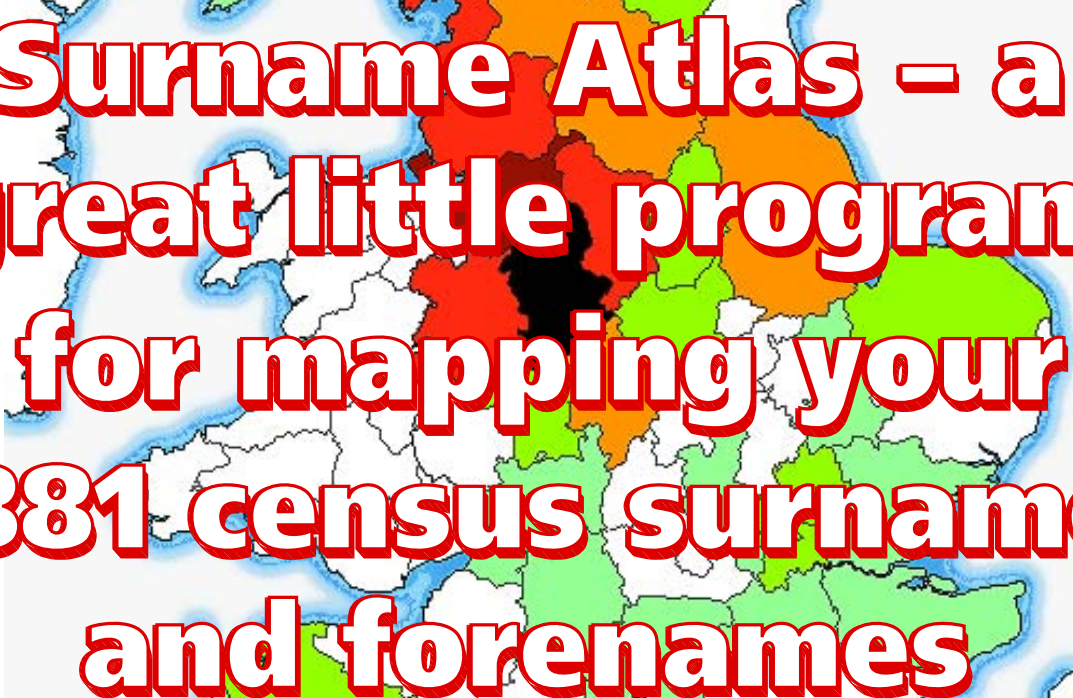


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A LIST of Regional Representatives
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counties and overseas can be found
on the inside back cover of this
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contact the Regional Representa-
tives Coordinator, Barbara Harvey
(address and phone number on the
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The Journal of One-Name Studies is
published quarterly by the Guild of
One-Name Studies.

ISSN 0262-4842

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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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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES



By Ken Toll

Wanna job? We need more willing volunteers to help run the Guild

WARNING – this is a job advertisement! We are in need of a few more volunteers to help run the Guild. Before you all rush, I thought it might help if I set the scene.

In common with most other societies, the Guild depends on a small group of dedicated volunteers, its Trustees – more commonly referred to as the Committee – to keep things running. This, in turn, is supported by a number of sub-committees, working groups and post holders, who undertake the detailed day-to-day activities of managing the Guild.

Finite time

However, the existing volunteers have finite free time and periodically new volunteers are required to assist or take on new duties. We are currently short of two people on the Committee, and need active help in a number of other areas.

So how much time is involved? Being a Committee member requires attendance at typically five meetings each year (11.00–17.00, Saturdays, in London), plus time to fulfil actions. Sub-committees meet two to four times a year. Some post holders do in excess of 20 hours a week, others rather less.

I would ask that all members seriously consider whether they are willing and able to assist, even if only for a year or two. If you are interested, and would like to know more, please get in touch with me (you will find my contact details inside the front cover).

Privacy and the one-namer

Following our Editor's personal column last month, I thought it would be useful to share some of my own ideas on the subject – and I must stress that they are strictly my own personal thoughts and do **not** in any way represent the views of the Committee.

When I participated in the Privacy Working Group a few years back, it became clear that Guild members had a wide range of attitudes towards privacy, ranging from those who collect and publish all data to those who choose to limit what they collect and share. It was decided that the Guild could not have one policy that would fit all circumstances and it would be inappropriate to recommend one.

Recent correspondence and discussions with other members has caused me to re-think my own privacy policy (i.e. NOT the Guild's or the Committee's). Here is my initial draft:

Data Collection: I collect ALL references to my registered name and variants, and other similar names where entries in documents may have been recorded incorrectly. I collect references to people associated with individuals within my ONS (spouses, in-laws, cousins, witnesses, etc.). Where others have donated data, I retain the information, note the source and add whether it appears to be hearsay or verifiable data.

Publication: In future I will only publish data on individuals born prior to 1912. Where I have incorporated information pro-

vided by others into a publication I will endeavour to acknowledge the source. I will only publish hearsay when it is genealogically relevant and I can acknowledge the source. I will only deposit data on individuals born prior to 1912.

Dissemination: I will not share contact details of individuals without their specific agreement. Where others have provided information on people born during or after 1912, I will not share it unless I have the provider's agreement. I will honour any bona fide request to cease sharing information about a living individual.

I have chosen to distinguish between publication and dissemination. To me, publication is information which is in the public domain and would include printed pedigrees, books or web-based information. Dissemination is the sharing of information between family members and other interested researchers, without putting that information into the public domain. I consider data to be hearsay when the informant does not have documentary evidence or first-hand knowledge of an event.

Compromise

I have chosen a 1912 cut-off as a sensible compromise. It enables me to share details from the 1901 (and later the 1911) census, and maiden names prior to the change in the English and Wales civil registration indexes in 1911. I may revise the cut-off date in the future, should the need arise.

I welcome constructive comment, brickbats and accolades. ○

You shouldn't always believe the surname experts!



A COUSIN of mine, who is also a Stockdill, said to me a while back: "You didn't tell me our name comes from Cambridgeshire." I replied: "I didn't because it doesn't! Our name comes from Yorkshire."

Chatting, it transpired that his daughter had had to do a family history project at school and, in looking up our surname in one of those dictionaries that tell you the origins of any name, she had read that Stockdale – the root name of which ours is a variant – was peculiar to Cambridgeshire.

This being the first I had heard of it, I investigated further. I discovered the surnames dictionary she had used was based on the classic work, *Homes of Family Names in Great Britain*, by Henry Brougham Guppy, which was published in 1890. It was a pioneering work in its day, and perhaps the first great surnames work, but research has moved on since then, and I was surprised to find a modern book of surnames was still using what was clearly an out-of-date reference.

My surprise was compounded when I then learnt that another names expert for whom I have respect, Leslie Dunkling, repeated the Guppy error without comment in his work, *The Guinness Book of Names*, my edition being published as recently as 1995.

It seems Guppy made a special study of farmers, whom he considered the most stay-at-home class of people in the country. He listed, county-by-county, surnames which he considered were found mainly in one county only – and he placed Stockdale as being peculiar to Cambridgeshire.

Quite how Guppy could have failed to notice that the county

of Yorkshire in 1890 was awash with farmers, and other people, called Stockdale is a mystery I shall never fathom!

Another surnames pioneer, C. W. Bardsley, whose famous *Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames* was published in 1901 got it mostly right when he wrote of the name Stockdale...

"Local, 'of Stockdale,' one of the dales in North England. I have failed to identify it...Probably the locality will be found in Yorkshire, on the borders of Westmoreland."

Of course, Bardsley did not have the advantage of computers and modern Ordnance Survey maps and gazetteers. In the course of my one-name study, I have located at least half a dozen places called Stockdale – all of them fairly remote, moorland spots – in Yorkshire and the adjoining county of Cumberland.

Since the surname is found overwhelmingly in sources such as the 1881 census and the IGI in Yorkshire, and to a lesser degree in Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, Lincolnshire and other surrounding counties, there can be no doubt that these places are the source of the surname. Some Stockdales stemmed from Cumberland, but since the population of Yorkshire is very substantially larger, then it is correct to speak of it as being overwhelmingly a Yorkshire surname.

I was grateful to note that what most people today seem to regard as the bible of surnames, *A Dictionary of English Surnames*, by P. H. Reaney and R. M. Wilson, has the definition right when it identifies Stockdale, Stockdill and Stogdale as deriving from Yorkshire and Cumberland.

However, I have to report that

even Reaney and Wilson are not infallible, either!

Let us take another common northern surname, SHACKLETON, which also happens to figure in my ancestry. Reaney and Wilson define this as follows...

"From Scackleton (NRYorks), a Scandinavianized form of OE Scacoldenu. The surname preserves the original English Sh-."

I was very dubious about this when I first read it, since Scackleton is a tiny place in North Yorkshire between Easingwold and Malton, whereas my research suggested that Shackleton is principally a surname of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Discussing this with Dr. George Redmonds, the great expert on Yorkshire surnames, he told me he thought the Reaney and Wilson version was quite wrong – and I agree with him.

According to Dr. Redmonds, the name Shackleton derives from a locality in the district of Wadsworth, near Hebden Bridge in the Calder Valley, originally called "Shackletonstall". It ramified locally into nearby Haworth and became a prolific surname in the city of Bradford.

Having as a boy lived near Hebden Bridge and been aware of the hamlet of Shackleton, I am quite certain Dr. Redmonds is right. All my own researches into the surname – my Shackleton ancestors lived at Kirkby Malham in the Yorkshire Dales – show it to be principally West Yorkshire-based, and I believe Reaney and Wilson's claim that it is derived from the place called Scackleton in North Yorkshire to be totally erroneous.

So it just goes to show that you shouldn't always believe everything the experts say! ○

How to get the most from your Guild one-name e-mail address



By PETER WALKER

In a previous issue of the Journal earlier this year, our former Librarian John Colloff wrote about the valuable facility available to members of having their own Guild e-mail address which remained unchanged, however often they changed their ISP. This, alone, was worth the subscription, John reckoned.

In this follow-up article, our Forum Manager PETER WALKER delves deeper into the intricacies of the system and gives detailed instructions for setting up your one-name.org address in different e-mail programs.

IN THE April-June 2003 issue of the Journal (Vol 8 Issue 2), John Colloff wrote about the Guild's valuable one-name e-mail address system and how members – even those without an Internet account of their own – can use it. This article describes some further aspects of the system and, in particular, how you can make your outgoing messages show your Guild address as the source of the message.

But first a recap: why should you use a Guild e-mail address? Most e-mail addresses are supplied to you by your Internet Service Provider (ISP). So if you are an AOL customer, you will have an e-mail address in the form **someone@aol.com**. For security reasons, you can't use one ISP's e-mail server via another ISP's access, except, of course, when you use web-based e-mail systems like Hotmail, Lycos, etc. This means that if you change your ISP, you will have to change your e-mail address and, unless you manage to inform all your correspondents, you may lose contact with them. There's not much you can do about old magazines and directories where you may have published your address.

ISP change

People change ISPs for many reasons: perhaps to get a better price, or maybe to get a flat rate (unmetered) package, or to move to broadband. Changes can also be caused when ISPs go bust or get taken over. The Guild e-mail system is not a substitute for your own e-mail account, but is what is known as an Alias. Any e-mails sent to **someone@one-name.org** are sent to the Guild's ISP, where they are redirected to your own regular e-mail account.

If you have to change your e-mail address, the Guild can alter the redirection and your **one-name.org** e-mails will continue to reach you. You won't have to tell your genealogy contacts about your new address. Using a Guild address also gives others confidence

that you are a Guild member – sadly, some one-namers claim to be Guild members when they're not.

How will you let others know about your Guild **one-name.org** address? Obvious ways are the Guild's own Register and website. You'll no doubt publicise your address on your own website, if you have one, and in magazines and directories. But there is another very effective way of putting your **one-name.org** address about and that is by using it on your outgoing e-mails. This may surprise you, since the Guild's alias redirection service plays no part in delivering your outgoing messages, so how can your outgoing messages use your Guild address?

