

# Journal

of One-Name Studies



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The world's leading publication for one-namers

**Electronic archive for members' one-name records – a major new Guild resource**

**Review of  
Custodian 3**

**The London  
Gazette website**

***Report on the successful Kent Newspaper Seminar***

# Guild

of One-Name Studies

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### Sales

AS well as Guild publications, the  
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nal folders, ties, lapel badges and  
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### Regional Representatives

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

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**STOP PRESS! For an important notice concerning a malicious e-mail virus attack on the Guild, please see Page 29.**

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

# Thanks and a fond farewell to our long-serving Secretary, Jim Isard

**A**gain, it's a mix of bad and good news this quarter. It is with regret that I have to advise you that Jim Isard, our long-serving Secretary has had to stand down. He had intended to stand down at the AGM, but he has had to bring this forward for health reasons. Jim has agreed to continue managing Box G for us until the AGM, and, of course, remains the registered member for the Isard ONS. On behalf of the Committee and the membership, I would like to thank Jim for the years of service he has given to the Guild and wish him as speedy a recovery as possible.

My appeal for volunteers in the October 2003 Journal brought forward only one willing victim. Kirsty Maunder, member 4014, has joined the Committee and has taken on some of the Secretary's duties until the AGM. There are still plenty of opportunities for members to help with running the Guild, so please contact me if you can assist.

### Australia Trip

In December I took my second trip-of-a-lifetime and visited a distant cousin in Melbourne, Victoria. I did some of the touristy things and a lot of research for my ONS, but I also took the opportunity to meet as many Guild members as possible. My thanks to David Evans, David Weatherill, Brian Faithfull, and Margaret Owens for hospitality.

### Guild Marriage Index

The GMI continues to grow apace, with some 180,000 entries from 135 members. The testing of

the web interface is proceeding well and it is hoped to have it live by the AGM and Conference. One of the side effects of this project is that it has made members look at their data anew and fill in the missing entries. If you have not already done so, please consider adding your marriage data. Contact Mary Rix, Member 1328.

### 1881 Project

In the last Journal I reported that there were still a few issues outstanding with the 1881 Discs and Maps Projects. By the Committee meeting in January, this had virtually been resolved by sending replacements; only four cases remained, where the member appears to have thought they had ordered more than they had. Subsequent to my plea, I received details of a further 11 members who had not received everything they ordered. Ten of these are already complete and, hopefully, the final problem order notified in late February has already been processed. By the next Journal, this project will have finally been completed.

Roy Stockdill, Sandra Turner, and myself visited our printers and packers in January. I now have a much better understanding of the causes of the problems I reported in the January Journal. The upside-down pages in the Members' Handbook appears to be due to loading about 14 of the 30,000 sheets of paper the wrong way round. The printers accepted responsibility.

The occasional two-address labels-in-one-envelope, causing half the affected members not to get their Journal, was due to

"sticky" flyers, which in turn was due to changing the printing process to one that left a slight electrostatic charge on the sheets. Reverting to the previous process appears to have resolved this issue. The delay of the Australian (and other?) overseas Journals in October seems to be due to confusion over the postal imprints. Despite us having paid for airmail, it looks as if they were sent surface and eventually arrived weeks late. We have changed the postal imprint system for this Journal, and different flyers will be used for UK and overseas deliveries, eliminating any possibility of future misunderstanding.

I have recently been advised that there may be a repeat of the October problem with the January Journal. Initial investigation reveals that the Journals were sent to Royal Mail in the last week of December 2003. The UK copies arrived in the first week of January, but overseas ones had not arrived by the end of February. A few days after Royal Mail being chased by our distributor, Journals had started to arrive in Utah and Australia. Coincidence or what?

*Journal distribution has been a considerable distraction from the Chairman's normal duties. I would very much like a volunteer to co-ordinate the distribution of the Journal and manage any ensuing problems on behalf of affected members. The workload should be low and access to telephone, e-mail and a post office are highly desirable. If you can help, please contact me at [chairman@one-name.org](mailto:chairman@one-name.org) ○*

# DNA testing is not the genealogical equivalent of discovering a new planet!



**W**HAT about that new planet, then? You know, the one with the funny name – Sedna, that's it. According to the astronomers, it has been provisionally named after some Inuit – that's the politically correct terminology for Eskimo, by the way – goddess reputed to have created sea monsters of the Arctic.

But surely I can't be the only one to have noticed that Sedna is Andes backwards, and the Andes are a long way from the Arctic!

Anyway, what really made me chortle aloud is the reaction of those peculiar folks known as astrologers. It seems the discovery of a 10th planet in our solar system has thrown them into total hysterics. One fellow in a large-circulation tabloid newspaper burred on frenetically about the discovery of Sedna indicating thousands of years of white supremacy coming to an end and the hope for "renewable alternative energy, an end to world poverty and the emergence of a new philosophy that allows millions to attain higher consciousness".

And he can foretell all this just from a lump of rock that nobody's noticed before, whizzing around in space over six billion miles from Earth? I reckon Nostradamus, or his Yorkshire equivalent Mother Shipton, would have done better!

*What on earth, I am sure you are asking yourselves by now, does this have to do with genealogy?*

Only this – that there are some who seem to think the new-fangled technique of DNA testing is the genealogical equivalent of the discovery of a new planet or the Holy Grail of ancestor hunt-

ing, and that it can answer all our prayers about tracing our forebears back into the medieval mists of time.

Well, I am sorry to be a cynical old spoilsport and a party pooper, but I am afraid I am not among them.

Yes, I do recognise that DNA testing has its interest and strong supporters, and perhaps can be regarded even as a very useful tool sometimes. However, until someone provides me with a lot more evidence, I shall remain firmly of the belief that it is no more than a mild curiosity and a diversionary meander down the complex byways of family history.

I have yet to be convinced it is the massive breakthrough some of its disciples claim.

When I read a few years ago that some schoolteacher in Somerset had been shown by DNA testing to be related to a prehistoric man whose remains were found in a cave, my reaction was of the "So what?" variety.

## Hunters

Given that several thousand years ago there was no more than a tiny band of primitive hunters roaming Britain, I would have thought the same result could apply to millions of us.

If I am honest, I suppose I must admit my lack of enthusiasm so far for DNA testing is partly to do with the fact that I don't understand half of the technicalities of it! Science subjects never were my strong point at school and all that stuff about X and Y chromosomes and genes and mitochondrial DNA leaves my brain reeling.

I do concede that DNA testing can have some value to one-namers, but only in the sense of

giving an indication as to whether one group of people with a particular surname can be connected to another group with the same name elsewhere.

This does not seem to me a particularly shattering revelation, merely one that can help in pointing to where further research needs to be done in the old-fashioned and time-honoured way, i.e. by knuckling down and digging in the written records.

If it were to be shown by DNA testing that I was somehow connected to a groups of Stockdales/Stockdills in the North York Moors region – where I have a theory my own paternal family line may have originated from, a place called Stockdale Moor – I would find that interesting and useful, undoubtedly.

But it wouldn't begin to fill in the umpteen gaps in between, or help me discover where my 3x-great-grandfather was born in circa 1718. For until I can discover that fact – and I have been hunting it for years – my direct paternal line ancestry ends there.

Frankly, I fail to see how – unless we are going to start digging our ancestors up – DNA can prove anything other than that two people may have a common ancestor somewhere in the dim and distant past, which is not at all the same thing as proving all the links in your family tree by conventional research.

Do not misunderstand me. I do recognise that many Guild members are hugely interested in DNA testing and, as Editor, I will continue to bring you articles and views on the matter.

***But I must state that in the absence of further evidence, in my personal opinion the jury is still well and truly out!*** ○

# Custodian 3 program has some irritating teething troubles but great potential for one-name records



By Ken  
Toll

*THE computer genealogy program CUSTODIAN was welcomed and praised by many family historians, but especially one-namers, when it first appeared a few years ago.*

*Since it was written by a one-namer and aimed specifically at one-namers, many Guild members acquired it to put their records onto.*

*Now, there is a new version, Custodian 3, and in this special article our Guild Chairman, KEN TOLL, takes a close look and evaluates its new features.*

**O**utwardly, Custodian 3 is a program that will enable genealogists to enter and store their data. It has been specifically designed for one-namers by one-namers. It allows unrelated data to be stored as it is gleaned and any inferences made later.

In its basic form, it is very simple to use. For the more advanced user there are plenty of ways to customise the way data is entered and displayed.

Custodian 3 is a complete rewrite of the software, rather than just an improvement on Custodian 2. It appears to have been written using a later version of Microsoft Access (2000?). Data is held in some 27 tables and names and places are fully indexed. However, it is not intended as a replacement for a Family Tree program (such as Family Tree Maker or Generations).

Custodian 3 comes on one CD and with a fairly comprehensive 228-page manual. I spotted at least one typo, but generally the standard is extremely good. Besides the manual, there is Help available on most screens.

## Requirements

The review copy I received was V3.1.10, and stated the minimum system requirements on the box and on the CD container. These were Win98/NT/ME/2000/XP, 40Mb of Hard Disk space, 128 Mb of RAM, CD drive and Pentium III or above.

## Installation

Installation instructions are given on the CD insert. I thought I'd try it out on a low end specification Win98 (first edition) PC. Unfortunately, it refused to install. I now know this is a known problem, and one unlikely to be fixed.

Having visited the Custodian 3 website, it clearly states Windows ME/NT/2000/XP (and, therefore, not Win 98). To be fair, the licence agreement on page 2 of the manual does state that if the software cannot be installed successfully onto your chosen PC, then

a full refund will be given, provided the software and manual is returned in a saleable condition.

