Worcester REPEAT MC	30 May 2006	Ian Preece	ian@prece67.fsnet.co.uk
Godstone	10 June 2006	Jim Isard	jim.isard@blueyonder.co.uk
Tavistock REPEAT MC	15 June 2006	Barbara Roach	barbararoach@lineone.net
Dover	23 June 2006	Shelagh Mason	sam1@cant.u-net.com
Thanet	23 June 2006	Shelagh Mason	sam1@cant.u-net.com
Canterbury REPEAT MC	30 June 2006	Shelagh Mason	sam1@cant.u-net.com

## Guild Marriage Challenge Update





## At last – we have a northern bookstall manager!

**AM** pleased to tell you I've filled my "situation vacant" for a Northern Bookstall Manager. Ron Woodhouse, based near Leeds, has stuck his adventurous head above the parapet and offered to run the Guild Bookstall at some of the events in his part of the world.

We've agreed to start gently, and by the time you read this Ron should have done his first tour of duty at the Sheffield FHS Open Day on April 1. We're in the midst of planning events over the coming months and I expect to be able to update you on Northern Bookstall events more fully next time. I hope those of you in the north will be able to give Ron your support.

### BBC events

Most UK members will have noticed that the BBC televised a second series of the family history programme, *Who Do You Think You Are?* Many Beeb local radio stations organised a family history event, often in association with a record office. News of these events filtered through very late and the Guild Bookstall was in a right dither, trying at the last minute to get volunteers to help out. Thanks are due to Margaret Johnson, Bill Duperouzel, Howard Laver, Chris Braund, Janet Few, Trish Bliss and her daughter Julia, John and Shirley Varlow, Barry Stelfox and Paul Featherstone for rising to the challenge.

The programme has earned the distinction of attracting the largest audience for BBC2 and, in consequence, the not-so-secret third series is planned to be aired on BBC1, which probably means a larger audience. Next time, we

hope to be better prepared.

### Seminars

If you've never been to a Guild seminar, I recommend you give it a try. I had the pleasure of going to the Epsom Internet Seminar, focusing on the use of the Internet and its opportunities for family history research. Everyone got the chance to get surfing and I was asked to lend a hand.

Some of you may wonder why we should give time to a subject like this, but I'm sure there were plenty of people who benefited. And for an old techie like me it was really stimulating, helping members to realise this potential.

### Challenging

I'm a great fan of the Marriage Challenge project and I hope you'll forgive me if I bang on about it yet again. In the last Journal I called for GRO Index references to marriages in the Stepney and Mile End RDs for your registered names and that offer still stands, but this is the final call for marriages in the St. George in the East RD between 1881 and 1911.

If you send me the GRO information, there's about a 75 per cent chance I'll be able to find the details from the parish register. You'll get these in what I call a "faux certificate", a transcription designed to look like an official certificate. Why only 75 per cent? Some of these marriages took place in a Non-conformist church or Register Office and the original records are not deposited. But give it a try!

All my Marriage Challenge data is submitted to the Guild Marriage Index on the Guild

website. It makes sense to increase the scope of this excellent resource, but did you notice it just got updated? There are now over 150,000 marriages on the GMI that identify the spouse surnames. So far, 292 members have submitted data but, even so, this is still only 15 per cent of the membership. Have you submitted your marriages yet?

### What's new

My big news this time concerns Custodian 3. This software is distinct from the array of other family history programs. For a start, it's immensely pragmatic. There's no urge to offer glitzy charts or book authoring functions, though it does incorporate family groups. Instead, it focuses on making it easy to enter data directly from sources and the ensuing indexes then allow you flexibility in handling your data. You may want, for example, to sort your parish register entries by parish and date, but to sort your BMD indexes by registration district, year and quarter.