First, you need to understand a little bit about the information that gets sent in the header of an e-mail. If you've ever studied the header of an e-mail, it can look like gobbledygook. I'm not going to go into any detail of what it all means, but there are two key lines that you see on most e-mails...

```
Return-Path: <John.Smith36@ISP.com>  
From: "Johnny Smith" <John.Smith36@ISP.com>
```

In this example, a person called John Smith with the e-mail address John.Smith36@ISP.com is the sender of the e-mail. He wants his name shown as "Johnny Smith" in the "From:" field when the e-mail is read. He has also set his Reply-to address to the same address. It might surprise you to know that in most cases you can alter all of these fields yourself to display something else. For example, when I post messages to the Guild Forum in my role as Forum Manager, the outgoing e-mail has its fields set as follows:

```
Return-Path: <forum@one.name.org>  
From: "Guild Forum Manager (Peter Walker)"  
<forum@one.name.org>
```

(Note: In the above example, the "From" field would normally be all on one line on-screen).

So how does this help you? Firstly, by

setting the Reply-to address to your Guild alias, any return e-mails will use that address and not your regular one. Secondly, many e-mail clients – i.e. the software you use for e-mail, such as Outlook Express – automatically add addresses to their address book from received e-mails, so you will be able to get your preferred e-mail address embedded in your correspondents' address books and thereby encourage its use in preference to your ordinary address.

So how do you achieve this? The rest of this article details the procedures to be used for some popular e-mail clients/systems. The first important point to consider is that you probably want to use your Guild Alias address only for your one-name study or other genealogy e-mails. For your ordinary family e-mails, you will probably want to stick with your regular address.

Personality

If so, you need to create a different account or "personality" for your genealogy e-mails. The use of the word "account" is a bit confusing here, as we are not talking about setting up another ISP account, merely a different identity using your regular ISP account. This will allow you to use whichever identity is appropriate for each message.

Before getting into the detail, it is worth mentioning that this flexibility to alter these fields is

what brings us the curse of much spam and viruses, which either seem to come from non-existent addresses or from addresses belonging to others. It is very easy to "spoo" the address that an e-mail comes from, as we will see.

Tracking down the actual source of a message is very complicated and well beyond the scope of this article. But it is because of this spoofing capability that some ISPs do not allow you to change the "From" address, while others do not allow you to change either the "From" or "Reply-to" addresses. Amongst the ISPs that allow no changes are AOL and CompuServe.

Spammers

Several web-based e-mail systems only allow the "Reply-to" address to be changed, e.g. Hotmail and Yahoo, but Lycos and Talk21 don't support any changes. Some ISPs do not allow the "From" address to be changed even if you change the setting on your e-mail client – this helps discourage spammers. Supanet appears to be one such.

A point worth mentioning is that it is only necessary for the "Reply-to" address to be changed for that address to be valid when using the Guild Forum. So if you want to change your Guild Forum registered address to your Guild one-name address, please let me know.



Figure One – Entering incoming and outgoing mail server addresses in Outlook Express

Instructions for Outlook Express

The most popular e-mail client is Outlook Express (OE). Here are the detailed instructions on how to set up a new OE account with your Guild one-name address...

To set up the new account, go: Tools–Accounts–Add–Mail. Click Next to accept your name. In the e-mail address box fill in **xxx@one-name.org**, then click Next. Now you need to enter your incoming and outgoing mail server addresses. Fill in the addresses you use on your regular e-mail account (see Figure One, left). To see what these are, select Properties of the regular account, then Servers. They will be something like

pop3.ispname.com

and

smtp.ispname.com

Click Next. Now fill in the same account username and password you use on your regular e-mail account. Click Next and then Click Finish. Now click Properties. In the top box, fill in the name you want to use for this account, maybe Genealogy or GOONS (see Figure Two on page 8).

Fill in Reply address with your Guild one-name address and check that the e-mail

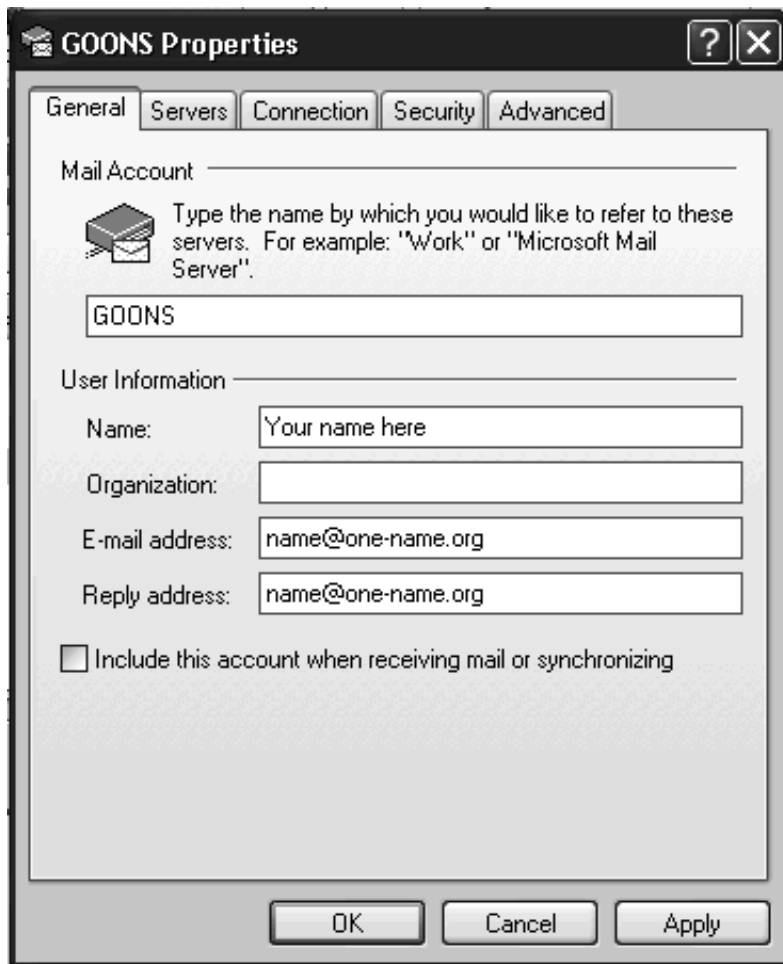


Figure Two – Enter your Guild one-name e-mail address in the appropriate fields in Outlook Express

address has the same. Uncheck the "Include this account ..." box, as you will never want to receive using this account. Click OK to finish.

When sending an e-mail, click on the right hand down arrow in the From line and select the new Genealogy/GOONS account.

Instructions for Netscape Navigator

Netscape is different from Outlook Express in that it assumes you will only ever use one outgoing mail server, so there's no need to set up the outgoing side. But a dummy incoming side needs adding, even though you won't actually use it. Here are the instructions...

Go Edit-Mail and Newsgroup Preferences-Add Account. This starts the Account Wizard. Click Next. Fill in your name in the name box and your Guild address in the e-mail box. Click Next.

Fill in your incoming server address (same as your normal account, e.g. **pop.ispname.com**). Click Next. Netscape now wants a username. I thought this meant the username that my ISP knows me as, but Netscape objects if you set up more than one account with the same server name and username. But since you won't use this account for receiving mail, you can just fill in anything here, e.g. "dummy" worked for me! Click Next. Enter the

name you want for this account, e.g. **XXX One Name Study**. Click Next. Check the details, then click Finish.

Select your new account in the top left box. Fill in the Reply-to address with your Guild address. Click on the account's Server Settings and uncheck the boxes for "new mail at start-up" and "check for new messages", since you won't be downloading with this account.

Instructions for Eudora

Only the Reply address can be changed. Go Tools-Options-Personalities-New Fill in... Real Name (Your name). POP account (your regular e mail address). Default Domain (Your POP server address). Return address (Your Guild Address). SMTP server (Your SMTP server address). Tick "Leave mail on server".

Instructions for Pegasus

Click on File-Network Configuration-General. At the field marked "My internet e-mail address is:", fill in your Guild address.

Instructions for Hotmail

As mentioned above, only your Reply address can be changed.

Go to <http://www.hotmail.com> and sign yourself in. You will then get taken to your account page. Click on Options, then on Reply-related Options. On the next page Click on the bottom radio button marked "Identify the address below as the reply-to address" and fill in the box with your Guild address. Click OK.

Instructions for Yahoo

The Reply address can be changed. Go to <http://uk.yahoo.com>, click on Mail and sign yourself in. On the e-mail screen, click on Mail-Options-General Preferences and fill in the Reply to address box. Click Save.

I am grateful to a number of Guild members for supplying some of this detailed information. I have not been able to check them all personally, so please let me know of any corrections needed. Have fun with your Guild e-mail address! ○

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FamilyHistoryOnline boasts over 14 million records

Many more being added to Federation site

THE FEDERATION of Family History Societies launched its pay-per-view website, called FamilyHistoryOnline, at Christmas 2002 with just over four million records. The site now boasts 14.6 million records from England and Wales and continues to grow on a regular basis. Rather like its National Burial Index, however, the Federation's website does not currently cover the whole of the country.

The URL is: www.familyhistoryonline.net

The initial page (Figure One, below) is extremely useful, as it shows graphically those counties that have data included. It is interesting to note that, unlike the NBI, the map is not colour coded to show the scale of the entries involved, but purely whether there is information or not. The series of buttons down the left hand side take you to pages on "How to use the service", "What databases are included?", "FAQ" and "Sign on as a new user". If you haven't

used the site before, both the "How to" and FAQ are worth reading. How many of us never do? It is also worth checking the coverage for each county, as it varies from as little as 400 for Dorset to 3.1 million for Cornwall within the "What databases are included?".

You can also expand here the details about the database, and it will even tell you if the society that produced the data sells it in any other form. Signing up as a new user is an easy process and requires the minimum amount of information, but you can't search the website without registering. Once you have registered, you can then sign in.

The screen you are presented with tells you the date of the last update to the site and also the databases that were updated or added at that time. Just because you have been there once and looked at a database doesn't necessarily mean that it is the same one every time! There are ongoing

projects, so it is worth checking back from time to time. Those that are ongoing are marked as such in the list of databases mentioned earlier.

The top three buttons on the left are the same as the initial screen but the following have been added:

- Person search
- Recent searches
- Account details
- Change details
- Logout

The "change details" takes you to a page that shows your current details and permits you to amend them. It is essential that you log out

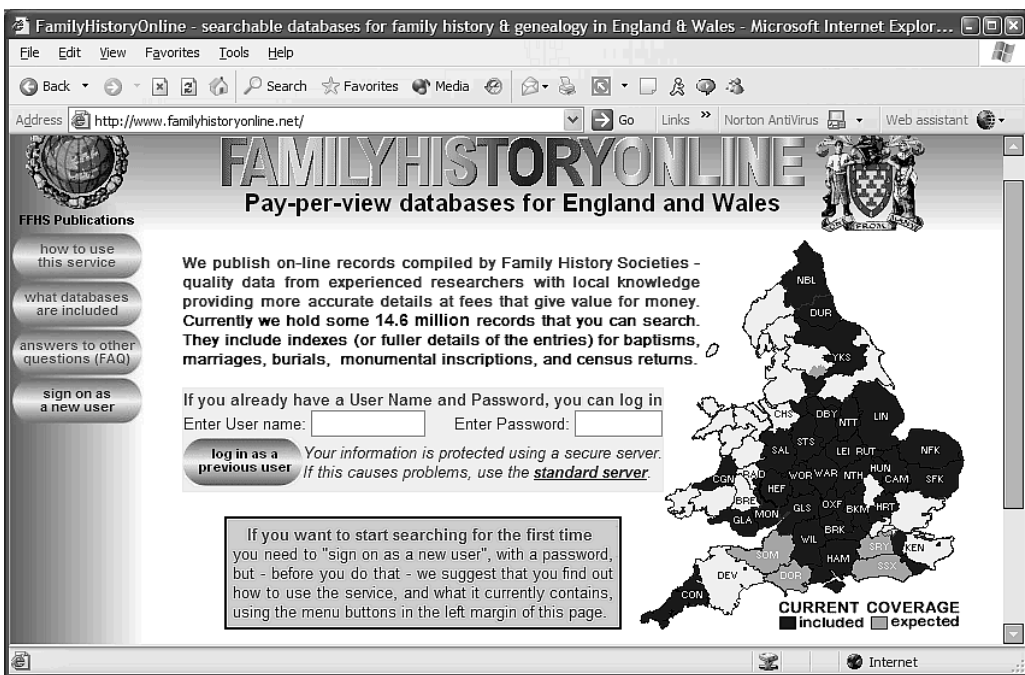


Figure One – The opening screen of FamilyHistoryOnline

when you have finished, especially if you are using it in a public space, as, like the 1901 census, someone could come along and use your account.