I then tried it on a more up-to-date PC running XP Home Edition. It auto-installed without problem. I have a preference for storing my data on a different hard disk to the program and it happily allowed this.

The manual states that both Versions 2 and 3 can be on the same PC at the same time, so there is no need to uninstall Custodian 2 first. Although not tried, this seems particularly useful, as it is, therefore, possible to continue using V2 whilst preparing to migrate data from V2 to V3. It does not preclude you from reverting to V2 if you want to, but there is no mechanism to easily transfer any amended data from V3 to V2 should you need to.

## Appearance

When launched, Custodian presents a splash screen with a number of options – see Figure 1.

## Data Navigation Bar

The Data Navigation Bar (DNB) occupies the left third of the screen – see Figure 2 on page 8. This seems an excessive amount of space and cannot be re-sized by grabbing an edge or corner. There is a windows "close" icon in the top right corner of the bar and this minimises the bar. Unfortunately, there is no restore icon, and it took me a while to discover that Ctrl E would restore it. Occasionally double-clicking on its title bar could restore it, but this was not consistent.

The DNB uses the analogy of books, flags and quills to represent the way data is filed. It is similar to the folders and documents representation within Windows Explorer, although you cannot drag and drop a flag or quill into another book (though there should be no need to).

A "+" sign adjacent to a book or flag indicates that there is multiple contents, and clicking on the "+" will reveal the contents inside. It is possible



Figure 1 – the opening screen of Custodian 3

to change the names of everything but the countries and, whilst this is not an issue at present, countries have been known to change their names. I have yet to work out whether naming the Stars and Stripes “North America” under IGI and “USA” under Civil Registration Indexes is deliberate or an inconsistency. Either way, it is not a serious criticism.

Clicking on a quill brings up the related data entry table. It should be possible to enter any collected into the appropriate table; certainly, all the fields I required were there. I also tried to enter data into a blank form. It didn't quite work as I envisaged (perhaps I should have read the manual more thoroughly first), but I soon got the hang of it.

### Conversion from Custodian 2

A wizard is provided to import data from Custodian 2. I didn't have any data to import, so this feature wasn't evaluated. I expect most Custodian 2 users are already subscribers to the free Custodian e-mail Mailing List ([CUSTODIAN-L@rootsweb.com](mailto:CUSTODIAN-L@rootsweb.com)), and will already be aware of any issues. Should you wish to subscribe to the List, just send an e-mail to [CUSTODIAN-L-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:CUSTODIAN-L-request@rootsweb.com) with the message: subscribe

Custodian 3 enables you to record data from a multitude of records and sources, including: Appren-

tics; Armed Services (which, strangely, includes Merchant Navy); Civil Registration (indexes and certificates); Census; GEDCOM, IGI and VRI (see Figure 3 on page 10); Marriage Licenses; Migration; MIs and Cemetery; Directories and Newspapers; Parish Chest; Poor Law; Probate; Education; Tax; and Deeds. Some of these have separate data entry windows for different countries.

It has the facility to customise a “Miscellaneous” table. This enabled me to record occupation information I had gleaned which didn't easily fit on other forms. I was unable to add the “Condition” field used on the Census table, but I was also able to rename “User Field 5” to “Marital Status” and add it to the view of the table.

Besides the obvious ability to store basic genealogical data, it has features to allow you to record your correspondents and your library holdings (or wish lists). It also has tables for interests, research notes, to-do lists, and the computer equivalent of post-it notes for reminders.

It is easy to use the filter facility to select data. For the more advanced user, it is also possible to write complex SQL queries on the data. One particularly useful feature new to Custodian 3 is the ability to group individuals together into (smallish) families by using a “Family Reference”. You can then link

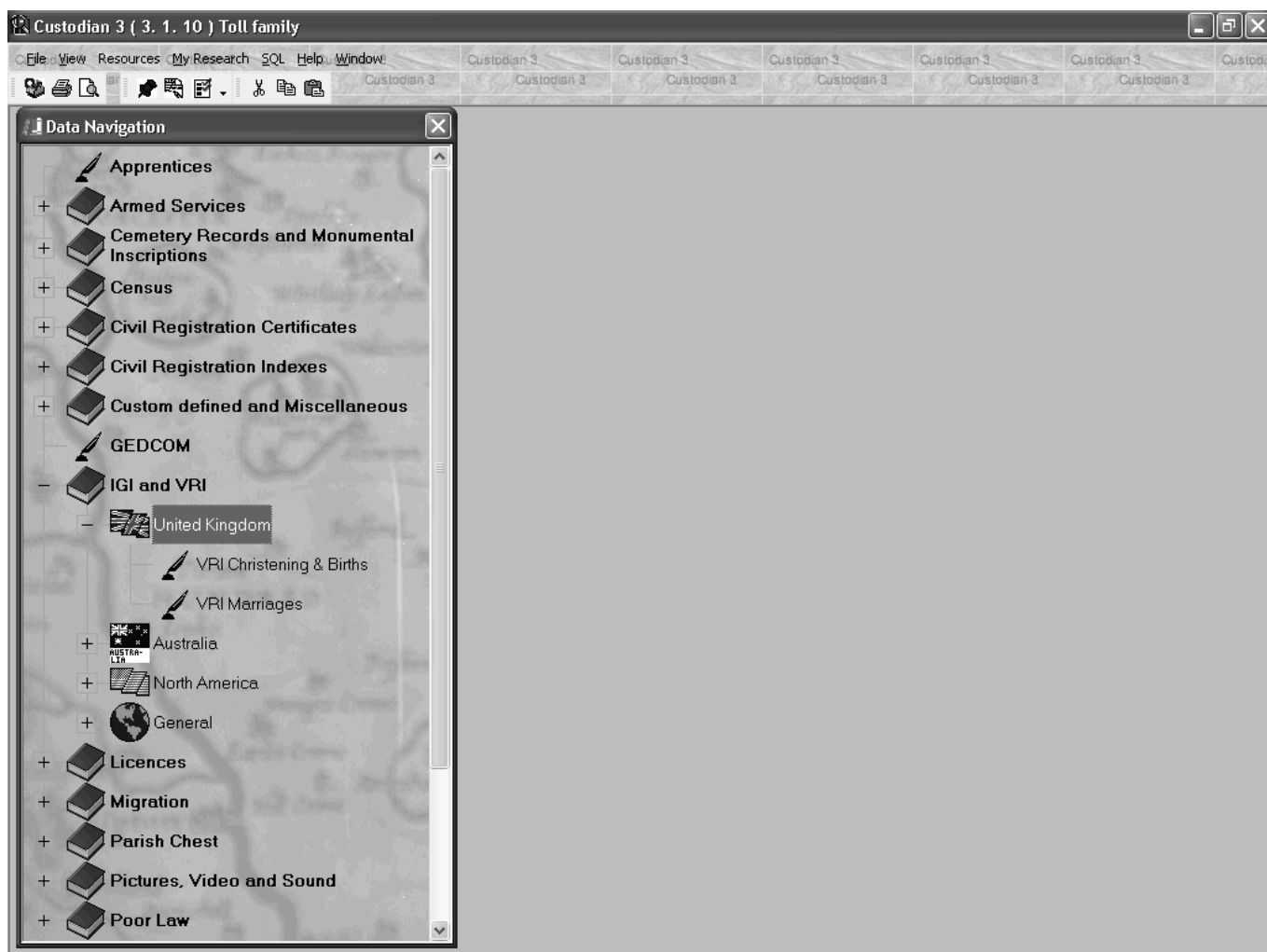


Figure 2 – the Data Navigation Bar wastes some screen space

these individuals in the group into a family structure.

## Import

As a test, I imported over 1,200 birth registrations from an Excel spreadsheet into an 1837–1983 birth registrations table without loss of data. However, as my original file contained data to 1999, I had simply deleted the data from the rows from 1984 onwards. Because I failed to actually delete the rows, rather than just the data, Custodian also imported the blank rows. This is not a major issue, but it gave the impression that there were more entries imported than there actually were. However, it was straightforward enough to highlight the blank entries and delete them.

One issue, which I am unable to explain, is that several of the columns in the table seem to have disappeared after the import. Once I realised it was only the “view” that was wrong, it was a fairly simple matter to get the missing columns back, complete with the data I’d loaded. This may just be finger trouble on my part, as I’ve yet to repeat it.

I tried a GEDCOM import, but the files I had available were for GEDCOM 5.0. Custodian warned me that they may not import correctly as they were not GEDCOM 5.5. The import completed, with birth,

baptism and death data visible, but the marriage data was not present. Checking back on the Custodian mailing list revealed that this is a known problem, and may also affect some GEDCOM 5.5s.

## Export

I exported the birth table I’d previously loaded. There is a choice of Text, Excel, HTML or Access2000. I chose Access and the export worked faultlessly. This is an essential feature, since I am most reluctant to put data into any application that can’t give it back. The only disappointment is that data has to be exported one data type at a time – I could find no method of doing a bulk export.

## Negatives

Custodian 3 is effectively a brand new program, and therefore has had (and will probably continue to have) plenty of teething troubles. These are not sufficiently serious to make it unusable – as demonstrated by the application’s dedicated band of users – but are certainly irritating. The problems are being fixed as quickly as possible and the program should reach maturity fairly soon.

The Access tables used by Custodian 3 have been password-protected. I can see that this will prevent tampering and thereby reduce support calls, but it



also prevents direct access to one's own data.

Internationalisation is better than any comparable product. However, there does not seem to be a method to create one's own tables for other countries, such as Canada. I'm sure these will follow in due course, but a more positive statement about future developments in the manual or on the website would have been reassuring.