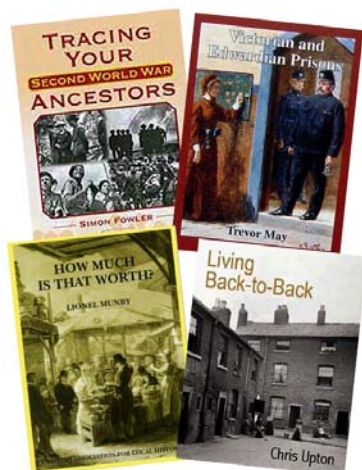
Why am I mentioning Custodian 3? Didn't it come out ages



ago? Well, yes, but the producers have decided to repack the product – and it comes with a new price tag. You no longer get the printed manual (it's available separately), but the members' price for Custodian 3 is now £27.00, plus p&p. This is a significant reduction and, in my view, brings this product into line with competitors.

There are a few new books on the Bookstall this time round. Simon Fowler has yet another book out, with a self-explanatory title, *Tracing Your Second World War Ancestors*. There's a newish Phillimore publication, *Living*

*Back-to-Back*, which focuses on a court of back-to-back houses in Birmingham, but develops this into a larger story of working class urban life, and I've taken a small stock of *How Much is that Worth?* I'll also be getting a few copies of a new Shire Book publication, *Victorian and Edwardian Prisons*, by Trevor May – that should prove topical at our Con-



ference, with David Hawkings talking about criminal ancestors.

These changes are reflected in the latest Bookstall Price List, included with this Journal, so

please make sure you refer to it when you place your order.

## Where we're going

There are not so many events to report this time, but the "Cook's Tour" since the last Journal has included Bracknell, Epsom, Crawley, Kidlington and Bath. But April looks like a busy month, as we plan to be at the following events:

- Sheffield FHS Fair, Saturday, April 1.
- Guild AGM & Conference, Yarnfield, Staffs, Friday–Sunday, April 7–9.
- Hereford FHS Open Day, Hereford Racecourse, Saturday, April 15.
- Gloucs FHS Open Day, Tuffley, Gloucs, Saturday, April 22.
- South Coast FH Fair, Worthing, Sussex, Sunday, April 23.
- SoG Family History Show, Westminster, London, Saturday, April 29.
- Kent FH Fair, Maidstone, Kent, Sunday, May 21.

If you're nearby, make a note to come and see us. These events

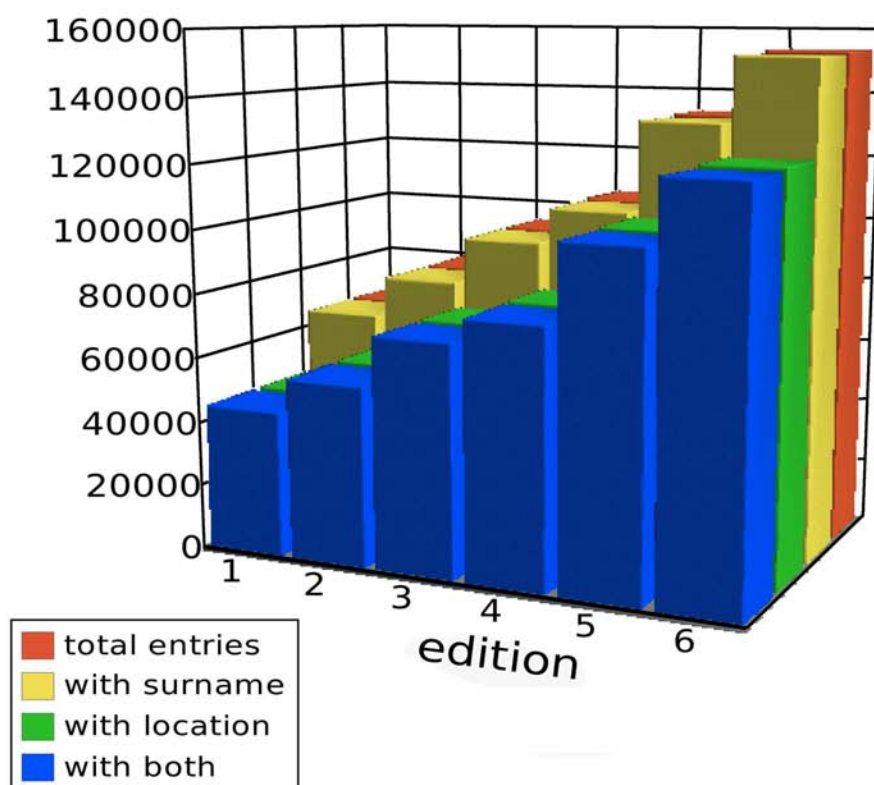
are always lots of fun. They're not just about selling things – with several hundred family historians in the place, there's plenty of social interaction, too!