All right, down to the essentials – searching the master database and extracting the data from it. Figure Two (this page, below) shows the initial search screen: simple but it caters for the needs of the site, though not necessarily the needs of the user.

One thing that should be said to start with is that the site has been designed to work with surnames and at the minute it is not possible to search simply on a first name. So, no getting all of the entries that relate to your one-name study where it was used as a first name. Also, if you don't do anything you will automatically be logged out after only 15 minutes, which is to my mind a little on the short side.

Enter your surname in the box and press the search button. You can specify to search for variants as well, but at the minute the list of variant names is based on the list used in the NBI. Working with the Thesaurus of British Surnames – www.ToBS.org.uk – and others, it is hoped to further refine the listing of variants. For the more common names you may want to specify the first name as well and, again here, you can specify using variants (to pick up Wm for William, etc.). You can also specify a year of birth and range of year and, at the moment, you can specify the county where the event took place (but see the note at the end about the future).

Results

Here I have searched for "Halste*d" (not my own study but I have been doing some work for the Halsted Trust) and the result is shown in Figure Three (top of page 11). The result lists the 454 results found. However, that is not the true count of the number of records. The actual number of records is 353 with the remaining 81 being those,

like the top entry, with a small superscript 2 (or even 3 or 4). The superscript "2" indicates that it was a person's second forename, the "3" the third and so on. Unfortunately, it is not possible to remove these from the list.

The entries do tend to explain themselves, even entry number four. This relates to marriages of an Abraham Halstead in Halifax between 1803 and 1811. Now, as there are only two entries and the range for the Halifax marriages from the database description is greater than that, then it is almost certain that one took place in each year. Similarly, the baptism of Abraham in the entry three took place in 1816.

Options

As you will see from the top lines, with the "view as text" option, the results are displayed at 30 entries to the page and there are 16 pages to work with. The number of entries per page can be changed to 10, 20, 30 or 50 and the result will be re-displayed. However, it would be nice if you could specify this to begin with.

I found, though, that the better way is to select the "view as table" option. This will reproduce the result and display all the entries in a single table as in Figure Four (page 11, bottom left). With this on the screen and with your spreadsheet already open, you can highlight the table information, then copy and paste it straight in. It is then possible to do all the filtering and re-sorting that you require.

So far you haven't spent a penny, and if you have access to the information from elsewhere there is no need to. However if you do decide that you want to proceed and buy the information, then you click on the price at the end of the line. Payment is by voucher only (for £5 or £10) but you can buy a virtual voucher online by credit or debit card, and these include £20 and £50 amounts. Even virtual vouchers are valid for six months, unlike most other pay-per-view sites.

Account

Once you've viewed the information you bought, you can buy information on other entries in the free search results, or go back and make a different free search. By clicking on the "account details" button at any time, you can check on what amount currently remains unspent on your voucher.

But you have to be very careful because, if you click on the amount to pay at the end of a

FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES
FAMILYHISTORYONLINE
 Pay-per-view databases for England and Wales

Search

Use this form to look for entries of interest in the name index.

Surname: *Wildcards: Use ? for a single character and * for any number of characters*
 include variants *include similar names*

Forename: *Wildcards: Use ? and * as for surnames*
 include variants *include similar names e.g. Thos for Thomas*

County or area: *specific part of the UK or all*

Year: ± exact years *when the event took place e.g. 1851 for Census*
 Leave blank for all years *e.g. years of birth estimated from age*

include birth years

FFHS Publications

- how do I use this service?
- what databases are included
- any other questions?
- person search
- recent searches
- account details
- change details
- logout

Figure Two – The initial screen where you enter your search

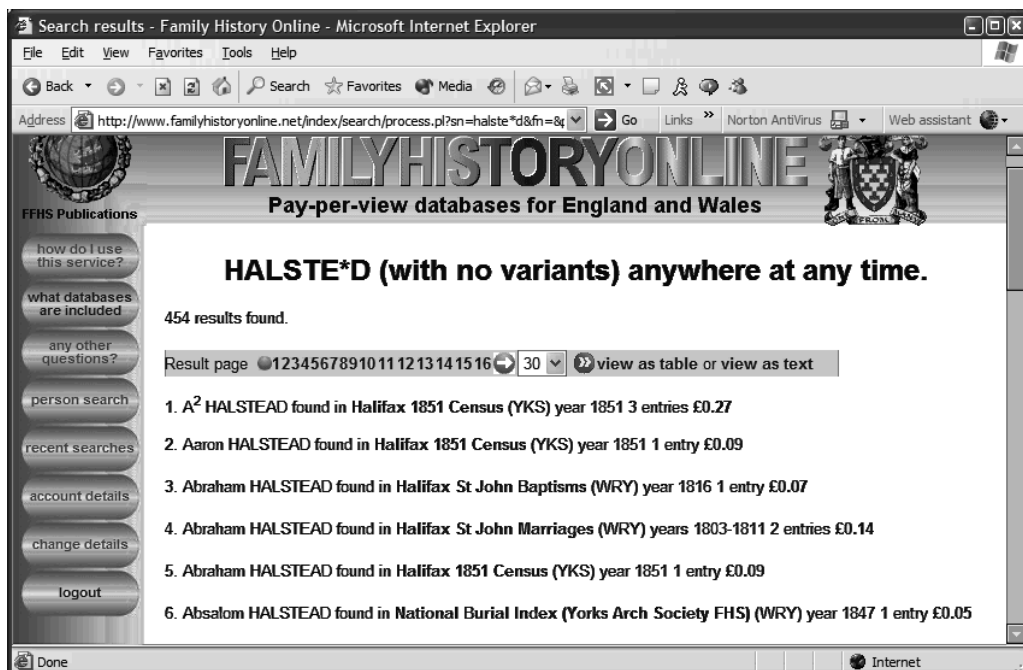


Figure Three – Results as text of a search for the name Halste*d

result, you can find you've spent money without meaning to. This may be an issue that the project team have on their list of items to look at. The amount that you pay for each entry will depend on the type of information and details can be found on the "How to use this service" page. The result can again be displayed in a tabular format and then copied into your spreadsheet.

One nice feature of the site is the "recent searches" button, which lets you view a list of all the search results that you paid to see within the past seven days. Any that are within the past 48 hours you can look at again for free.

Like all good websites, this one continues to change on a regular basis. I've been told the project team is already working on narrowing down results

view an excessive number of records for the same name, such as "John Jones".

Despite these minor criticisms FamilyHistoryOnline makes an extremely useful resource for one-namers.

JOHN HANSON
Member 2572
16 Audley Mead
Bradwell Village
Milton Keynes
MK13 9BD
fosker@one-name.org

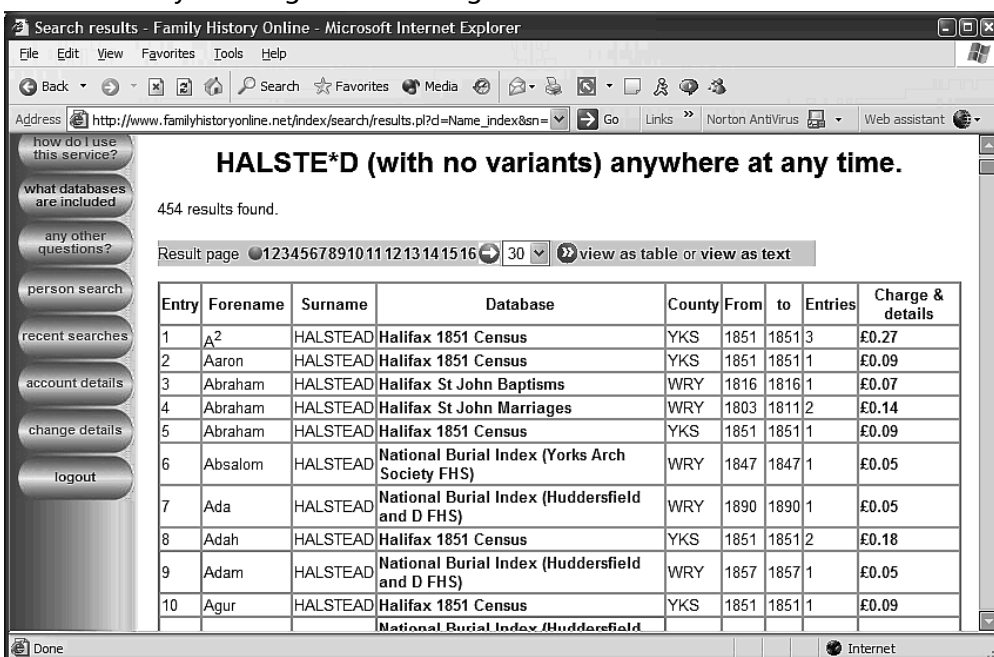


Figure Four – Result of a search for Halste*d in tabular form

You may have read in the previous Journal in the report of the AGM about the presentation by Paul Millington on "Putting Civil Registration Data on Your Website". This has progressed into a Guild project and Paul will be unveiling this web-based utility at the Epson Internet Seminar, as you will read elsewhere. This project is not to be confused with the Guild Marriage Index; there is no connect between the two. A full review of the utility will be included in the next edition of the Journal.

Officials storm a public library and snatch genealogy society's microfilm

By Richard Eastman



THE following disturbing story is revealed in the September 15 edition of Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter – at www.eogn.com – by well-known American genealogist Dick Eastman. It tells how officials of a health district board "stormed" a public library and seized genealogical records held on microfilm, claiming they could be used by terrorists or criminals.

IN A bizarre twist of logic, the Huron County, Ohio, General Health District interpreted a new fee structure for ordering copies of birth and death certificates as meaning that those certificates should not be made available at all. Despite the new guideline specifically stating the fees for making such copies, the Huron County General Health District refuses to issue any certificates at all at any price.

Tim Hollinger, a board member, refuses to issue copies of these public domain records, citing concerns that they could fall into the hands of "terrorists, number one, or criminals,"

This is despite the fact that the laws clearly state that such information is public domain within the United States and cannot legally be withheld. In fact, the new Ohio law about fees clearly states under what conditions those records are to be released. Hollinger appears to be ignoring the law that he does not approve of.

Bizarre

Now here is where the story really gets bizarre. It seems that the Huron County Genealogical Society had a copy of those records on microfilm. The microfilm version was made some years ago by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. In fact, microfilm copies of the records are available in many places. However, members of the county's General Health District "stormed" the public library in Norwalk, Ohio, and seized the Huron County Genealogical Society's copy of the microfilm. The society has asked for the return of the microfilm, but the General Health District has so far refused.

Local historian and genealogy society member Henry Timman appeared before the General Health District and stated: "You're retaining our property without our consent. We'd like to have our records back, that's what we'd like." He also said that "Ohio law supersedes personal opinion" and that the genealogy group will consider going to the police or court to get back the records.

• Are all of us using the tools of terrorists or criminals in our genealogy research?

- Should this information be locked up?
- Should a new set of fees be used to justify illegal seizure of a non-profit society's property?
- Can public domain government data be withheld by local government officials?

Journal Editor Roy Stockdill adds some further detail from Internet research...

According to a Ohio newspaper, *The Morning Journal*, there were about 20 rolls of microfilm seized by the Health District officials. Henry Timman spoke at the Board of Health's meeting as a member of the genealogical society, along with Mary Carabin, another member who was appointed to a committee to track down the missing microfilm for the local chapter. Hollinger, a board member, argued with Timman about the availability of the records because they could fall into the hands of "terrorists, number one, or criminals" and he wouldn't want his birth certificate given out, he said.

After Timman and Carabin left the meeting room, the board agreed to void the payment it had previously told the genealogy society it would pay for the microfilm. Timman said the society was offered about \$600 for the records.

The problem between the genealogists and the Board of Health began in June when the board received notice from the Ohio Department of Health that the cost of obtaining a certified copy of such records was rising, said Timman. The new law went into effect on July 1, and Timman believes the Board of Health misinterpreted the state's intent and subsequently "stormed" the library and took the microfilm, believing the film was no longer for public use. Timman stands firm that the records are public and the Board of Health maintains that they are not.

About six years ago, the Health District wanted to preserve the county's birth and death certificates on microfilm, so the records were transferred to film at the cost of about \$600 that was paid for by the Church of Latter-Day Saints. The local chapter of genealogists bought a full copy of the records from the Church and kept the collection at the Norwalk Public Library for easy public access, said Timman.

In the latest development, according to *The Morning Journal* website, the Ohio Department of Health says it is going to demand that *all* collections of the vital records must be returned to it by November 15, even those outside its direct control.