Extra windows that appear during use (e.g. Import wizard – Excel) seem to be sized too small and cannot be resized. This causes scroll bars to be generated, cluttering the available space even further. A slightly larger or resizable window would have alleviated this.

I could find no method for "Undo". Whilst this is not uncommon in simple databases, it is allowed in MS Access under certain circumstances, and where it isn't you are warned that there will be no "undo" available.

## Pluses

It wouldn't be fair not to mention the range of pluses for this application:

- It contains many user-led features, indicating a supplier that listens to its customers.
- There is a very active, and vociferous, e-mail mailing list for the product (where I have been

lurking since May 2000). Help and advice abounds.

There is a good website ([www.custodian3.co.uk/](http://www.custodian3.co.uk/)), where sample screen shots can be viewed and faults can be reported. There are also regular postings of updates that can be downloaded.

And finally, an obvious question...would I buy it and use it for my own one-name study?

I must answer with a qualified "Yes". It does not do everything I want, but, unfortunately, no off-the-shelf product ever will. It holds great potential and is better than most, if not all, of the alternatives.

***I will continue to evaluate it and, providing there are no further issues, I will start to transfer my data into a copy of my own – but keeping backups of my original files.*** ○

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- *Ken recently retired from his role as a Software Test Manager for the Metropolitan Police Service. He now fulfils a similar role as a consultant.*

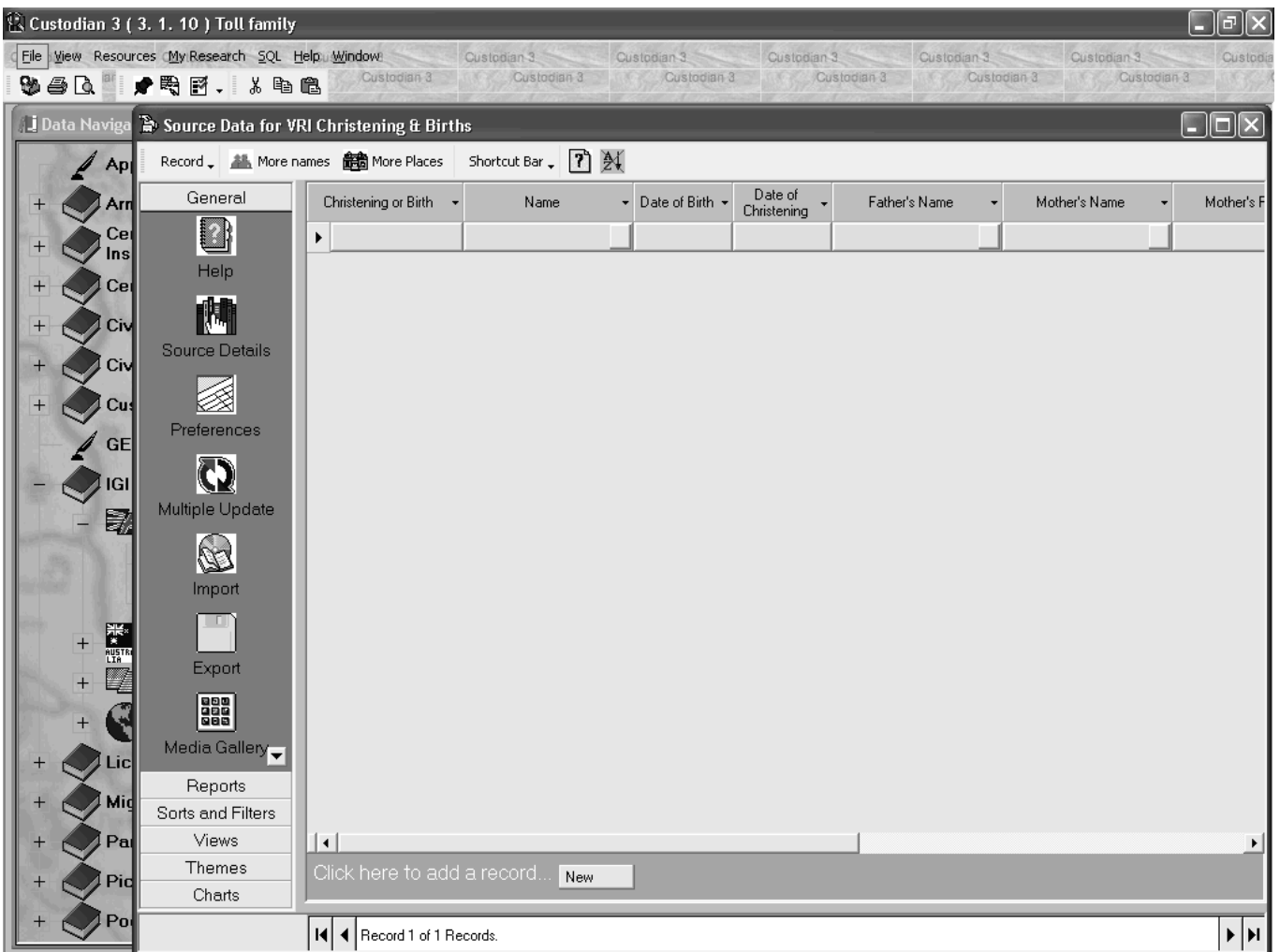


Figure 3 – Custodian 3 awaiting a data import from the Vital Records Index

# Why not let online auction houses and book search websites find those one-name rarities for you?

**I**N MY previous article in the last issue of the *Journal* I explored the use of search engines of various types and how Boolean logic can help make searching for online information more efficient and effective.

Useful as they are, search engines are mostly reactive, and you have to sit down and conduct the search occasionally to check whether any new sites have appeared concerning the surname you are interested in.

Online auctions and book searches typically work in the background and can often notify you automatically when something of interest to you becomes available.

The most popular online auction site by far is eBay. I live in the UK, so I use [www.ebay.co.uk](http://www.ebay.co.uk), but there are different URLs for other countries, like the US ([www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)), and Germany (<http://www.ebay.de>), etc., so choose the appropriate site for you. Then select the Search tab, and enter the surname you are researching. If you have a fairly common surname, you may find the use of a Boolean search appropriate here (see my previous article, *Vol 8 Issue 5, January–March 2004*).

Typically, and perhaps surprisingly, you quite often find various items being offered for sale where that surname appears somewhere in the title. Whatever local site you chose, you should be searching worldwide, so you have a greater chance of finding something of interest. There may be books concerning – or authored by – people with your surname, or perhaps medals that were inscribed (or named) to individuals with the surname.

## Share certificates

In recent years I have purchased old share certificates (some passed down through generations and annotated accordingly by the company registrar, with dates of deaths, etc.), and recently I was delighted to find a Tordoff milk bottle. Currently, there is a postcard of "Tordoff Reservoir, Pentland Hills", for sale, which provides an interesting new possibility for an origin for the surname!

Occasionally one can indeed be lucky and find a reference that leads one to new facts. Last year I discovered a book for sale by a previously unknown American Tordoff, who had discovered a new means

to repair books. It turned out to be a relative of the chairperson of the Tordoff Family History Society. He had emigrated to the United States in Victorian times, and we were delighted to be able to link his American family to those in the UK. Other people have found family bibles, photographs, even samplers.

However, even if you don't find anything concerning your surname initially, you will find an option at the foot of the page to "Save Search". If you choose this option, you will need to register as an eBay user – not a painful process and not too intrusive. Your search will then be saved. If you then go to "My Ebay" and choose the Favourites tab, you will see your search listed and can repeat it at any time.

Even better, you will also see the option to be notified by e-mail of any new items that people list for sale that matches your search. Then you can sit back and have the eBay computer check for any new items, and you will be notified by email when anything appears.

Of course, you are never under any obligation to buy anything from eBay, but I suspect many of you will be tempted sooner or later! It is an auction process, so you may find there are other people interested in the item as well, but do remember that it's the data you are after, and not necessarily the item itself.

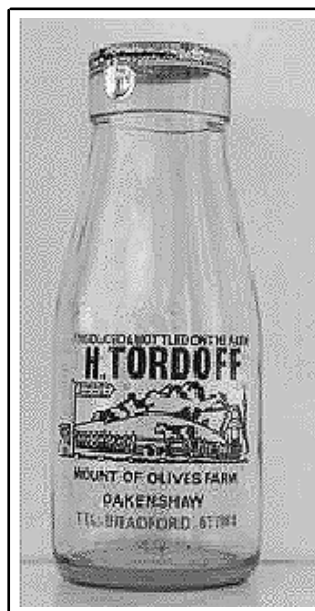
## Is it safe?

All eBay sellers are given a rating based on the number of positive (or neutral or negative) reports previous buyers have entered, so you can usually see just by examining how new a person is to selling on eBay and how reliable they are likely to be. This process is explained in full on the eBay website.

What about payments? If you do succumb and buy something, especially



**Online essentials  
for one-namers  
Part Two – online  
auctions and book  
searches  
By ROB  
ALEXANDER**



**A Tordoff milk bottle**



**A postcard of Tordoff Reservoir, Pentland Hills**

in a foreign country, you are usually expected to pay the buyer before he/she will send the item you have bought. There are various arrangements, such as escrow, for high value items, but these probably don't concern us here and are explained on the eBay website.

If you are buying within your own country, then a postal order or cheque will usually be all that is required. If you are buying internationally – and the Internet is nothing if not international – then you may wish to register also with a payment service such as [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com) who can send funds in any currency electronically from your pre-registered credit or debit card.

### Other Auction Sites

There are, of course, many other auction sites on the Internet, some international but others quite local. In London there is [www.Loot.com](http://www.Loot.com) and nationally there is [www.qxl.co.uk](http://www.qxl.co.uk), any of which can be useful sources for books, manuscripts papers and other ephemera. Family bibles, samplers, mourning cards, and many other items are often sold quite reasonably at online auctions.