## Thanks

What's so nice when people volunteer to help on the Bookstall is that they seem to want to do it all again. Here's the list of splendid people who've helped me this time round: Richard Heaton, Michael Walker, Jan Cooper, Ken Toll (twice), Monica Bush, Helen Williams, Denise Bright, Bill Corser, Liz and Peter Winney, Ken Mycock and Ken Grubb, and by the time you read this, Sue Atkins will have given up her time to support us at the Port Sunlight fair. Thank you, all of you, and if my memory has let me down and I've missed you, I hope you'll forgive me.

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

## Growth of the GMI



## Guild Marriage Index 1837-1911

THE GMI is now in its 6th edition with 153,637 marriages online. Included are 19,370 cardinal points. These are the first and last marriages in each GRO registration quarter for a particular parish or set of parishes and are a great asset for discovering the location of a marriage, given the page number from the GRO index. For example, thanks to the sterling efforts of Howard Benbrook, it is now possible to identify where any Anglican marriage in the Stepney and Mile End registration districts took place. Cardinal points for other areas have been contributed by other Guild members, often in conjunction with a Marriage Challenge.

[www.one-name.org/members/GMI/gmi.html](http://www.one-name.org/members/GMI/gmi.html)

Peter Alefounder  
Member 252



## *Thou shalt not deviate!* Confusion exists about difference between variants and deviants

**I AM RETURNING** to the question of variants and deviants. Over the last few months I've corresponded with a number of members on this topic. There still appears to be some confusion about the difference and how it affects registrations.

Put simply, a variant is an alternative spelling of a particular name used by individuals themselves, e.g. when signing a will or civil registration certificate. A deviant is a spelling of a name in an official document or transcription when the writer has written down what they thought they heard or read. Collecting data for our one-name study, we come across many alternative spellings of our name. The most I have heard of is over 230 for one member's surname.

Before universal education, many people could not read or write. Couples marrying told the vicar or sexton their names. He might not have been highly educated himself and wrote them down as he believed they were spelt, based on what he heard.

If the speaker had a broad dialect or speech impediment, or the writer was hard of hearing, the potential for mis-spelling a name is obvious. When records are transcribed from original documents in an unfamiliar hand, or from images of such documents, there is further scope for distortion. We are all aware of transcription errors in censuses.

Should you register deviant spellings as part of your ONS? No – why would you want to? They are transitory spellings that don't persist for any length of time. You will want to be aware of

such spellings and look out for them in documents or transcriptions to add to your study data.

How do you decide what variants to register? I say to new members: "Register variants that persist to the current day." Anyone seriously researching their family history will realise their surname may have had alternative spellings in the past and are likely to contact you if there appears to be a connection with your study.

If you have an uncommon name, variants will probably be obvious. But what should you do if you are studying a name that can be easily confused, especially in the past, with another name?

### Example

Let us consider a practical example. Guild Chairman Peter Walker, studies the name HOLLYER and has registered the variants, HOLYER and HOLLIER. He has found many deviant spellings, including HILLIER. He looks out for this spelling in past records and transcriptions in case the individual actually belongs to one of his families.

However, as a main name HILLIER has different roots from HOLLYER and is also registered to another member, Ron Hall. Ron has registered the variants HILLYER, HILIER and HILIVER. This is an instance where two members studying different names may be able to help each other.

But what about other variants? According to Office of National Statistics figures, there are over 50 HALLIERs and nearly 38 HULLYERs in Britain today. These names may have derived from HOLLYER or HILLIER indepen-

dently, or from HELLIER.