Could this mean that genealogists face the prospect of officials raiding their homes and seizing their research? And if in Ohio, why not elsewhere? Frightening is hardly the word for it! ○

STEVE ARCHER first told me about *Surname Atlas* at a family history fair. He was there selling his previous programs, *GenMap UK* and *LDS Companion*. He gave me a sneak preview of his new idea to take an extract of the 1881 British Census and use this as the basis to map surnames in an easy-to-use format. Type in a name, any name, hit the button and there – voila! – is its distribution throughout Great Britain. I took one look at it and put him in no doubt that I would bite his arm off to sell it on the bookstall, especially for the benefit of Guild members.

Nearly a year later, I have not changed my mind about *Surname Atlas*. It's most definitely easy to use. Open the jewel case, take out the CD, plonk it in the drive and it will run automatically, straight off the CD. None of that messy installation business! Mind you, it needs to

be user friendly. It's a no-nonsense package. You won't get a user manual. But, then again, I don't think you will need one, and there's on-line Help if you need it.

The start-up screen is reassuring. There are just two big buttons to choose from: which would you like, Surnames or Forenames? Yes, it does forenames, too – but more of that later. Hit the Surnames button and you meet the screen you'll probably use the most (see Figure One below).

There's already a list of surnames in the table on the left. This shows all the surnames to be found in the 1881 census, ranked by the number of occurrences. There are over 400,000 different names! Top of the list, of course, is SMITH, with 422,733 entries, and you can work your way down this list all the way to ZYTYORSKI, which has a single entry. Mind you, there are many, many names with just a single entry,

With Surname Atlas a picture tells a thousand words



By **HOWARD BENBROOK**

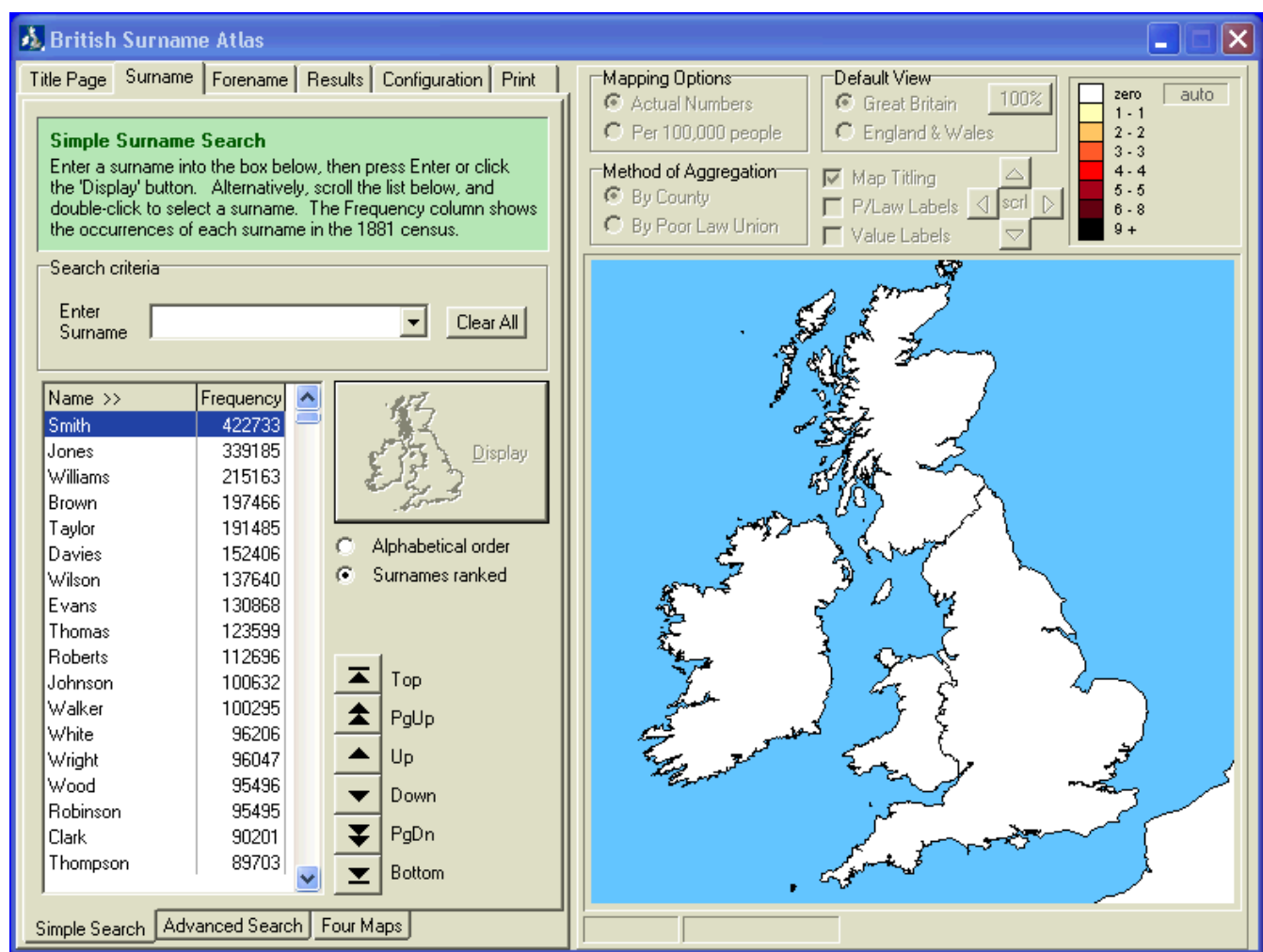


Figure One – What you see when you open the program and select the Surnames button

which just goes to show that it's awfully common to have a "rare" surname!

But you won't be interested in SMITH or ZYTYOR-SKI – you'll want your chosen name. Just enter the name, as you normally spell it, in the *Enter Surname* field. For the purposes of this review, I'll use a name, POINTON, that neatly illustrates all the points I want to make (Figure Two, immediately below). From the table, left, there are 1,267 Pointons in the 1881 census, and you can see the majority of them live in

Want to know the most common forename in 1881? It was MARY

village called Poynton in Cheshire. Could it be that we're close to the source? And that's the point. For a one-namer, this program helps you to see something that's difficult to describe in words: the geographic distribution of a name. The clusters of occurrences can help to focus your research.

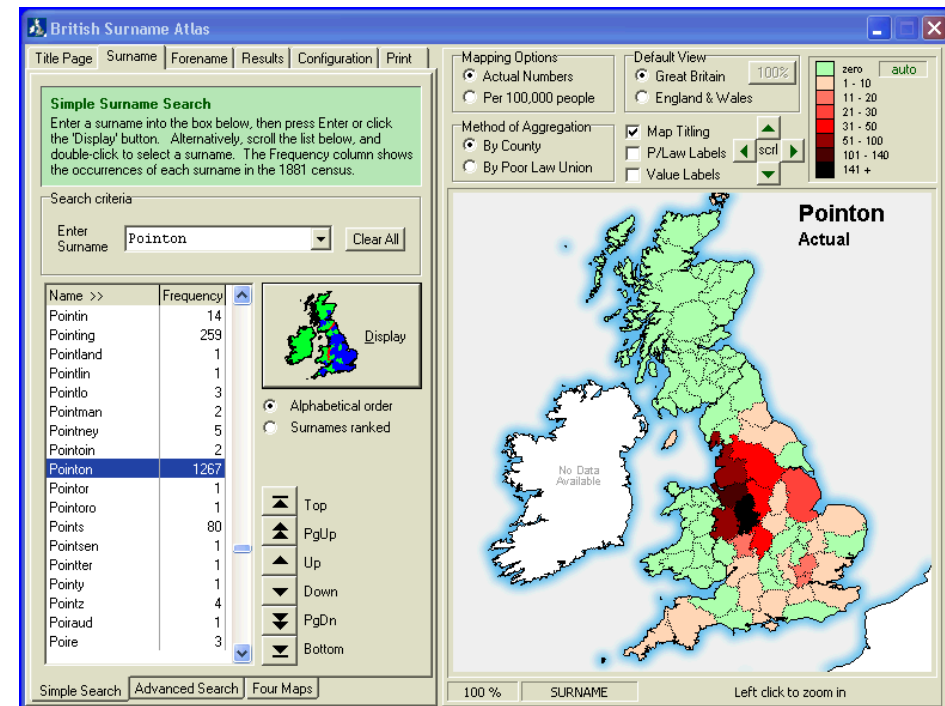


Figure Two – Distribution map of the surname Pointon

Staffordshire. If you can't remember your British counties, select *County Labels*, and they'll be displayed. To find how many Pointons are in Staffordshire, select *Value Labels*. There are 735 – well over half the total. Following the theory that concentrations of occurrences of surnames are a firm indicator to their geographic origin, Staffordshire looks a strong contender as the source.

Even at this early stage, you can manipulate this map. You can zoom in and out with the left and right mouse buttons or, by using click-and-drag, trace an outline of the map as you would like it redrawn. But numbers of occurrences can be misleading when it comes to origins. Both Yorkshire and Lancashire were heavily populated in 1881, so it's no surprise to find many occurrences there. The option to display per 100,000 people removes the bias towards heavily populated areas, and for POINTON the emphasis on Staffordshire reduces; both Cheshire and Shropshire look possible. You can go one step further. With just a few counties displayed, you can show the distribution by Poor Law Union (Figure Three, right).

Sure enough, the places where the name POINTON is concentrated straddle the county boundaries. In Congleton, for instance, there are 289 occurrences per 100,000 people. I happen to know that there is a

others by selecting them from the full Surname List and hitting the green arrowhead.

Once you hit the big button with the map of the British Isles, you will get the distribution of all the chosen variants in your Search List. The five default variants for POINTON generated a map that was not, in the end, very different from the original spelling, although the total number went up to 1,798. Incidentally, the *Results* tab displays full details of the selected extract from the underlying database and these can be pasted into a spreadsheet using the *Copy Table* option.

And there's more! One option will be particularly attractive

Variants

And what of variants? Down at the bottom of the name entry screen (Surname or Forename), there is an *Advanced Search* tab. Selecting this takes you to a screen that enables you to include variants. Type in the name in the *Enter Surname* field, select the option to *Generate standard variant list*, and hit the button with the green arrowhead. Using POINTON gave me five variant spellings. The suggested list may not match your ideas of which variants are valid, but you can select unwanted entries in the Search List and clear them with the *Clear Selected* button, or add

others by selecting them from the full Surname List and hitting the green arrowhead again.

Once you hit the big button with the map of the

British Isles, you will get the distribution of all the chosen variants in your Search List. The five default variants for POINTON generated a map that was not, in the end, very different from the original spelling, although the total number went up to 1,798. Incidentally, the *Results* tab displays full details of the selected extract from the underlying database and these can be pasted into a spreadsheet using the *Copy Table* option.

And there's more! One option will be particularly attractive

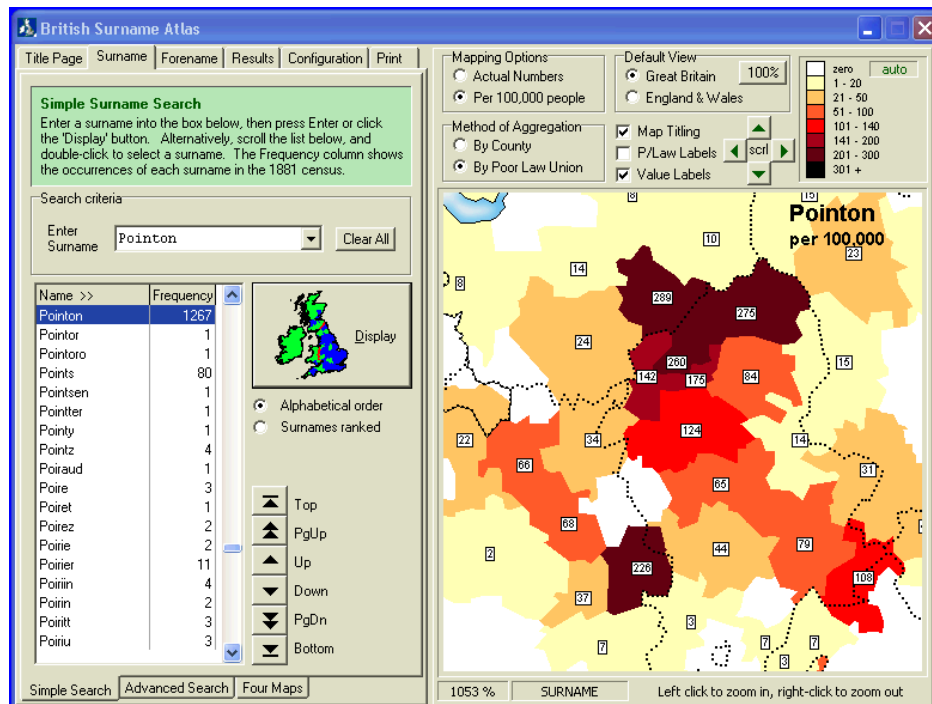


Figure Three – Map of Pointon surname by Poor Law Union and density

to one-namers who want to show comparative distributions on one sheet. A good illustration of this is to show how DAVIS, DAVIES, DAVISON, and DAVIDSON – names all derived, I think you'll agree, from the forename David – differ across the country. On the Surname entry screen, there is a bottom tab marked *Four Maps*. Selecting this takes you to a screen with a very different layout. You now have four maps to play with. Type in your first name (DAVIS, in my example), and then hit the top left button of the group of four buttons beside the list of surnames. The distribution of the surname DAVIS is displayed in the top left map. Do the same again for DAVIES but use the top right, and repeat this for the other two names in their chosen position. Predictably, DAVIES is concentrated in Wales, but notice how each surname has a quite distinct distribution (Figure Four, right).