Don't overlook furniture, which often has a maker's name, or such things as watches – many a Barraclough heart can beat faster when they find a watch for sale which was made by their ancestors.

If you think genealogy is addictive, beware of online auctions!

### Hot eBay tips for one-namers

- If you are researching several surnames, that's not a problem. Use the advanced search facility and you can enter as many surnames as you wish. If an item includes any of the names, you will be notified by e-mail.

- Tick the option to "search in titles & descriptions" to increase your chances of finding something.

- If you are interested in a one-place study, or there is a locality of specific interest to you, you can

also search and be notified of any items concerning that.

- Don't be surprised if original documents are offered for sale – I have found Victorian conveyances and other documents available at very good prices.

### Book-finding service

It's not only Amazon that sells books on the Internet – many booksellers offer a second-hand book-finding service. Booksellers often also sell manuscripts.

The list below shows booksellers who will allow you to register your interests and will notify you by e-mail of any book that comes available for sale matching your requirements. If you are researching a specific name, you will then be notified when any book is offered whose title, description or author has that name in it. Again, there is no obligation to buy!



ABE Books: <http://dogbert.abebooks.com/abe/llist>  
 Alibris: <http://www.alibris.com/>  
 Bookfinder.com: <http://www.bookfinder.com/>  
 Bookfinder General:  
<http://www.nwnet.co.uk/BFG/booksrch.htm>  
 UK Bookworld  
[http://ukbookworld.com/cgi-bin/wants\\_wants\\_mntn.pl](http://ukbookworld.com/cgi-bin/wants_wants_mntn.pl)  
 R.G.Watkins  
<http://homepage.eurobell.co.uk/rgw/welcome.html>  
 (See their Links page for more book dealers).

Other businesses have been set up specifically with the desires of the fervent genealogist in mind and are worth checking regularly, even if they don't store your requirements. These include:

Chapel Books: <http://www.chapelbooks.co.uk/>  
 (Provide lists of material sorted by county).  
 Cavendish Auctions:  
<http://www.cavendish-auctions.com/> (Many postage stamps but also books, papers and ephemera).

Then there are medal auctions, specialist dealers in jewellery, pictures, furniture, and so on. There is no end, but perhaps that's the fun of the one-name study. True?

Actually that last sentence may not be true – see <http://www.cdsusa.com/>

*But unless and until you've seen all the rest – good hunting!* ○

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The London Gazette

## Website of the official organ of government information has lots of interest for one-namers

**A** little while ago, after an exchange on the Guild's E-Mail Forum, I discovered a website that featured The London Gazette. It turned out that this was pretty much old hat to the aficionados on the Forum (they're a well clued-in bunch!), but I found it fascinating, so this is my opportunity to indulge in a little web-watching.

Let's get the facts right, to begin with. You'll find the site at: <http://www.gazettes-online.co.uk/>, and, strictly speaking, this is the site for not only The London Gazette, but also the ones for Edinburgh and Dublin as well. I think I should first explain that The London Gazette is a newspaper, but a rather special one. This is a newspaper such as Fleet Street news hounds like our Editor, Roy Stockdill, have never seen. It has no saucy stories, no revelations of governmental wrong-doing, no tempting adverts.

In fact, Roy would find it positively boring, were it not for the fact that his STOCKDALE/STOCKDILL name-bearers are featured in it! For instance, Roy, did you know that a Private T. Stockdill, a stretcher bearer in the Canterbury Battalion of the New Zealand Forces, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in June 1915? Or that a partner in Stockdale and Company in Manchester was awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1947? If not, you'd better get out that web browser! (*Actually, Howard, yes, I did know, but thanks anyway!—Editor*).

**Great Plague**

The Gazette came about because of two important, linked events: the Great Plague and the decision of King Charles II to remove his court – effectively the government of the time – to Oxford. The London Gazette started life as the Oxford Gazette, and the first edition, containing the still-present line "Published by Authority", appeared in November 1665. When the court returned to London the Oxford Gazette followed, very quickly changing its name to the London Gazette. This printed all the news that the Court felt was fit to

print, and it became essential reading for the business community who needed to know about British skirmishes around the world. The London Gazette therefore soon found the role it still has today as the publisher of accurate official information. Its sources of information were incomparable; in peacetime, foreign news came directly from British embassies and in times of war from the British generals themselves. The news of Wellington's victory at Waterloo was first carried in the Gazette, and when the newly-founded Times stopped its presses to carry the article it was the Gazette's despatch which was reprinted in full.

Today, the London Gazette, published daily, is still the official organ for information from government, publishing all sorts of public notices from

news to bankruptcies, town and country planning, service promotions (hence the expression "being gazetted") and even permits for expeditions to Antarctica.

**Promotions**

So what has this got to do with genealogy and one-name research, in particular? Well, for instance, anyone employed by the UK government, no matter how high or low, who may have found favour during their career, would have their promotion posted here. This includes not only the armed services but also the domestic Civil Service – and that includes the General Post Office and its emerging telecommunications arm. So, if someone with your name had been a mere telephone operator for the GPO (like my Uncle Alf), he/she would feature if they were promoted.

So, that's what the Gazette is all about – but what about the website? Well, like a number of other "public domain" sites, there is a digitisation project under way that aims eventually to provide all the archives online. But probably the most important point is that there's already something there:

- All the London Gazette editions from the war years (these have been generously assessed as



By **HOWARD BENBROOK**

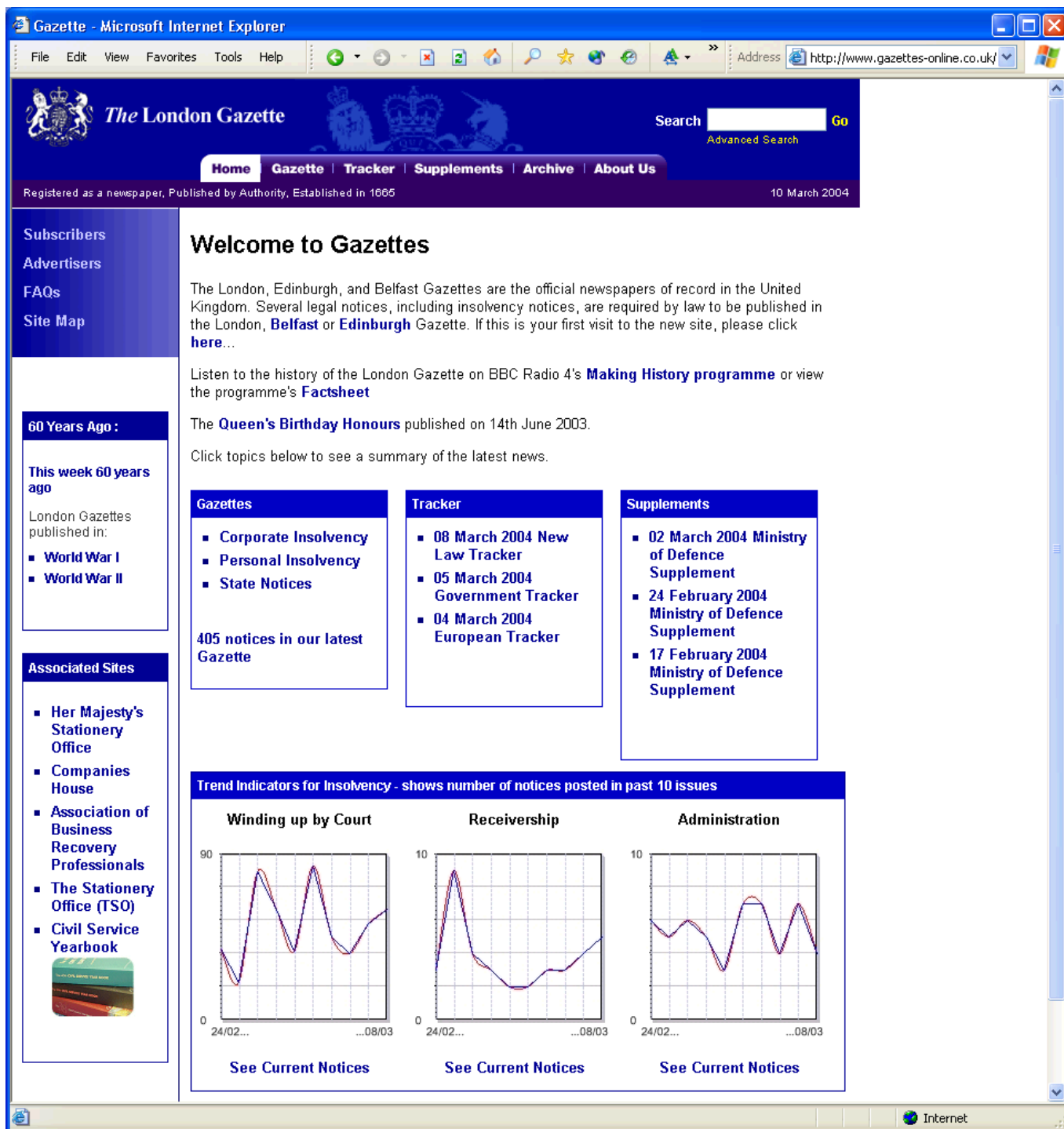


Figure 1 – the homepage of the London Gazette

1914–1920 and 1939–1948).

- All the London Gazette Honours and Awards in the 20th century (from January 1 1900 to December 31 1997).