Should Ron or Peter register HALLIER or HULLYER? Remember the golden rule: when you register any variant you are agreeing to research any and all instances of that spelling worldwide, just as you do for your main name.

So if Peter registered the variant HULLYER as part of his HOLLYER study, he might trace back a few generations in one particular line and discover that the name was actually a variant of HILLIER. He couldn't drop that line and say: "Oh, I am only researching the name HULLYER where it can be traced back to, or linked with, a HOLLYER root".

Often, a true variant is likely to have a similar distribution to the primary name. A program such as *Surname Atlas* can assist in tracing variants and mis-spellings.

The name HELLIER was found in the past mainly in Devon and Cornwall, where there are almost no HOLLYERs or HOLLIERs. So when Peter is researching and spots a HELLIER entry in Leicestershire, Oxfordshire or Warwickshire, he would want to look at the entry in more detail. These are areas with concentrations of the HOLLIER name. There is a high probability that the HELLIER entry is actually a mis-spelling of HOLLIER. But he wouldn't register the variant HELLIER.

The instances he finds of mis-spellings do not mean it is a variant. He wouldn't want to research HELLIERs fully and, more importantly, there are far more HELLIERs than HOLLIERs.

To register a variant which far outnumbers the main spelling cannot be useful or practical. For either Peter or Ron to register



HELLIER would stop someone else from registering it as their primary name. So, to summarise...

- Only register true variants of your primary name, not deviant spellings.

- Don't register as a variant a spelling that far outnumbers the primary name.

- If you register a variant, then you agree to research any and all instances of that name.

A number of articles on variants and deviants have been published in past Journals. You might find the authoritative article by the Guild President, Derek Palgrave, in the January 2004 Journal, particularly interesting.

This is available for downloading on the Guild website at...

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

### ***Flesh on the bones***

BEDFORDSHIRE and Northamptonshire Family History Societies have joined forces with the FFHS to organise a prestigious conference entitled *Putting Flesh on the Bones: a study of the common man*, to be held at the University of Northampton on September 1-5.

An extensive programme of lectures and workshops will give valuable insights into the life and times of your ancestors and suggest new avenues of research. You can register for the full conference or for one or more days, or even part-days, as a resident or day visitor.

On Sunday, September 3, there will be a family and local history fair and "Time Village" of living history, supported by [Ancestry.co.uk](http://Ancestry.co.uk). Other supporters include The National Archives, Halstead Trust, National Maritime Museum, [1837online.com](http://1837online.com), FFHS Publications Ltd. and Family Tree Magazine.

You can get more details from...

[www.conference2006.org.uk](http://www.conference2006.org.uk)  
[bookings@conference2006.org.uk](mailto:bookings@conference2006.org.uk)  
or: Conference2006  
c/o 17 Swyncombe Green  
Hartwell, Northants NN7 2JA

# Reviews Reviews Reviews

## **New genealogy books and CDs**

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS ON THE WEB, Second Edition: Part 1, Southern England, The Marches and Wales; BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS ON THE WEB, Second Edition: Part 2, The Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia. Stuart A. Raymond, £6-95.**

INTERNET reference books quickly become out of date and a second edition of the above volumes was well overdue. Dealing with births, marriages and deaths, but not monumental inscriptions and war memorials, which have their own volumes, each book is set out geographically. A general section, the same in both parts, is followed by county sections. The counties start with general sections followed by references in parish order. These comprehensive booklets give numerous website addresses, but their prolonged use by one-namers is unlikely. I suggest referring to them in a library rather than purchasing.

**SCOTTISH FAMILY HISTORY ON THE WEB, Second Edition: A Directory. Stuart A Raymond, £6-95.**

FIRST impression of this book is that it is a third in the series above but, in fact, its contents are considerably more than the narrower range of the English set. The wider range of content makes the book more appealing and useful, but it's questionable whether it would get much use after the initial foray into its pages. It contains sections on family history societies, discussion groups, surnames (but not specific surnames), BMDs, censuses, MIs, occupational sources, gazetteers, etc. Each begins with a general section and then a listing in county order. It might be attractive to one-namers with strong Scottish links.