Now, what would you judge was the most common forename in 1881? John? Ann? Victoria? Albert? Nope. It's Mary. A massive 2,121,026 girl babies were given the name by their dotting parents. You'll see that and more if you choose the Forename tab in *Surname Atlas*.

And how is the name distributed? You can find out in the same way as for surnames. It's not evenly spread. But, then, the population wasn't even, either, and a map by density shows that although it's generally even, there weren't so many Marys in the North of Scotland. Ann seems to have been disliked in the Lowlands and Scottish Borders. And who would guess that if you met a woman in the

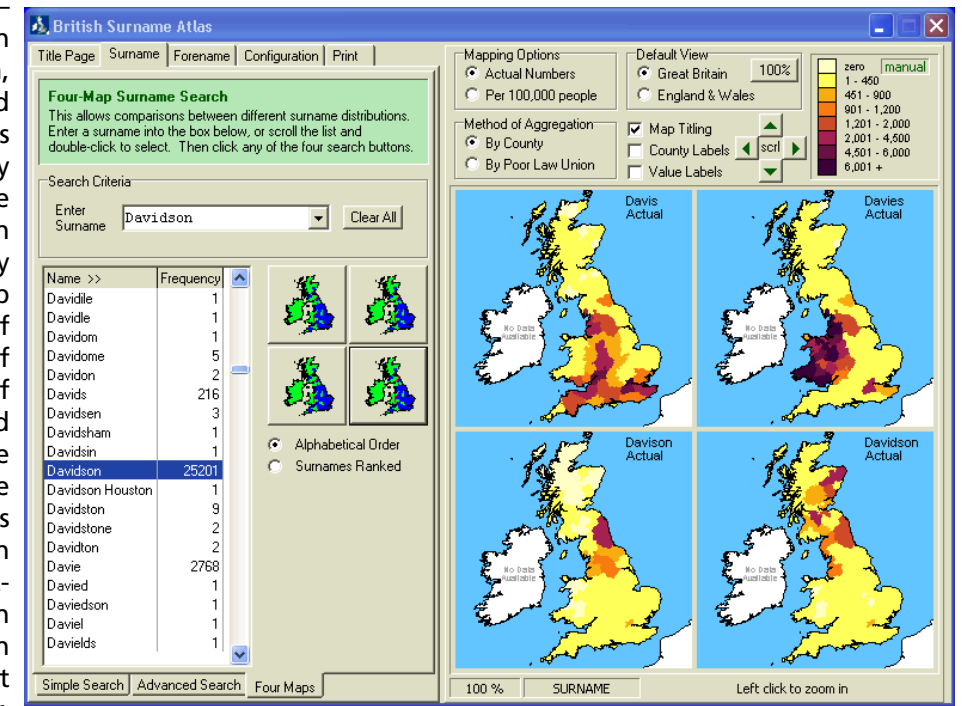


Figure Four – Four-way map of Davis, Davies, Davison and Davidson

the software on the bookstall to offer visitors their own surname map, I've also come to learn that choosing the *Feather coastline* option helps to prevent me running out of blue ink! Finally, print details can be selected from the *Print* tab. One additional feature I would like to see is an option to print the total sample size on the map, but choosing to include the legend helps to offset that criticism.

Drawbacks? Well, yes, a few. If you want to map your surname at a date other than 1881, you'll have to assemble your own database and then submit it to a program like *GenMap*. If you're particularly interested in Irish ancestors you'll be disappointed, for the 1881 data for Ireland didn't survive. And they didn't have Poor Law Unions in Scotland, so the more detailed mapping is not available there.

An old saying, however, is that a picture is worth a thousand words. With Surname Atlas, it certainly is! This program is a must-have for the computerised one-namer. ○

• **Surname Atlas requires Windows 95 or later (Mac users will need a Windows emulator) and is available to Guild members at £10.80 (normal price £12), plus postage and packing. Contact Howard at guild.bookstall@one-name.org if you would like more details.**



Surname Atlas aids my theory on great-grandma's family origins

By Roy Stockdill

THE principal talent of *Surname Atlas* – an inherently simple, yet sophisticated, program – is its ability to produce in an instant a distribution map of any surname, however common or rare. Yes, we all know, or think we know, where our Guild-registered name originated and how it is distributed throughout the UK, but usually this has involved much critical analysis of databases and tables. *Surname Atlas* does it for you in the twinkling of an eye!

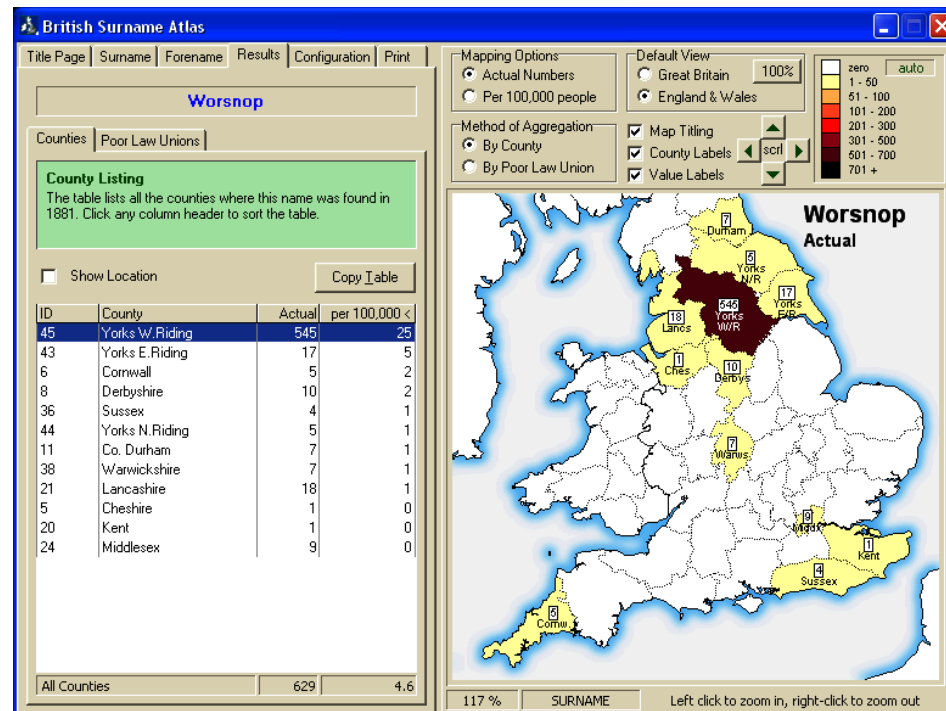
I have been using the program to look at the distribution of some of the other names in my own personal family history, as well as my registered surname of Stockdale and variants. A classic example of how *Surname Atlas* can confirm a pet theory that was really not much more than a hunch concerns the relatively uncommon name of WORSNOP, which was the surname of a great-grandmother. Though she was born at Scarborough in 1823 – as was her father before her, in 1801 – I have always been of the opinion that the family did not originate there, since I could not find any earlier Worsnops in the bracing Yorkshire resort.

My limited research of the name on the IGI and in census returns seemed to suggest that it was very much a surname of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and particularly of the Bradford and Leeds areas. Could *Surname Atlas* confirm this? The answer was an almighty, thumping great YES! Even I was surprised to find the overwhelming extent to which the

surname Worsnop was concentrated in one just one area. As can be seen from the table on the left of the map below, out of 629 Worsnops on the 1881 census in the whole of England, Scotland and Wales, 545 were in the West Riding – a staggering 86.6 per cent. Switching to the Poor Law Union results option revealed that 234 of them were in Bradford and 209 in the four unions covering the city of Leeds and its immediate environs.

However, as Howard Benbrook points out in his article on the preceding pages, a more accurate pointer to the epicentre of a surname can be to examine the number of occurrences per 100,000 head of population. In the case of Worsnop, this points very clearly to Bramley, which was once a separate village but is today a suburb of Leeds, as being the place where the name was most extensively concentrated.

Adding in the variants – of which only WORSNIP (143) and WORSNUP (19) had any significant numbers – slightly reduces the overall proportion of bearers of the name Worsnop in the West Riding, but it's still as high as 76 per cent. However, a new major centre of the name is found, away from the large cities of Leeds and Bradford, in the remote moorland parish of Saddleworth, near the Lancashire border. This is accounted for by no fewer than 50 people on the 1881 census who were called WORSNIP – and I suspect they were probably all members of one family.



A remarkable 86 per cent of Worsnops found in Yorkshire's West Riding

Finally, I used the program to test another claim which had surprised me when I first came across it. Dr. George Redmonds, the doyen of Yorkshire surnames, says in his book on the surnames of Bradford and District that WORSNOP is actually a variant of WORSMAN, deriving originally from Wolstenholme, a locality in the parish of Rochdale, which ramified in Bradford.

Could this really be, I asked myself? Once again, *Surname Atlas* came up with the goods. Searching on Worsman produced a total of 106 examples on the 1881 census, 92 of them in the West Riding of which no fewer than 69 – 65 per cent of the overall total – were in Bradford! ○

update

Your guide to what's new
in the Guild world

New Guild Handbook for every member with this issue of the Journal

WITH this issue of the *Journal of One-Name Studies* you will find a copy of the Guild's new *Members' Handbook*.

This booklet will in future be sent out as part of the Welcome Pack to be issued to every new member when he or she joins the Guild. However, a copy is being issued to every current member as part of the Guild's service in keeping the membership up to date with what is going on in the organisation.

Written by our Registrar Roger Goacher and Janet Heskins (Member 2281), the booklet covers every aspect of the Guild of One-Name Studies, its history, services provided to members and details

of what comprises a one-name study.

With a foreword from our President, Derek Palgrave, the booklet is divided into sections headed as follows...

- One-Name Studies
- About the Guild
- Services provided by the Guild
- Appendices

The section on one-name studies includes advice on collecting, storing and recording data, finding aids, publicising your study, establishing a newsletter and a website and forming a one-name society.

In the section About the Guild, you will find information on the Guild's history, who runs it and

how we welcome members' feedback.

Services provided by the Guild covers the Journal, Register, Regional Reps, publications, the Guild website and e-mail Forum, e-mail addresses, bookstall, library and look-up services.

Will codicil

Finally, in the Appendices you will find information on Registration of a surname, data protection, the Guild Constitution, a sample constitution for a one-name society, the National Genealogical Society Standards and a specimen will codicil to enable you to ensure the smooth handing over of your research after you die. ○

Editor's challenge – tell us how you run a one-name study WITHOUT a computer!

BEING conscious of the criticism from some Guild members that the *Journal* is too much orientated towards computers and the Internet, I want to issue an invitation – call it a challenge, if you like! – to those members (*writes the Editor*).

I am keen to publish articles from one-namers who are successfully and happily running their studies without the use of a computer, and thus without the benefits of e-mail or the Internet.

I feel quite certain there are many members who are doing this – but we rarely seem to hear from them, except when they want to have a moan about the over-emphasis on computers in the *Journal*.

Are you still keeping your

records on a card index file in a shoe box? There is absolutely nothing wrong with this. But why not tell us about it?