I did the predictable thing. I went to the search facility, and typed in "BENBROOK". I was surprised; there were actually some entries! When you're the bearer of a rare(ish) surname, of course, you get used to the idea of entering your name with little expectation of a "hit". The London Gazette, I'm pleased to report, has at least got a few BENBROOKS between its covers. I believe that this will be the case with most of the readers of this article. I cer-

tainly found occurrences of the following names: WILLING, MEATES, ADSHEAD, RAYMENT, TULEY, TOLL, FERNYHOUGH, CLEMAS, WILDGOOSE, TRITTON, HOLLYER, and PULKER, just to pick a few Guild names with which I have become familiar.

In order to search the archive, you need to select "Archive" from the bar immediately underneath the title banner. This displays three options: World War I, World War II, and Honours & Awards, but if you select one of these all you get is an interim page with a short descriptive paragraph and a link that says "Search Archive", and clicking on this for all three takes you to the same search screen. So, just

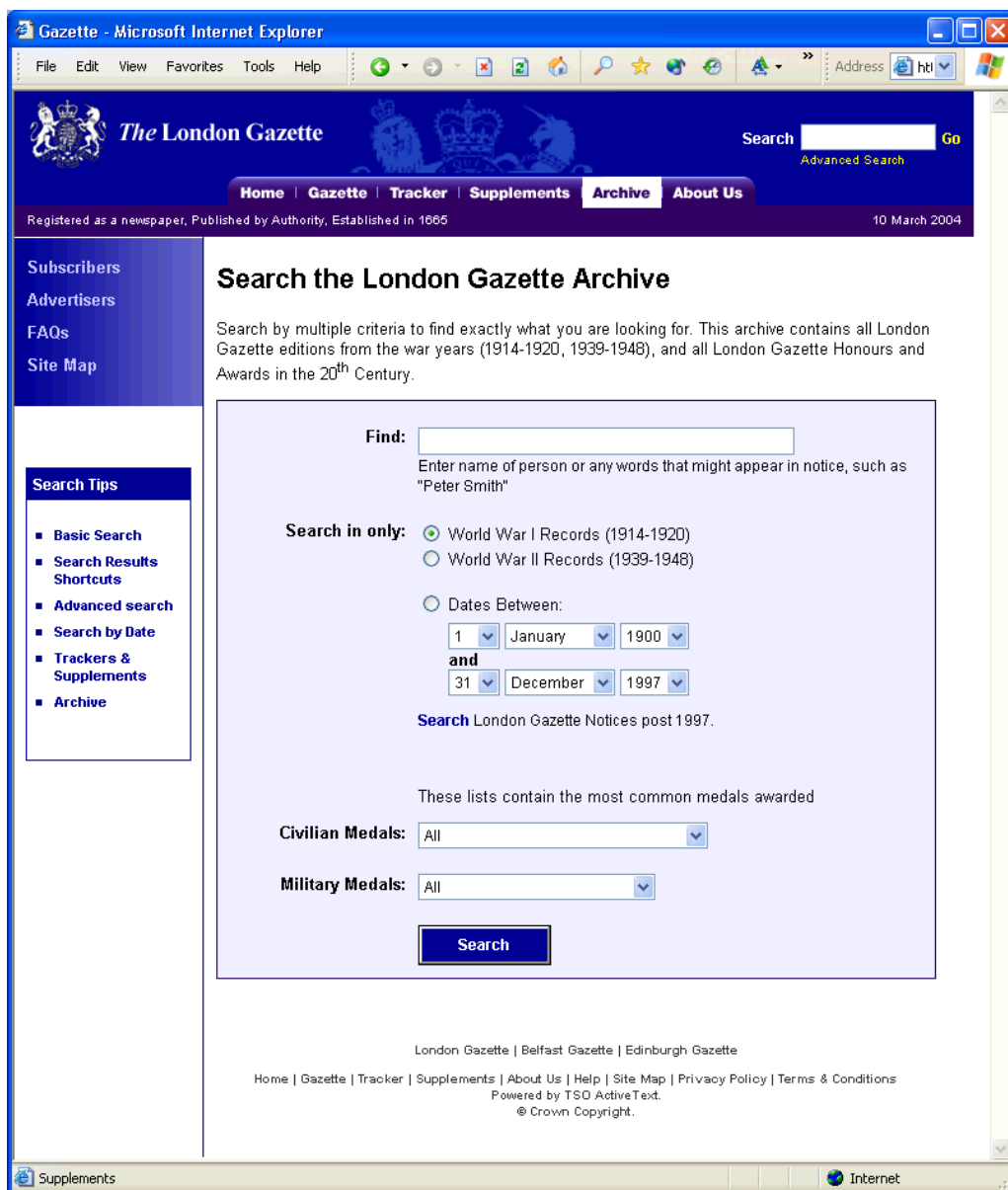


Figure 2 – The London Gazette's main search page

click on the word "Archive". You're able to enter a name to search for and to limit this in several ways. You can search within editions from the First or Second World Wars, or editions between January 1 1900 and December 31 1997 – although this latter range is really only of use currently if you're looking for 20th century awards and honours.

## Unsophisticated

Regrettably, it's a fairly unsophisticated search facility. Try as I might, I couldn't see a way that I could use wildcards, for instance, and there's no mention of them in the Help pages so I think they're simply not available. I also attempted a Boolean search by placing an AND or an OR between two variant spellings. It would have none of it!

The help text suggests that if you use two terms as your search criteria, it will return gazette editions that contain both terms (although there's no guarantee that they will be associated together), so I thought I'd give it a try. As a departure from my

usual approach, I tried "Rupert SMITH". Well, I was told that there were two First World War gazette editions containing this combination of words; but one contained a Rupert Smith-Saville, and the other serves as a warning to anyone who puts all their faith in the effectiveness of search facilities. OK, so both "Rupert" and "Smith" appeared together, but they were parts of the names of two separate people! (See Figure 3 on the opposite page).

My search for a BANBROOK, however, was a revelation. One of the two hits turned out to be a notice, placed by a solicitor seeking the relatives of a deceased Maria Parker; in particular they were looking for "the testatrix's Sister Ada Parker (or Revell), Daughter of William and Hannah Parker née Banbrook (born in England in 1870, who is believed to have married one Revell and died in Canada)". What a gold mine for anyone researching that particu-

lar family!

It's worth pointing out how this site would have been created. Original documents would have had to be scanned. Software capable of interpreting the scanned text (OCR or optical character recognition) would then have been used against each page to create a textual database, as opposed to one just consisting of images.

Finally, the text would have to be analysed to create an index – not a straightforward task when there is no clear location for key words like surnames. How would you differentiate between a surname like MERCHANT and the term for a trader, for instance? As well as the limitations of the searching, this type of technology, although sophisticated, is clearly vulnerable to scanning problems. For instance, I found a BEMBROSE indexed as BEMBROAE because the "s" had been smudged in printing.

In case you miss it, I'll mention the so-called "Advanced Search" facility. You can use the site-

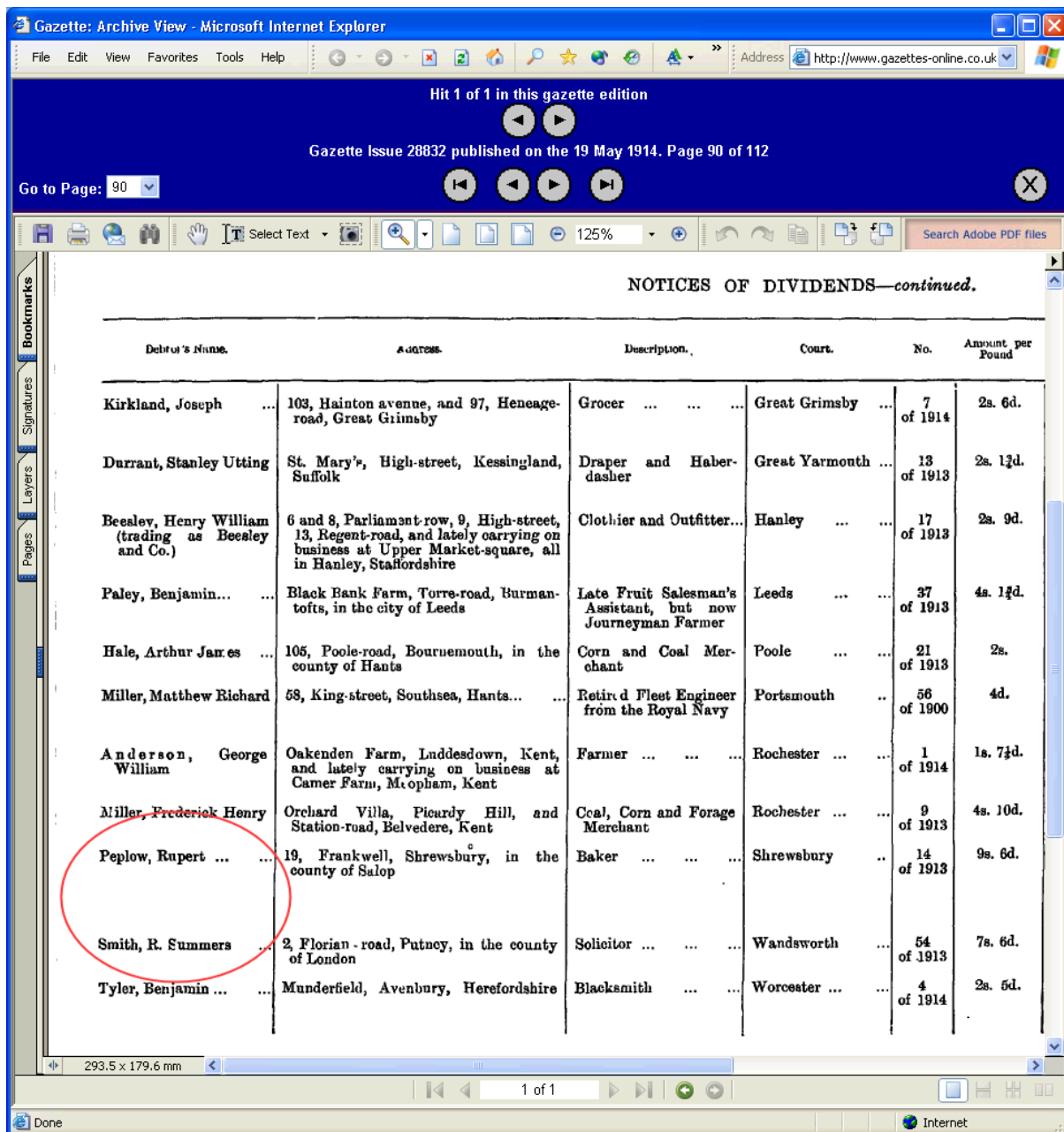


Figure 3 – a search for "Rupert" and "Smith" finds two different people on separate lines