**TRACING YOUR TWENTIETH CENTURY FAMILY HISTORY. Stuart A. Raymond, £5-95.**

THIS popular book has been reissued. Perhaps best described as a pocket book, its 136 pages are crammed full of information and references. It covers the broad spectrum of family history without undue emphasis on any one subject. Each of its 22 chapters finishes with a list of useful web pages and suggestions for further reading. This is an excellent reference for anyone exploring recent ancestry or wishing to widen their genealogical knowledge.

**DATING TWENTIETH CENTURY PHOTOGRAPHS. Robert Pols, £6-50.**

THIS fascinating book is easy to read and deals with almost every conceivable factor in dating a photograph. The two important aspects of type of photograph (process, format and film) and dress are well described, but it is the detailed analysis of other factors that intrigues. Make-up, hair style and poses all give clues to the age of the photo. The outside shots that show motor cars, bicycles, street furniture and shops can lead to the dates being pin-pointed. Little details such as an L-plate on a car will show the scene must be after 1934 when L-plates were introduced. My only criticism is that the book could benefit from many more photographic examples. The 36 plates do not do justice to the multitude of detail that has been explained in the text. An excellent read, full of fascinating detail and value for money at £6-50.

- All the above books are published by the Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd.

PETER COPSEY



## Reviews

# Book on Dup  rouzel families is a model for others to follow

**PETROSELLUM: A Global History of the Families Dup  rouzel / Duperrouzel, by William Thomas Duperrouzel. Large format, soft cover, 350 pages, ISBN 0-9544314-0-5.  24.99 to Guild members from the author, 5 Rock Close, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2YJ.**

YOU KNOW when you pick up a book and say, "This is what I want to produce" that it must contain all the features suitable for a one-name researcher.

This is just how I felt when the Editor handed me Bill Duperrouzel's 300-plus-page book *Petrosellum*. What is "Petrosellum"? if you place "de" in front, it should become clearer. Bill, Guild member 4159, is an Australian, living in the UK.

On a first scanning, I was particularly impressed by the layout of the book. Divided into two parts, the first half concerns the family in France. Bill informs us from the start that Duperrouzel

is a French name from Normandy and the opening chapter goes to some lengths explaining possible derivations. The following chapters clarify the early years and origins of the two other spellings of the Duperrouzel name, Duperrouzel and Dup  rouzel.

The second half of the book covers the emigration of the family from France with a further four chapters, three of which deal with specific branches and the fourth pulling them all together. I particularly appreciated the individual drop-down family trees placed in each chapter, I am

informed this was an idea from Bill's wife Janet, who edited the book and played a major part in the translation work involved.

Being eager to learn more about the production method used, I requested Bill provide me with some more details. Janet and he had worked on collecting material since the 1970s, but the actual book writing process did not start until January 2002. The genealogy software used was Reunion v.4.0, which is no longer available for PCs. The word processing was accomplished using MS Word and Excel. Genealogy Printers of Wolverhampton printed the drop-down charts on large sheets and following conversion to Adobe Acrobat format, the complete book was handed to Parchment of Oxford for printing with a soft cover and perfect bound.

Bill is shy on revealing the true cost of this project; needless to say he will not make anything on it. Guild members may obtain the book from Bill at a special price of  24.99 and I can recommend it to those looking for a pattern when publishing their own research.  

ROD CLAYBURN

Roy Stockdill



the last word

**E**VERY TIME there is a family history programme on television you can bet your mortgage on one thing – the General Register Office will be overwhelmed with orders for birth, marriage and death certificates and the online ordering/waiting period will go out from four or five days to around a month or even longer.

Such has been the case with the second series of *Who Do You Think You Are?*, which seems once again to have brought thousands of newcomers to genealogy and family history flooding into our pastime. Some people seem to be upset about this, judging by the many messages I've seen on Internet genealogy mailing lists.