Do you keep all your one-name study records on paper in ring binders and have you established an indexing system that you believe is the equivalent of anything a computer can do? Then why not share it with the rest of us?

I am being deadly serious, folks! I would like to run some articles in future issues of the *Journal* from members who are getting by quite happily without a computer. If I receive sufficient material, I may even devote a whole special issue to the theme.

But I cannot do so unless I am sent the articles necessary to fill it. So why not take up my chal-

lenge and write an article about how YOU are running your one-name study without the use of a computer?

Your article can be as long or as short as you like. Do not worry if you have never written for publication before – your work can be suitably sub-edited.

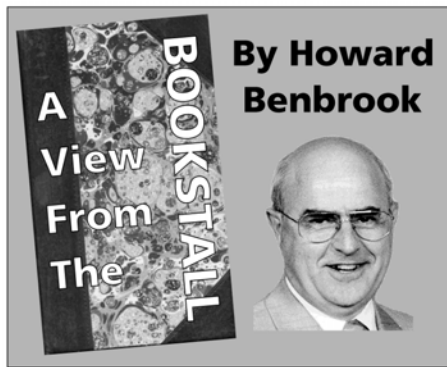
Obviously, I would prefer articles in an electronic format – which may perhaps sound like a contradiction in terms when I am asking you to write about how you get by without a computer! But perhaps you have a relative or friend who wouldn't mind keying it in and putting it onto a floppy disc for you?

If you plan to submit an article, it would help if you sent some illustrations to go with it, also a photograph of yourself. ○

REPORTS

NEWS

EVENTS



Census vouchers are still available

I received some unsolicited mail on the bookstall a couple of weeks ago – a rather bulky package. Nothing special in that, I suppose, but this came from the 1901 Census people, QinetiQ. In the package was lots of marketing bumf – posters, booklets, stickers – and the impression I got was that QinetiQ (and the National Archives) is anxious to boost income.

But it serves to remind me that we're still selling those vouchers. And if you're looking for British ancestors in 1901, vouchers are the only sensible way to find them on the Internet.

Using a credit card is convenient, but you have to commit at least £5 and then spend it inside 48 hours. With a voucher, once you've started using it, you have six months to use the credit. As if this convenience weren't enough to tempt you, Guild members get a 10% discount off the cover price. You'll find an order form in the Member's Room of the Guild's website:

<http://www.one-name.org/members/services.html#census>

Where we've been...

The family history fair in York was something! Urged on by Yorkshire fanatics like Roy Stockdill, I'd been persuaded to take the bookstall all the way to the Viking city of Jorvik. We decided to make a few days of it. By convincing my wife, Pam, that she would have a chance to see this magnificent city, I managed to get her

to help me on the bookstall (cunning, huh?).

We made the journey north from Surrey quite easily and booked into a city centre hotel, with a splendid view of – what? Well, the local rooftops, actually. Not exactly Viking.

But I digress. The fair took place on York Racecourse in their conference centre – three floors of it. Now imagine this – the fair is opening at 10.0 am, and we're there with an hour to spare (usually enough to set up) to be told our position. Guess where we are? Yup, we're on the top floor, tucked away in a far corner.

Now, you've heard me talk about the Big Blue Boxes, right? And it just happened to be one of those glorious summer days – great if you're at the racecourse for its proper purpose, but when you're setting up a bookstall it's the right way to lose several pounds in perspiration! It was a good day, though.

My thanks are due to Malcolm Boyes and to Jim Wingham, who helped us to make a goodly sum. If you're in the North of England next June, I recommend a visit to one of the major events in the UK genealogical calendar.

The following weekend, we headed to Weston-super-Mare, 120 miles to the south-west, a very different venue. A British seaside town, and we were in the Winter Gardens, a term I take to mean that even when there's snow outside, things are blossoming inside. Well, they blossomed for us that day. This time my thanks are due to Ann Lidstone (one of those awesome people with a 2-digit membership number) who was a great help.

And then to Norwich, where Jenifer Edmonds was running her first family history fair. Pam came along and Barbara Harvey was there to help as well. Regrettably, it wasn't a success. There were fewer than 100 people in the hall, I'd guess. When you think about it, it must be a difficult business, trying to get both sellers and buyers to turn up. The more you can get of one, the

more you will get of the other – but how do you start? Maybe Jenifer will get the formula right next time.

The Essex Society for Family History's Conference at Colchester, Essex, where we went next, looked like a lot of fun, but we were only there on the Saturday. Pretty quiet, really. The SoG and the FFHS were there as well. No-one seemed to be selling a great deal.

The very first venue I visited with the bookstall was Maidstone in Kent, and this was to be our next port of call – it's now been two very busy years since I started this. Following that was another first, the Great North Fair at Gateshead (another long haul). And before you get to read these notes, I should have also been to the Hampshire GS Open Day at Horndean in a building where, by one of those odd coincidences, my sister went to school.

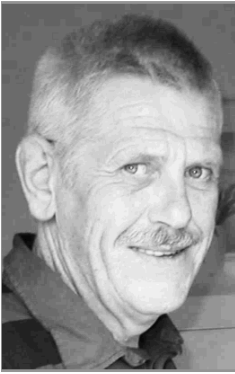
Where we're going

The family history fair season now begins in earnest. We'll do our best to track the best and we plan to be at these events...

- Oxfordshire FHS Open Day, Kidlington, Sat, October 4.
- FH Fair, Eastleigh, Hants, Sun, October 19.
- Guild Internet Seminar, Epsom, Surrey, Sat, October 25.
- West Surrey FHS Open Day, Woking, Sat, November 1.
- Guild Halsted Seminar, London, Sat, November 8.
- East Anglia FH Fair, Norwich, Sun, November 16.
- Dorset & SW FH Fair, Wimborne, Sun, November 23.

Don't forget to come and say hello if you're at any of these events. We'd love to see you. And if you've got an hour or two to spare to stand behind the stall, we'd be grateful for the help!

If you'd like to contact me about any of the items held on the bookstall, you can e-mail guild.bookstall@one-name.org, or write to me at: 7 Amber Hill, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1EB, U.K.



**Registrar's
Notes
By
Roger
Goacher**

Subscription renewal time again – please be prompt!

the January Journal – or even later. The final cut-off date for renewals is the end of January 2004. This is

have comments on the operation of the Guild, good or bad. We do take them seriously and try to improve administration or services if we can.

IT'S subscription renewal time again! First, my thanks to all of you who filled in and returned new Standing Orders and Repeat Transaction forms – and Gift Aid declarations. This will make my life easier.

Your annual subscription is due on November 1 for the coming year, as you will see from the Renewal Form with this Journal. Please read the notes on the form carefully. Hopefully, the form is simpler and more comprehensible this year. If you have not already paid in advance, or have a Standing Order or RTA, then please fill in the renewal form and return it to me with your (Sterling) cheque or credit card details.

May I ask you to send back your subscription payment and order for any other items required as soon as you receive the Journal – or read this page? It does make my task very much easier. Every year a number of members realise they have failed to pay when they don't receive

the date when we start preparing the new Register. No payment – no entry in the Register and your details come off the Guild website. You are regarded as having let your membership lapse. After that date, if you want to re-join the Guild, you must re-register any study names and pay the appropriate fee!

Last year I sent out more than 450 reminders to members by letter and e-mail. As you can imagine, this was a mammoth task. Prompt payment will save me a great deal of work. If you have decided not to renew your membership for some reason, I would be grateful if you could let me know by e-mail or letter. Again, it will save me sending you a reminder.

If you do decide not to renew, I would be glad to know the reason if you are prepared to tell me. If the reason is anything to do with dissatisfaction with the Guild, I will ensure that the Committee is made aware of the reason. We are always happy to

One last plea: every quarter a small number of members don't receive their Journal. All Journal postings are sent out at the same time – to all current members – usually in the first week of January, April, July and October. Postings to UK members are sent 2nd class mail and those to non-UK members by Airmail at the Printed Paper rate. If you don't receive your Journal within about a month of these posting dates, please let me know and I will send a replacement. Postings to the USA seem to be particular susceptible to non-arrival or long delays. I appreciate that this message is of little value if you don't receive this Journal, but it might be worth bearing in mind if you fail to receive future postings.

Thank you for taking the time to read these notes. If you have any queries, then please contact me by e-mail at registrar@one-name.org or by letter to: Roger Goacher, Springwood, Furzefield Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 2EF, UK. ○

Over 120,000 records in Marriage Index

THERE are now 123,000 records in the Guild Marriage Index (writes MARY RIX). These have been contributed from about 110 one-name studies

We have found a volunteer, Peter Alefounder, to prepare the Marriage Index for putting on the Guild website. He is writing and testing the software. The following people have also offered to help: Teresa Pask, Derek Bandy and David Rudram.

I would like to thank every-

body who has submitted data, without whose co-operation this project would not be possible. I hope many more of you will now submit your data to make this a really worthwhile project.

Wiltshire members

WILTSHIRE Guild members held their 2003 gathering at the home of Corinne and Tony Goode-nough at Allington, near Salisbury (writes RICHARD MOORE). Nine members attended, with a number of apologies.

Some six hours were spent discussing problems and sugges-

tions for mutual advantage, including: range of sources; recording methods; databases; newsletters and correspondence with enquirers; linking with living distant cousins and passing on information to others; how to benefit from Free BMD; using the International Social Services of the Salvation Army; involvement or otherwise of sharing the collection of material; how much to include records of spouses (with different surnames); and whether the Guild might have display boards that could be borrowed for displaying material at fairs. ○

Party time at our 25th anniversary conference

By Lynda Goacher

COME and celebrate the Guild's 25th Anniversary with us at the 2004 Conference. It will be a very special event with a number of hopefully pleasant surprises!

The theme of the Conference will be "The Guild and One-Name Studies Past, Present and Future". It will be very much by the members for the members, so that we can share our knowledge and best practice, and celebrate our silver anniversary.

Sessions are planned on:

- The Development of the Guild
- Overcoming problems in One-Name Studies
- Running a One-Name Society and organising a One-Name gathering
- Publishing a One-Name Periodical

- Producing and running a One-Name website
- The Future of the Guild and One-Name Studies

For most of the sessions we plan to have two speakers presenting alternative or complementary views, with plenty of opportunity for members to share their experiences.

The programme is almost finalised and you will receive a full booking form with the January Journal. However, we know that some of you like to make sure of your place early, so we have included a preliminary booking form with this Journal.

The Conference and AGM will be held at Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre, near St. Neots, adjacent to the A1 from April 2–4 2004. Wyboston Lakes is a modern venue with all conference

facilities and accommodation close together and on the level. The centre has been designed with disabled people in mind, and there are special facilities for those with physical disabilities.

The complex also has extensive leisure facilities that can be enjoyed at reasonable cost. You might like to attend the Conference and spend a little extra time in the area. Additional nights are available at Wyboston Lakes, and can be booked directly with the Centre.

Guild conferences are always enjoyable events and provide a wonderful opportunity for members to get together. The 2004 Conference promises to be very special. If you have any queries about the Conference, please email conference@one-name.org, or write to me:

Lynda Goacher
Member 4100
Springwood
Furzefield Road
East Grinstead
West Sussex RH19 2EF

Scottish Genealogy Society's 50 years

IN 2004 the Guild will be 25 years old, but the Scottish Genealogy Society (SGS) celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. There have been a number of events to mark this, and on June 14 the SGS took over the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh for an event called "See Scotland Through your Ancestors' Eyes".

Many societies had a stand, and there had been good publicity, so a lot of the public were encouraged to attend. This was helped because the society has had premises in Edinburgh for many years.

The Guild stand was manned by the three Scottish Regional Representatives – the first time that they have all met! For several years the North and South RRs have manned the Guild stand at the Scottish Association of Family History Societies Confer-

ence, but in 2003 the date clashed with the Guild one and Jim and Graham decided to attend the Guild one as usual. They gave Peter, the new RR for Aberdeen, a baptism of fire by letting him handle the Guild stand at the SAFHS event. Luckily, there will be no clash in 2004.

An interesting feature on June 14 was that some students from Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh were there and had a programme to celebrate genealogy in songs and scenes throughout the day. They had put a great deal of thought into selecting suitable subjects and were in period costume.

At this event, we had a lot of people consulting the Register and so, hopefully, quite a lot of members will have a new contact. A significant number of people seemed to be doing a one-name study but had not really heard of the Guild or understood it, and so we should have an increase in members because of the event.