wide search field at the top right of the main page or the yellow link marked "Advanced Search". Taking this link reveals how "advanced" the search really is. We've moved away from the Archives and this search trawls through the more recent editions: more January 1998 until now, to be precise – so the search is not so much advanced as more current. I'm pleased to say, though, that, to my surprise, the search found a BENBROOK – the liquidation of a company trading at 25 Benbrook Way, Gawsworth, Macclesfield. I really must get round to finding out how they chose that name for the road, some day!

Throughout all this, I noticed a credit for something called TSO Active Text at the foot of each page, and so I went off in search of more information. TSO, of course, stands for The Stationery Office, publishers of all UK government reports, and their website clearly shows that they are very active in supporting public sector groups with their huge

information management challenges. The Case Study for Gazettes Online informed me that this work: "involved the colossal task of converting to digital format 2 million pages from 56,000 editions spanning nearly 340 years", and further probing revealed that: "The whole of the 20th Century archive will be complete by 2004 and the entire two million pages will be scanned and archived by 2006". Let's hope that they can improve that search facility by then.

*Oh – and no, my Uncle Alf never did get that promotion! ○*

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# Introducing the Guild Archive – an electronic repository for members' one-name records

*IN this special seven-page feature, PAUL MILLINGTON, the Guild's Vice-Chairman and Webmaster, introduces his new program which will enable members to place their one-name data on the Guild's website. This major resource is one of the most important projects undertaken by the Guild for many years. Paul first introduced the concept in a lecture at the Annual Conference and AGM at Liverpool last year – and now we are delighted to report it has come to fruition.*

## Introduction

**I** have been a member of the Guild for approximately ten years. I have assiduously collected the basic categories of data recommended by the Guild (civil registration, wills, census, and so forth). When time permits, I try to do some family reconstruction.

In putting together this collection of data on the Millington surname, two issues have become uppermost in my mind:

- Publicity - how can I get as many contacts as possible?
- Long term storage – what is the best way to preserve my records for posterity?

Letters in the Journal and submissions to the Guild Forum have shown that these are also issues of concern to many other Guild members. My career is based in IT and so, naturally, I felt that that this could offer a way forward. Again, comment by other Guild members suggested that help in this area could prove useful in their one-name studies.

## Millington website

Like many Guild members, I maintain a web site for my one-name study ([www.millington-archive.org.uk](http://www.millington-archive.org.uk)). Presenting your one-name study in this manner presents a number of challenges. There is, of course, the immediate need to present enough information so as to get people interested and, hopefully, so that they will get in contact.

At this stage, I should say something about my one-name study. My Millington study is at the larger end of those being researched by Guild members. In the 1881 census there are 4,533 entries, excluding variants and mistranscriptions, and from 1837 to 2001 there are approximately 57,000 births, marriages and deaths registered in England and Wales.

## Open access

I opted to place much of this data in open access on my website. This size presents a number of additional challenges. Because there a large number of people interested in the Millington surname, I get a relatively high number of contacts. Some of these are complex and interesting, while others are run-of-the-mill and amount to little more than an enquiry to search civil registration indexes; for example, "can you find my grandfather Fred who died in the Manchester area some time between 1880 and 1920?".

I decided that the simpler type of enquiries could best be addressed by putting my data on the website. My first solution was to present the data in the form of a number of tables, which is simple enough to do on a web page. An example is shown in Figure 1 on the adjacent page.

Whilst enabling the answer to the "Fred question" to be answered by the web

surfer, the solution brings up two further problems. The first of these is in the nature of the search permitted. I chose to order my records in date order, but the casual enquirer may be more interested in records from a particular area when tracing an individual family.

The second problem was that this approach exposed the information that had been carefully gathered over 12 years. This means that the information can easily be taken and included on another site (if you think I am being paranoid, a number of correspondents on the Forum can testify to this actually happening!). Protecting the data can be achieved using passwords – rather like access to the



By **PAUL MILLINGTON**



Guild members' room is restricted – but this simply meant I received lots of requests for the password.

### A structured search

There are many commercial sites which offer a structured search of data. Examples include the 1901 census website ([www.census.pro.gov.uk](http://www.census.pro.gov.uk)), the Commonwealth War Graves Commission ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)) and FreeBMD ([freebmd.rootsweb.com](http://freebmd.rootsweb.com)). Not only do these sites allow users to structure their searches, but this has the side effect of limiting access to the full database.

This seemed to be the best way forward for my own website. During 2002, I developed a number of web pages (search engines) which allowed the basic data I hold to be accessed in a structured manner. I started with civil births and worked my way through marriages and deaths. The basic facility is shown in Figure 2 (below) and some results are shown in Figure 3 on the next page.

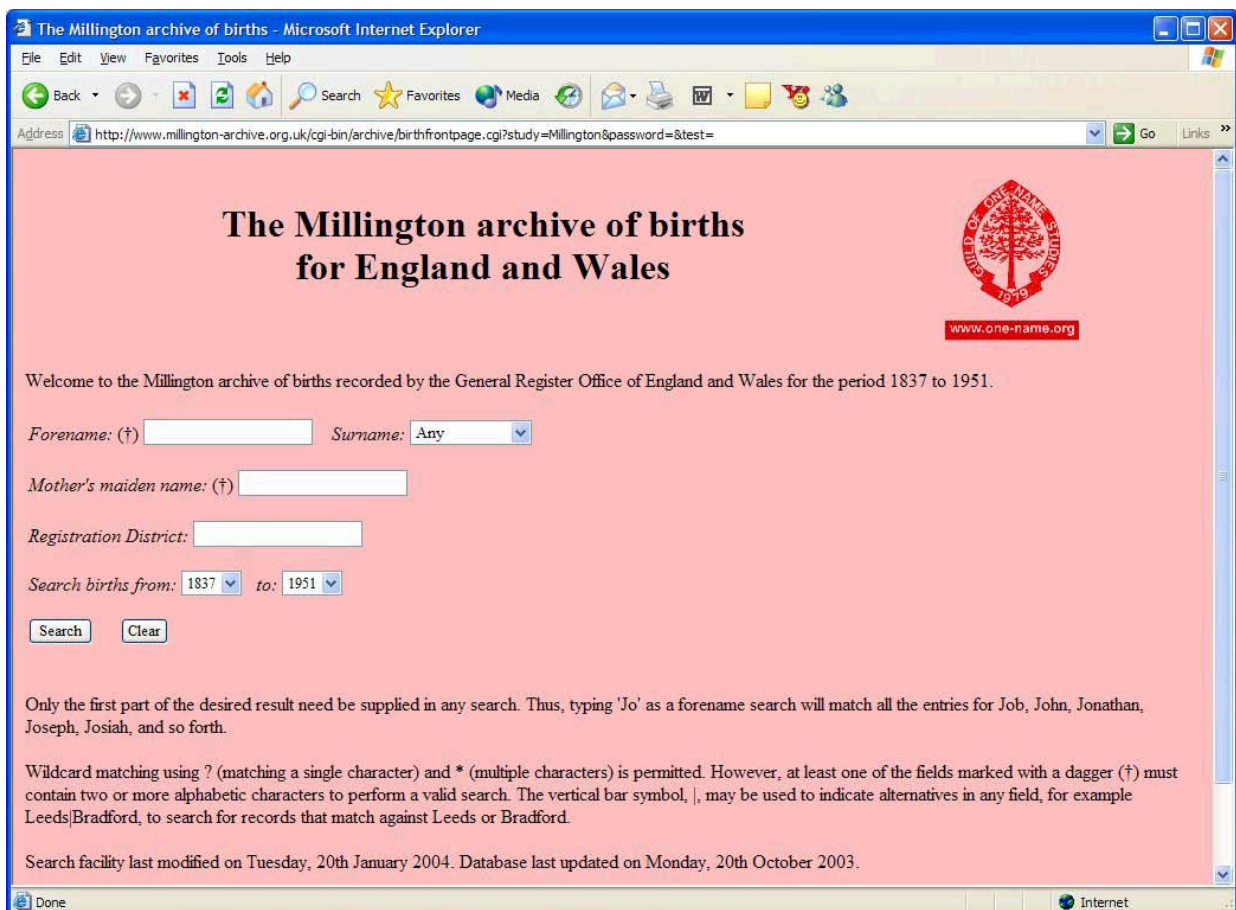
Only the first 20 results can be displayed on this