Does this really matter? The consensus seems to be NO. At the end of the day, as many people have pointed out, those we are researching are mostly dead and will still be there waiting for us to find them when the temporary upsurge in interest in family history has gone away.

It does, I confess, affect people like me who, wearing another hat, research ancestries on a professional basis and need to work quickly. However, we are small in number and can find alternatives, like going to the Family Records Centre where the delays do not currently apply.

However, in general terms I can't help feeling that the march of the Internet, and the amazing availability of online records now, has raised all our expectations far too high. Once upon a time we accepted without question that it might take several weeks for a certificate to reach us. I saw one message in which an American family historian stated it took them 11 months to get a birth certificate out of New York State, even with all details given!

***Are we being spoilt by the image of the availability of "instant" family trees, presented not only in the media but by some of the commercial outfits now advertising widely? The answer, surely, is an unequivocal YES.  ***

# Regional Representatives as at March 1 2006

## E-mail contact

To contact a Regional Representative by e-mail, use the alias in the following format:-  
**rep-scotland-north@one-name.org**, with the name of the region replacing  
 "scotland-north" as appropriate (put "-" instead of a space).

Where there is no e-mail contact, the message will go to **rep-coordinator@one-name.org**

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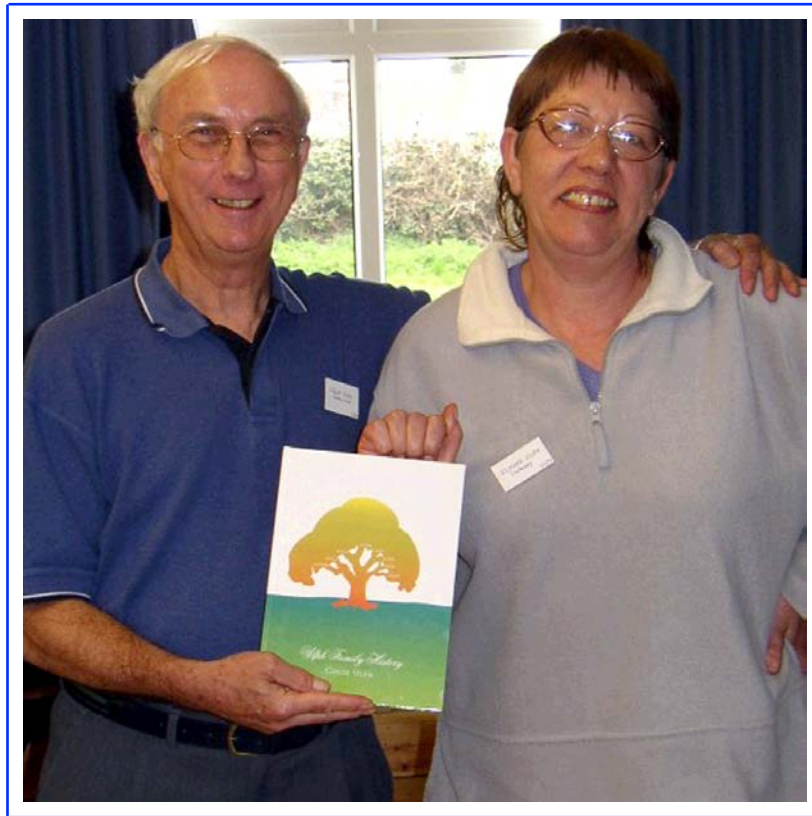
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•WE have vacancies for RRs in the following areas:  
 HAMPSHIRE, LANCASHIRE,  
 LEICESTERSHIRE, LONDON, NOR-  
 FOLK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

# Ulph One-Name Study is in print



*COLIN ULPH, Guild member No. 501, is pictured with fellow researcher Elaine Ulph at the launch of his book, **Ulph Family History**, which tells the story of the Ulphs and related surnames through the ages and of his one-name study. In an article on page 20, Colin relates how he conceived and wrote the book and saw it through the various production stages into print. We are always pleased to hear of members who publish their researches for posterity and hope Colin's article will encourage others to do the same. ○*

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