We were very busy until well into the afternoon and it was a different segment of the family history market that we tapped, not just the regular attenders at the SAFHS conferences.

The event was opened by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and she came round the stalls to speak to people and seemed interested in the subject. A promotional booklet about family history has been published by a consortium including the local council – our Publicity Officer had copies at the Guild Seminar in Edinburgh the week before.

My only critical comment is that it is unfortunate that the Guild Seminar was not a week or a fortnight after the SGS event – it might have helped recruitment! Brian Adams, the member of the Scottish Parliament with a particular interest in genealogy, was at the event, and so it is a subject which is being promoted at the highest level. ○

GRAHAM TULEY

Halsted Trust free seminar on Introducing the Guild

THE Halsted Trust has generously agreed to sponsor a seminar to introduce the work of the Guild. This will be held at the Swedenborg Society, 20–21 Bloomsbury Way, London, WC1A 2TH on Saturday, November 8 2003 starting at 9.30am.

Because of the sponsorship, the seminar will be open to the general public as well as Guild members, and will be completely free of charge. However, you will need to reserve a place, as numbers will be limited, and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. You will find the application form as one of the loose flyers in this Journal.

Lectures on various aspects of one-name studies include:

- What is a One-Name Study? by Janet Heskins
- What does the Guild Do? by Roger Goacher
- Sources for One-Namers, by John Hanson
- Organising your One-Name Study, by Paul Millington
- What Happens when you Die? by Jeanne Bunting

The Halsted Trust is a non-profit making educational charity,

whose objects are "to advance the education of the public in the study of and research into family history, genealogy, heraldry and local history through one-name studies generally, but in particular with reference to all persons having the surname of Halsted, and to promote the preservation, security and publication of the useful results of such research."

Gift

The Trust is funded by a gift generously made by Mrs Lewis-Jones, the widow of the late Mr Raymond Lewis-Jones. He had carried out extensive research into the surnames Halsted and Halstead during his lifetime, and wished this to be preserved and continued after his death.

As a result of the gift, the Trustees are able to carry out those wishes. At present, his many files and source documents are being indexed and archived and, at the same time, more recent data relating to the surnames is being extracted and added to the collection. ○

Jeanne Bunting
Acting Chairman
Seminar Sub-Committee

Book now for our Internet Seminar!

HAVE you booked yet for our Internet Seminar? If not, you had better get your application in quickly, as places are filling fast. It will be held on October 25 2003, at Rosebery School, White Horse Drive, Epsom, Surrey, and the flyer for it was in your last journal. A booking form is also available on the Guild's website.

There will be hands-on practical sessions, with guidance from the more experienced as well as an initial lecture on Internet sites useful to one-namers. Paul Millington will be unveiling his new utility for putting your civil registration data on the web in searchable form. We saw a preview of this at the Guild's Liverpool Conference in April.

The content of the practical sessions will depend on the abilities of the delegates. It is, therefore, essential that you state your Internet ability on the booking form. All will be catered for, from the raw beginner who will need to know how to connect to the Internet and how to configure their browser, to the more experienced user, who may even be able to give us all a hint or two.

Geoff Riggs will also be giving a lecture on web page design. All delegates will attend the initial lecture and will then rotate around two practical sessions and Geoff's lecture in smaller groups.

We must limit the numbers to 75, so bookings have been on a first-come, first-served basis. There are still a few places left. Because of the complexity of the programme, no bookings will be accepted after October 11. The normal cost has had to be increased to £10 to cover the cost of the extra facilities, but we think this is still value for money. It includes all teas and coffees

I hope you enjoy the day – but as I can't emphasise enough, you cannot do all your research on the Internet, no matter what the media would have you believe!

JEANNE BUNTING

Newspaper Seminar to be repeated

IN line with the Seminar Sub-Committee's policy of occasionally repeating seminars in a different location, we are holding a re-run of our very popular Newspaper Seminar, which was held at Lambeth a few years ago.

It will be at Otford Village Hall, near Sevenoaks, on February 21 2004. Full details will appear in the next Journal and on the Guild website after the Epsom Seminar is over. Put this in your diary now!

It is still in the planning stages, but speakers will include the well-known Dr Colin Chapman,

who will be speaking about the Newspaper Library at Colindale; Journal Editor Roy Stockdill, telling of his experiences as a journalist; and Jeanne Bunting on "Reading Between the Lines" – finding family history in newspapers. How many of you can claim they know that their 2-x-great-grandfather had a dog and can even tell you it's name? A fourth speaker, yet to be confirmed, will speak on local newspapers.

This was one of our most successful seminars. Let's hope the re-run will prove as popular. ○



Letters

Your views on issues in the one-name world

A dissenting view on privacy and GRO access

DOES Mr. Stockdill's "opinion" piece on Page 5 of the latest Guild Journal (Vol 8 Issue 3, July-September 2003) opposing restricted access to UK civil registration records represent official Guild Policy? As a Guild member in good standing, I wish to express a dissenting opinion.

Since he makes no mention of it I assume that Mr. Stockdill's vociferous lack of respect for individual privacy means his own study does not extend very far outside the UK. If it did, then he would know that unrestricted access to civil registration records is fairly unique to the UK. In Canada, the USA and Australia, restricted access to such records is taken for granted.

Outside the UK, civil registration records are not public records, nor any other individual record (e.g. electoral rolls) gathered by the Government, for that matter. They are a form of contract between the individuals concerned and the governments collecting that information.

Limit access

It is incumbent upon any government to respect that contract by limiting access to those with a legitimate need to know, such as next of kin. One-Name Studiers need not apply. The fact that the UK has, thus far, allowed unrestricted access to such records has always amazed me. It is a fact I suspect most Brits are not aware of themselves. I have several direct family members presently living in England, who were quite surprised and disturbed by the fact that total strangers like Mr. Stockdill could gather such information on them.

If put to a vote or referendum, I suspect Mr. Stockdill would readily find his one-name ambitions unappreciated.

I do not appreciate having what in effect is my opinion referred to as "ludicrous", "daft", or "nonsense", however indirectly. I am one of those one-namers Mr. Stockdill refers to who do not gather information as a habit on anyone who may still be living. A hundred years is an easy cut-off to ensure this. Contrary to Mr. Stockdill's experience, I have been chastised a few times when I have made such information available. It cost me a decent collaborator.

Uncomfortable

I grew most uncomfortable by the idea after I was approached by someone through my study seeking help to contact the legitimate children of her deceased illegitimate birth father. She was born from an affair unknown to the man's family. Mr. Stockdill may wish to give one-namers a bad name by supporting such potential intrusions. I do not, nor should the Guild, support it.

When such information is shared with me by other researchers, I strip all but the names before making it available to others. I do not gather such information myself other than what is made available directly to the public through local newspaper notices.

Mr. Stockdill suggests I should not be a member of the Guild for imposing this limit on my study. Family history, by definition, does not include the present. That is the work of a private detective. Is the Guild a family history society

or detective agency? I will be very reluctant to renew my membership this November if this is, in fact, Guild policy. I will leave the practice of gathering information without direct consent on living people to stalkers, conmen, and one-namers like Mr. Stockdill.

As an overseas member of the Guild for several years, I was quite pleased to receive Mr. Goacher's recent e-mail soliciting my input to next year's Guild Conference. This was the first time the Guild has done something to make me feel appreciated as a member. I have to question each year the value of continuing my membership when the only real benefit I have been able to gain is my Register entry. I have also appreciated the air of officialdom the Guild gives to a study. Mr. Stockdill's piece sadly for me has soured this mood. It is elitist, myopic, rude and, most importantly, ignorant of public sentiment against such access in age when personal information gathered by one-namers can very quickly be irretrievably spread around the World through the Internet.

David Weston
Member 3248

Thurlow One-Name Study
Greenwood
Nova Scotia, Canada

Roy Stockdill responds...

I would have thought the very fact that my column is entitled "Just My Opinion" is, in itself, indicative of the fact that it represents my personal views and NOT those of the Guild or the Committee. If that is not enough, the official disclaimer on the inside cover at the bottom of the Contents page – which states: "The views expressed in the Journal are those of individual contributors" – is surely suffi-

ciently clear? I was writing in my capacity as an individual member of the Guild, not as Journal Editor or a member of the Committee.

As for Mr. Weston's point that restrictions on access to civil registration records exist outside the UK, what other countries choose to do is a matter for them. I see no reason why England and Wales should follow suit when we have had unfettered access to GRO records ever since they were introduced in 1837. I was writing as a general family historian, not a one-namer, and I might add that the government's proposal to restrict certain data in records of people born under 100 years ago is being universally opposed by virtually the entire UK genealogical community.

Research archive is needed

I DO so agree with Ron Duckett (Journal, April–June 2003) in his suggestion that the Guild provides a web archive to combat the problem of what happens to a member's study "when they become a statistic in it", as he puts it so delicately.

Storage space is available at Rootsweb, but how permanent this will turn out to be I don't know. My browser has so much trouble with Rootsweb that I have not fathomed how to use it.

Queries

Ron's proposal does raise some queries. One is how the web space for the archives of the departed would be funded. It is exactly the same question as for papers. One idea is to fix a charge for the long-term, so that members could make provision in their wills. A much better one would be to encourage members to deposit their studies, while they are still active, for a charge that can be varied from time to time according to the amount of space required.

My second question is: what constitutes a member's study? My study of Whitehouses has had to be de-registered because I am

unwilling to answer enquiries. Instead, I am computerising my paper records and putting them on my website.

I am proud to announce that it now offers a high quality database of the GRO Indexes for WHITEHOUSE and variants, from 1837 Q3 to 1883 (births) or 1901 (marriages and deaths). There are over 26,000 entries. Over half the marriages from 1837 Q3 to 1851 have been cross-referenced with a spouse. I also publish a quarterly newsletter on the website.

Unfortunately, the Guild, stuck in the age of the corner shop, does not recognise a supermarket.

Keith Percy
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• *The Editor writes: You may be interested in the letter immediately following yours, Keith, and also in the program soon to be unveiled by Paul Millington for putting civil registration data on the web.*

Archiving of members' studies

THE Guild has blessed(?) me with the task of leading a project to make proposals for the archiving of members' studies. The need arises because it is increasingly difficult to find space to store paper records, whereas a digitised form would be much easier to store and also easier to be taken by a prospective continuing researcher.

We have a core group, but would welcome a few additional members who could bring expertise in the following areas:

1. Choice of retention format – CD/DVD etc. – and life of the material.

2. Choice of file formats for documents, word processor files, database files and spreadsheet files.

3. Condensation of records for non-computer users. We wish to

give guidance to such researchers, so that they are encouraged to organise their records in a manner that facilitates digitisation.

If you can help, do not be put off by the thought of endless meetings. We hope to work by e-mail, with postal copies for any non-computer members. Just e-mail or write to me.

Our aim is to produce guidelines for:

A) The Guild's archiving activity and policy for handing over archives.

B) Members' actions to avail themselves of the service.

If we can get such a service up and running, it is perhaps the best way the Guild can help its members.

David Mowbray
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Recording research for posterity

I READ with great interest the article by John Colloff (Vol 8 Issue 1, January–March 2003), who hit the nail right on the head when he outlined our responsibilities as genealogists to make it less difficult for any future member of a family to pick up the threads of their ancestor's work, given over to the Guild for safe keeping. This thought has been with me even more since I started tracing the history of my very rare original surname – Pollicott – over the past 26 years.

None of my immediate family show more than a minimal interest in my research and I needed to ensure its safe keeping. What better than the Guild as a place of sanctuary? I have about 90% of my extractions from original documentation in one small, lined book which is entitled *Genealogical Bible for Pollicott*. In this little book are all of my personal extractions, including

birth-marriage-death and colonial records from 1837; entries found in parish registers back to 1538 for all of Buckinghamshire, where my name originated, and Oxfordshire; and further entries back to 1234 located in Latin at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. As well as correspondence files to and from families going back to my beginnings, I also have census returns from 1841 to 1901.

The Guild will also receive a copy of each of 38 programmed extended family trees showing worldwide distribution of our five name variants spanning 750 years. I also have 1025 3" x 5" index cards comprising 750 deceased members, 145 living males and 130 living females.

I've done my bit, John, and any researcher for our families should find it relatively easy to pick up threads!

Eddie Pollikett
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Hampshire S53 2LY

Serious errors in 192.com

I WAS interested to read Steve Tanner's article on 192.com in the last Journal and your reference to the CD version. I have used the CD, the 2001 Version 6.5, in research I did for a paper on The Origins and Distribution of the Surname Sheath.