**Millington Births 1870-1879**

1870	March	Millington	Aaron	West Bromwich	6b	798
1870	March	Millington	Alice	Penkridge	6b	470
1870	March	Millington	Ann	Derby	7b	429
1870	March	Millington	Annie	Nottingham	7b	257
1870	March	Millington	Caroline Elizabeth M.	Reading	2c	400
1870	March	Millington	Edward	Liverpool	8b	24
1870	March	Millington	Elizabeth	Liverpool	8b	148
1870	March	Millington	Ellen	Madeley	6a	676
1870	March	Millington	Emma	Lambeth	1d	354
1870	March	Millington	Emma	Ashbourne	7b	533
1870	March	Millington	Emma	West Bromwich	6b	805
1870	March	Millington	Francis Joseph	Wrexham	11b	331
1870	March	Millington	Frederick William Barker	Derby	7b	432
1870	March	Millington	George	Chester	8a	417
1870	March	Millington	John Matthew	Leicester	7a	215
1870	March	Millington	Louisa	Wakefield	9c	8
1870	March	Millington	Lucy Ann	Manchester	8d	169
1870	March	Millington	Martha	Dudley	6c	33
1870	March	Millington	Michael Charles	London City	1c	42
1870	March	Millington	Prudence	Nottingham	7b	243

**Figure 1 – A simple table for presenting data**

page, thus limiting the number of records that could be taken without the record holder's consent. The



**Figure 2 – Searching the GRO Indexes for Millington births**

**The Millington archive of births  
for England and Wales**

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

Forenames	Surname	Year	Quarter	Registration District	Reference	Mother
Joshua	Millington	1841	September	Bolton	21 110	
Joshua John	Millington	1852	September	Wolverhampton	6b 387	
Joshua Caleb	Millington	1853	June	Bakewell	7b 505	
Joshua	Millington	1861	December	Bakewell	7b 538	
Joshua	Millington	1870	December	Bolton	8c 274	
Joshua	Millington	1877	September	Worcester	6c 315	
Joshua	Millington	1890	December	Bakewell	7b 674	
Joshua C. R.	Millington	1910	December	Worcester	6c 251	
Joshua	Millington	1934	March	Bakewell	7b 1157	*****

Results 1 to 9 shown from 9 found.

The data holder for this archive is Mr Paul Millington. In some circumstances, the data holder may have further information about the data displayed. They may be contacted at [millington@one-name.org](mailto:millington@one-name.org).

[Do another search](#)

Figure 3 – The results of a search for “Joshua Millington”

front page to the search engine has a number of fields that allow the data to be searched in different ways. For example:

- By forename.
- Within a specific time frame.
- By the registration district in which the event occurred.
- For marriages, the spouse’s forename or surname.
- For deaths, the age/date of birth of the deceased.

Figure 4 (opposite page) shows the results of looking for the death of a Fred Millington in the Manchester area (actually, the Registration Districts of Manchester, Chorlton, Salford and Prestwich) between 1880 and 1920.

Each of these searches can be combined. Wildcards such as \* to match an arbitrary string of characters are also allowed in any field at any position, though two alphabetic characters must be supplied – again to stop the surreptitious download of the whole database.

At this point I was fortunate to be joined by

fellow Guild member Roy Rayment, who was keen to have a similar facility developed for his own one-name study. Roy had made a number of different decisions when recording his data and some time was spent in modifying the search engines, so that both approaches could be supported. For example...

- The quarter for a civil registration event could be expressed in a number of different ways, for example: September, Sep, Q3, q3, q-3.
- The registration district may be written as recorded, for example W Ham, W. Ham or West Ham or normalised into a common form, West Ham. A user may want to search against any of these values.

### Search any surname

At the end of this, we had a single piece of software that supported search facilities for any surname. For the technologically minded, this was written using a language called Perl and relies on CGI scripting. These facilities are not normally available on web space when you sign up with a free Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Roy was confident that this would be of interest

**Archive will provide an opportunity for all members to store civil registration data on the Guild website free of charge**

to other Guild members and encouraged me to present this at the Guild's Liverpool conference in April 2003.

### A Guild facility?

At this point, I wondered how best this facility could be offered to other Guild members. Developing the facility for Roy's one-name study had taken a considerable amount of my time, and it was not practical to repeat the exercise for any significant numbers of Guild members. However, at last year's Guild conference, I presented a number of ways forward:

- To sell the search engine on CD-ROM to Guild members. This would have required purchasers to have a website with facilities similar to mine. I felt

software, now christened the Guild Archive, is nearing completion. It is intended that the archive will be opened to Guild members in April 2004. So what will be available to members?

The Guild Archive will provide an opportunity for all members to store their civil registration data on the Guild website free of charge. A number of Guild members, such as Keith Percy ("Research Archive is needed" JOONS Vol. 8 Issue 4, Page 23) have indicated their need for an archive to store data both short term as a backup, but longer term when depositors are no longer with the Guild – something that the archive sets out to provide.

Members can choose whether they wish to expose their records just to fellow Guild members or to all users of the World Wide Web. In both cases,

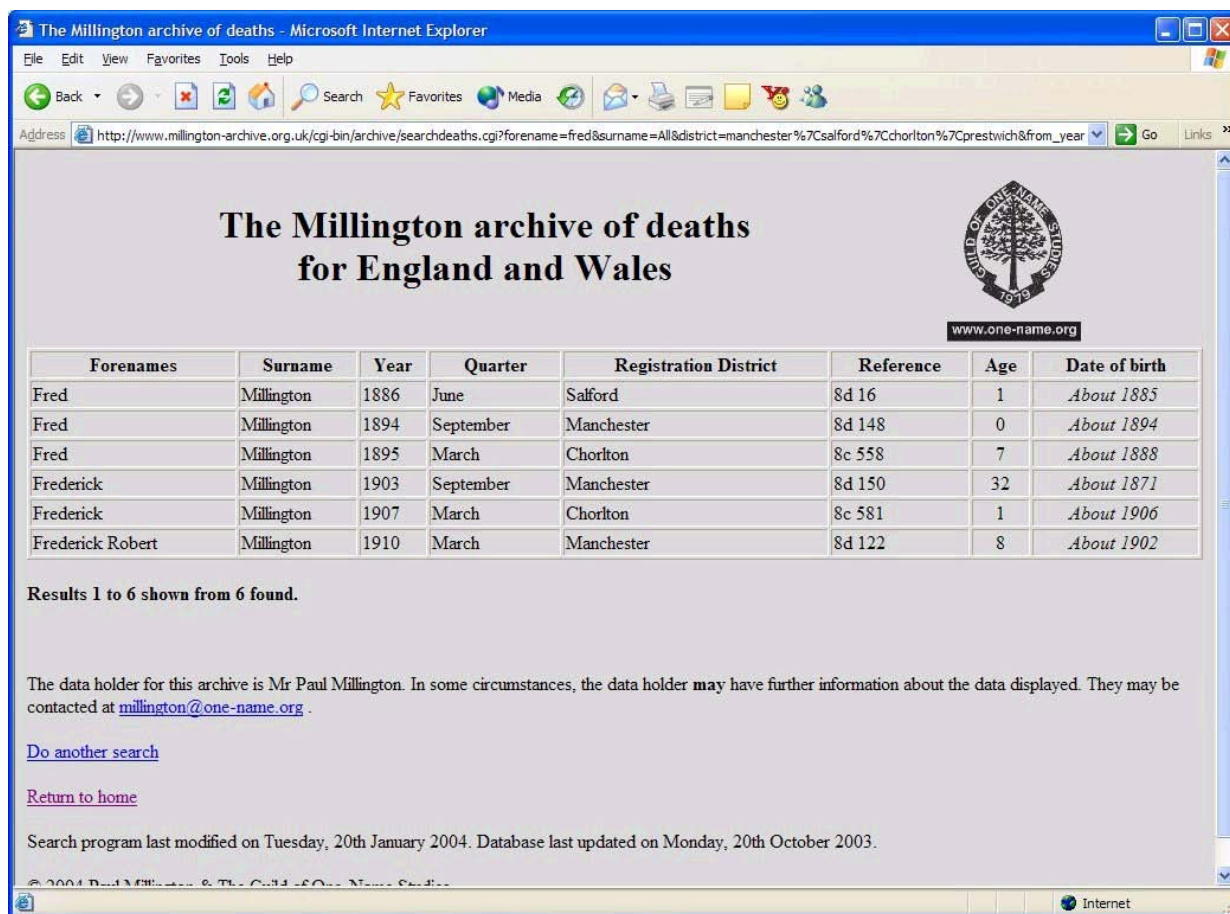


Figure 4 – The results of a more specialised search

this was not practical and may have resulted in considerable support activity on my part.

- To make the data available on the Guild website for free download. This would still mean that users would have to have a website with the same properties to mine.

- Host everybody's data and search facilities on the Guild website.

This last approach seemed to offer the most advantage, although it required extensive software development by myself to convert what was a single-user program into one that could be used by all Guild members at the same time.

I am pleased to be able to announce that the

member's data can be accessed from the Guild website. If a member chooses to allow anyone to access their data, then a simple link from their own website to the relevant part of the Guild website can also be created.

Figure 5, on the next page, shows how the front page of a member's records would appear to a user of your records.

At present, the archive supports storage and search of births, marriages, deaths and adoptions indexes for England and Wales. and births, marriages and deaths indexes in Scotland, together with civil probate records in England and Wales.