My initial analyses used this source but I found it contained many errors and I invested in the BT Phone Disc. The latter obviously has the disadvantage of not containing ex-directory families, but I felt much more confident in any statistics I generated from this, compared with Info UK.

The following is an extract from my paper and explains my concerns. The example I mention of six addresses was for a family with the name SHUTE, who by coincidence live only four miles from me. I contacted 192.com with my complaint, but neither

they nor two other CD suppliers seem interested in the fact they are selling a faulty product. The 2003 may have been corrected, but I doubt it.

Comments on UK Info 2001
Version 6.5

"The compact disc published by I-CD Publishing (UK) Ltd. is potentially a useful tool for locating a person, their address and telephone number. It has search facilities on three databases covering the whole UK: the Electoral Rolls, the BT Telephone Directories and a combination of these. Searches can be made so that both individual entries can be studied or totals obtained under name and /or location.

"The CD should, therefore, make a significant contribution to our knowledge of the present-day distribution of surnames. Unfortunately, I have found many errors of duplication (even one example of six address entries for one family), known omissions and inconsistencies between the databases.

"One simple example is under the name, Sheath. The Electoral Roll database shows 15 people living in the town of Newport, Pembrokeshire (formerly Dyfed) in Wales. However the post codes of all the addresses are for PO30, which is that for Newport, Isle of Wight. What, at first, seemed an interesting migration and nucleus of families was therefore nothing of the sort.

"I have concluded that

"1. This publication is not suitable for the statistical analysis of the numbers of occurrences of a surname and their distribution.

"2. It can be useful for tracing individuals or trends but the information needs to be scrutinised carefully for errors and inconsistencies.

Donald M. Sheath
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British Isles VRI

I WOULD like to make an addition to your article on the Vital Records Index by Richard Eastman (Journal, Vol 7 Issue 12, October-December 2002). This was informative and valuable, but I think if Guild members know more of the specifics, they will be helped a great deal by knowing what is included in the Vital Records Index.

One of the most significant inclusions is the Irish material. It contains more than two million entries. Many of these are from civil registration in the mid-19th century. It is the first time I know of that there has been such a valuable collection of Irish indexing of vital and church records. I suppose the IGI is more vast, but the Vital Records Index is all directly taken from church records or other vital records sources, and except for human error is quite accurate.

Also, some of the English county extractions are invaluable to the family historian. Both Lancashire and Yorkshire are not very complete in the IGI, yet Lancashire especially, with over a million entries, is extremely valuable in the BIVRI. Dorset and Cheshire have very poor coverage in the IGI, yet they each have nearly 400,000 entries in the BIVRI. Other counties such as Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire all have good coverage in the IGI, yet there are over 500,000 entries for the first two counties and 270,000 entries for Derbyshire in this new tool.

Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Sussex and Wiltshire all have marvellous coverage.

This is a tool whose use should not be taken lightly. I hope you will publish this, so your readers see the specific value of the BIVRI.

Richard W. Price MA
Member 254
PO Box 11980
Salt Lake City
UT 84147, USA

New Raymond's handy-sized pocket books for the family historian



Reviews
Reviews
Reviews

New genealogy books and CDs

TRACING YOUR 20th CENTURY FAMILY HISTORY by Stuart A. Raymond. Published by the Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd. www.familyhistorybooks.co.uk Pocket-sized, 136 pages. ISBNs 1 86006 176 1 (FFHS) & 1-899668-35-7 (S. A. & M. J. Raymond). Price £5.95 plus p&p.

THIS is the first in an intended series of pocket-sized books detailing sources for family history, each covering a particular century. It contains a wide range of topics, including most aspects of daily life that would have generated records. The list of chapter topics more or less says it all:

Sources of Information; Oral History; Newspapers; Civil Registration; C of E Registers and other records; Nonconformist Registers and Records; Monumental Inscriptions; Divorce; Wills; Census; Earning a living; Army Ancestry; Directories; Electoral Registers; Educational Records; Courts: Criminal and Legal Records; Government Publications; Tax Records; Land

Surveys; Immigration; Emigration; and Miscellaneous Sources.

Most of the topics will be familiar to the enthusiastic one-namer. As a basic introduction to the sources listed, the book appears to be aimed generally at the novice family historian and yet has much to commend it. I certainly found several snippets worth following up and there are a few websites listed that I was not previously aware of.

The longest section is probably that on civil registration, which, while informative about the content of recent certificates, makes no mention of the Government's White Paper and the probable changes to access to 20th century records.

The Guild gets two very brief mentions, one relating to one-name societies which are members of the FFHS, the other in the list of contacts at the back of the book. It's a shame that one-name studies in general did not get a mention. Ditto for one-place studies. In fact, local history is a topic that is strangely absent, given that the book encourages

you to go beyond the bare bones of genealogy.

The style is easygoing, so this book can be read cover to cover or can be dipped into for specific topics, using the comprehensive subject index. Where appropriate, the book gives both web page addresses and book references for further reading. This aspect alone is sufficient reason for obtaining it.

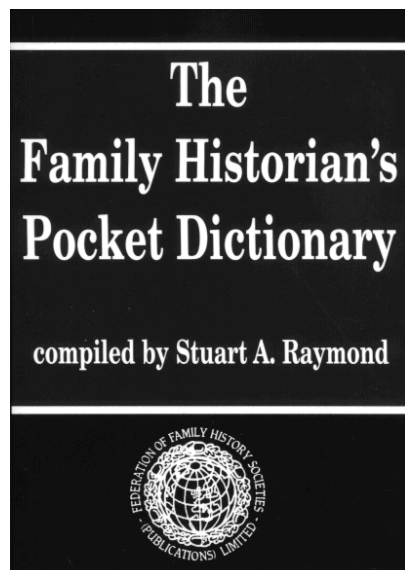
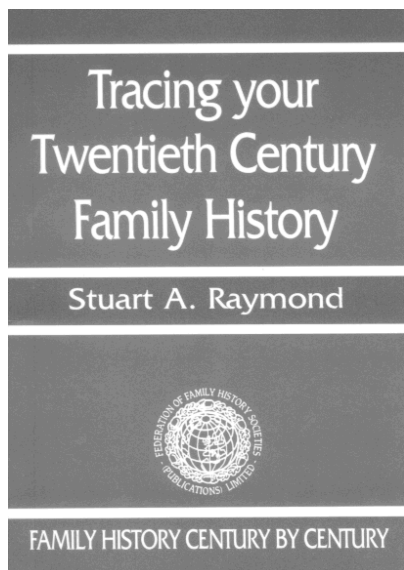
KEN TOLL

THE FAMILY HISTORIAN'S POCKET DICTIONARY, compiled by Stuart A. Raymond. Published by the Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd. Pocket-sized, 264 pages. ISBNs 1-86006-172-9 (FFHS) and 1-899668-32-2 (S. A. and M. J. Raymond). Price £6.95 plus p&p.

THIS little book is an excellent idea. There have, of course, been alphabetical dictionaries of genealogy before – the classic by Terrick V. H. Fitzhugh springs to mind – but this one is handily sized for slipping into a pocket and carrying with you wherever you go. Though aimed more at newcomers to family history than the expert, it's still ideal for dipping into at any page and finding something of interest. It also acts as an instant ready reference source for researchers in England and Wales.

The overall emphasis is on books and printed sources, rather than the Internet – but, then, Internet web pages etc. are covered in other works by the author. I have only one quibble: why no mention of Dade parish registers, which are well known to Yorkshire researchers?

ROY STOCKDILL



A pair of tempestuous lovers and what could be the longest marriage register entry ever written!

AN extraordinary story of a pair of feuding, star-crossed lovers is told in the parish registers of Bedlington, Northumberland – a tale, as it happens, with a happy ending. However, the purpose in telling it here is not simply because it is an enthralling story in itself, but to draw attention to the labours of a remarkably conscientious incumbent, and also to ask the intriguing question: Is this the longest entry in a parish register ever written?

The marriage entry, on January 31 1672, reads as follows...

Marriage of John Watson & Jan Hunter, both in Bedlington, was 2 several times published in ye church but John and ye bride had a great contest so they did discharge ye minister for calling them any more so, within 14 days after ye said John came to ye minister and did desire him to call them 3 times in ye church, with much ado ye minister did cause them to be called out of ye church so of ye Thursday after John and a great company of young men rode abroad ye parish and several other parishes and invited all his friends and neighbours to ye wedding against that day since to accompanying him to ye church and to come and dine with him which wedding day should have been on Thursday ye 21st day of November 1671 but by misfortune the bridegroom lay back and would not be married and doth call ye bride both whore and jade and broken faced queen, but small that she is so

It's a funny old genealogical world

A celebration of the comic and curious



kind that she will sit down upon his knee and both kiss him and clap him and call him both honey and heart, so ye wedding never went any further as yet but ye bride did invite a few good neighbours to come and eat a fat goose and a piece of good roast beef that same day and to be sure that they should provide good store of moneys along with them, but ye said John came in at night and called all that was at ye dinner both knaves and rascals and bid them begone and told ye bride before them all that he had occupied her both in ye bed and among ye meadow and in ye bier which she could not deny, so ye wedding was ended with much shame but ye bride did nothing but laugh, so fair...

But now it happened upon ye 30th day of January that ye said John Watson came to ye clerk Ralph Mitford and did desire him to speak to ye parson that he would be pleased to marry ye said John and Jan Hunter but ye said Janes children came to ye churchgarth and made a sore outcry that ye whole town did make an uproar so ye said John went his way and met ye bride coming to ye church to be married so they both returned and then ye bride went to her friends house and John together, but some cross words began between them that ye bride did run away almost a mile out of ye town which many neighbours did follow and ye bridegroom did borrow a roaning mare of a young man in ye town and did bring ye bride back and so it happened upon ye Friday being ye 31st January that as it pleased God that both ye parties came to ye minister and clerk and were lawfully married upon ye 31st of Jan 1672.

Wouldn't it be nice if all clergyman had not only been so thorough in their parish registers, but had also been such marvellous story-tellers? I wonder also if the couple have any descendants around today to enjoy the tale of their ancestors' stormy courtship?

- The full register entry is taken from the book *Ancestral Anomalies* by Michael Southwick, published by KINGPIN, 21 Meldon Way, Hanover Estate, Winlaton, Tyne & Wear NE21 6HJ, price £5.50 inc p&p (10% of profits are donated to cancer research).

Roy Stockdill
Member 2534

Quotable quotes of genealogy

RELATIONS are simply a tedious pack of people, who haven't got the remotest knowledge of how to live, nor the remotest instinct about when to die.

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

THERE are no credentials. They do not even need a medical certificate. They need not be sound either in mind or body. They only require a certificate of birth – just to prove that they are first of a litter. You would not choose a spaniel on these principles.

Statesman David Lloyd George
on the aristocracy

FAMILIARITY breeds contempt – and children.

Mark Twain, *Notebooks*

ONE would be in less danger
From the wiles of the stranger
If one's own kin and kith
Were more fun to be with

Ogden Nash

Regional Representatives as at September 1 2003

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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**WE have vacancies for
Regional Representatives in
the following areas:**

BEDFORDSHIRE
BERKSHIRE
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
CHESHIRE
CORNWALL
CUMBERLAND
HAMPSHIRE
LANCASHIRE
LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
SHROPSHIRE
SUFFOLK
SUSSEX
WARWICKSHIRE
YORKSHIRE NORTH
AUSTRALIA
CANADA WEST
CANADA EAST
USA CENTRAL
USA NORTH EAST
USA NORTH WEST

**WHY not devote just a little
of your spare time to the
Guild by becoming a
Regional Rep? Contact the
Coordinator.**

Congratulations to Sydney Brewin MBE



OUR congratulations go to SYDNEY BREWIN, a founder member of the Guild, who was awarded the MBE in the Birthday Honours for his 30 years' voluntary work as a financial adviser for the Citizens' Advice Bureau at Havant, Hampshire. Sydney, who lives at Hayling Island, holds one of the Guild's very earliest numbers. He is Member No. 17 and has one-name studies registered of Brewin and Brammage

Sydney, who is 72, has worked tirelessly to help people with money problems, despite suffering with cancer. ○

• Photograph by courtesy of The News, Portsmouth.

Vol 8 Issue 4 October–December 2003

Journal of One-Name Studies
October–December 2003
Quarterly publication of the
Guild of One-Name Studies
ISSN 0262-4842
£2.00 when sold to non-members