The facility is currently confined to the recording

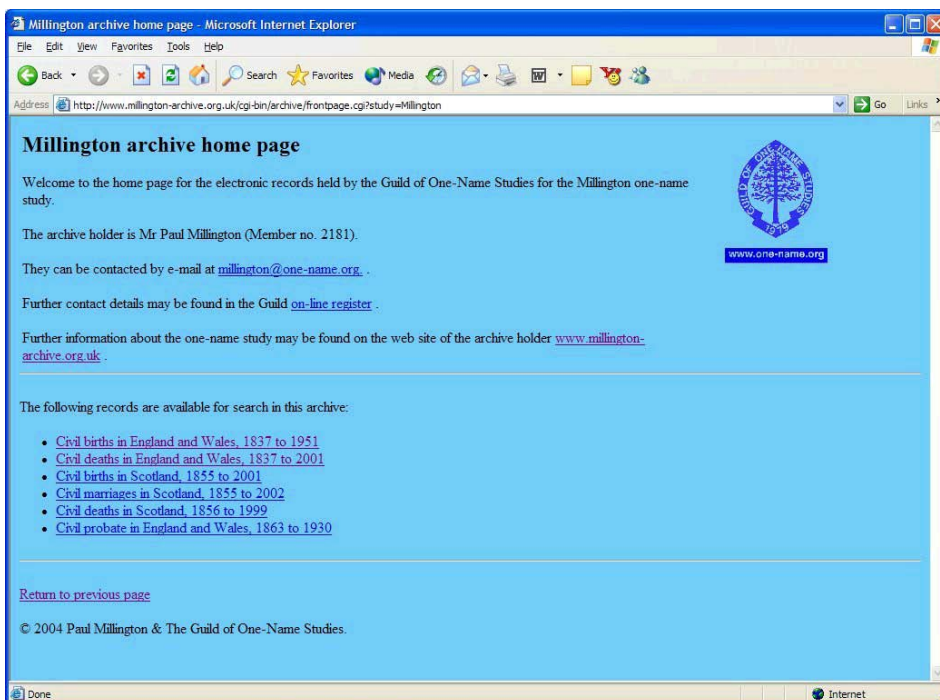


Figure 5 – The starting point for searching a member's records

of indexes, but once the basic system is launched, I would like to extend it. In particular, I would like to include the full details of any civil registration event: for example, the marriage date and place and other details located on the marriage certificate. Other records types such as census records, too, could also be included.

The software is openly available to fellow members to extend the current facilities for the benefit of the Guild. Should the Guild Archive prove a success, perhaps a user group could be set up to identify the most appropriate future developments. There are many, many issues concerning the Archive that is not possible to cover here. However, some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) may be found on the Guild website at [members/archive/ archive-faq.html](http://members.archive.org.uk/archive/faq.html).

## Accessing the Archive

The Archive homepage is available at [members/archive/ archive-description.html](http://members.archive.org.uk/archive/archive-description.html).

Before you can use the archive to store your own records, you will need to apply for an account – one for each surname (including variants) that you have registered with the Guild. Unfortunately, surnames that are not registered with the Guild cannot have an account – since if they are not registered with the Guild, why would anyone come to the Guild site to look for them? An

application form for an Archive account is available on the Guild website at: [members/ archive/archive-application.html](http://members.archive.org.uk/archive/archive-application.html).

## Maintenance

The Guild Archive has been designed to be as self-maintaining as possible. This is so as to limit the amount of work that the Guild volunteer staff have to do. If large numbers of Guild members started to use this facility – and I hope they do – support could easily overwhelm our volunteers. In the event of difficulty, Sandra Turner, the Archive Administrator (e-mail: [frontdesk.archive@one-name.org](mailto:frontdesk.archive@one-name.org)) appointed by the Guild committee, will be able to help. She will be able to pass on technical questions to myself.

All of the maintenance of your records, from loading records in the archive to describing the records you have made available, is carried out using a series of web pages. There is a maintenance page for the Guild Archive available from a link from the Archive home page or directly on the Guild website at:

[members/archive/maintenance.html](http://members.archive.org.uk/archive/maintenance.html).

This is shown in Figure 6, below.

To carry out maintenance for any one of your accounts, simply enter your registered name and the Archive password that you were given when you applied for an account (you can change the password to one that is easy to remember at any time).

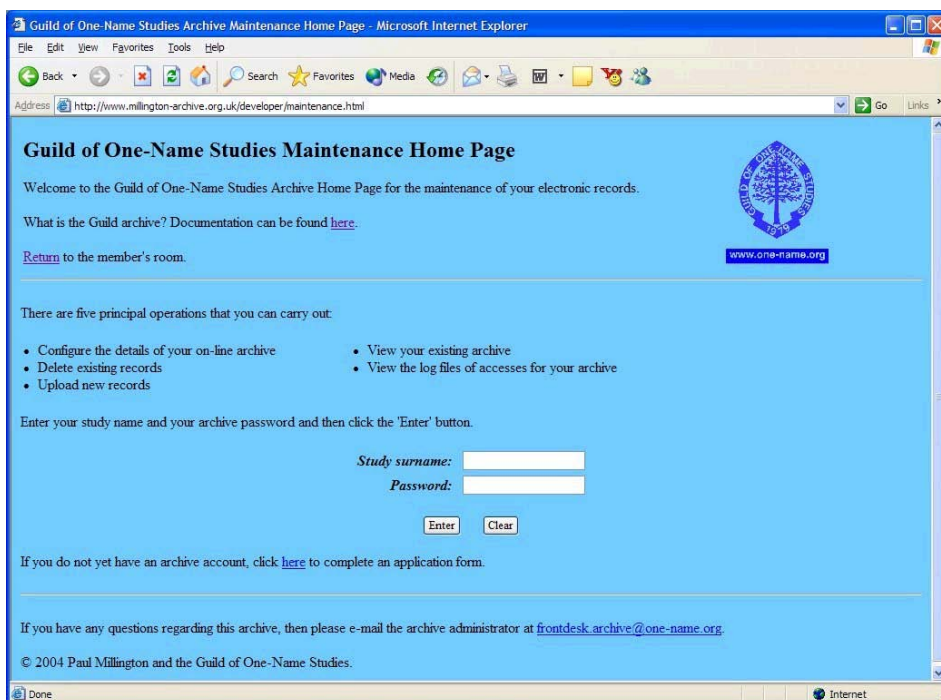


Figure 6 – Accessing the maintenance facility

The maintenance home page is shown in Figure 7, right.

To make your records available, there are two principal actions that you will need to undertake:

- Upload your records. This copies the records from your computer to the Guild website.
- Configure your records. Provides a description of the records you have uploaded.

Both these actions must be carried out for each type of record you wish to make available before your records will become accessible.

Five other actions are available to support the maintenance of your records on the Guild website:

- Delete any of your records. Removes them from the Guild Archive if, for instance, you no longer wish to make them available.
- Download your records. Recovers a copy of your records as stored on the Guild Archive.
- View your records. Shows the records as they will appear to other users.
- View access logs. Shows a record of accesses of your records by other users.
- Change password. Change the password that you use to gain access for the maintenance facility.

Finally you may wish to log out of the maintenance facility for your account. You may need to do this, for instance, if you have more than one-name study to maintain in this archive.

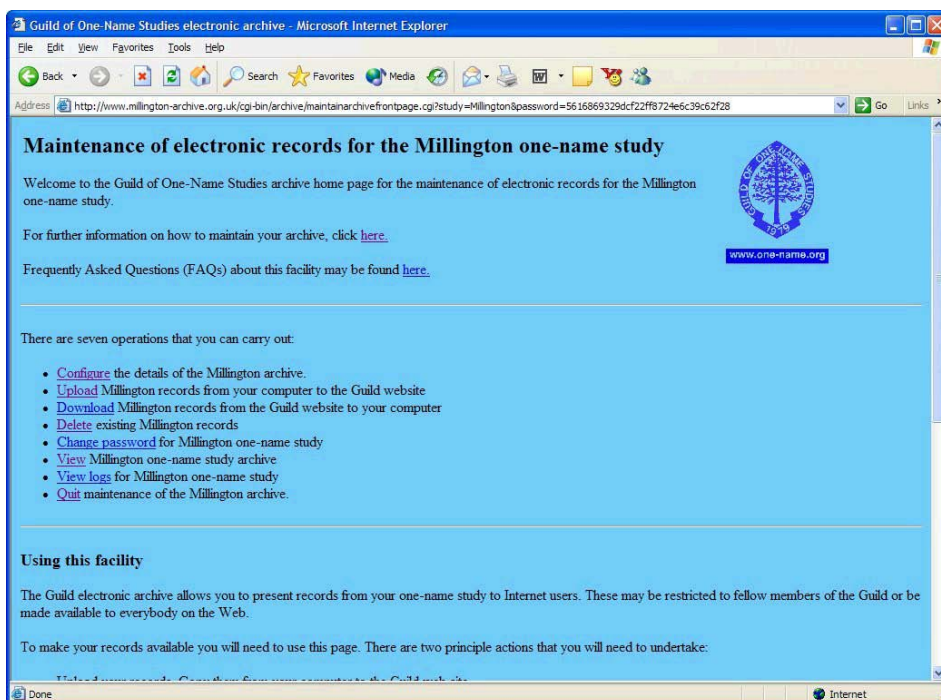


Figure 7 – Maintaining your records

### Configuring your records

So that members of the public know what information from your study is available, you will need to describe the range of information that you have placed on the site. The description that you provide is divided into two categories:

- 1) General information that applies to all types of record. This includes the variants that are part of your study and the date format that you use for your records.
- 2) Specific information that describes what is available for individual types of record for your one-name study. You will need to specify the time period covered by your records for each type of record that you make available.

Part of the web page for configuring your records is shown in Figure 8, left.

### Uploading your records

You need to transfer (“upload”) records from your computer to the Guild Archive to enable members of the public to search your records. The web page to do this is shown in Figure 9 on page 22.

You will need to specify the type of records and the name and location of the file containing your records on your computer. There must be a separate file for each type of record; e.g. one for births in England and Wales, one for marriages and one for deaths, as

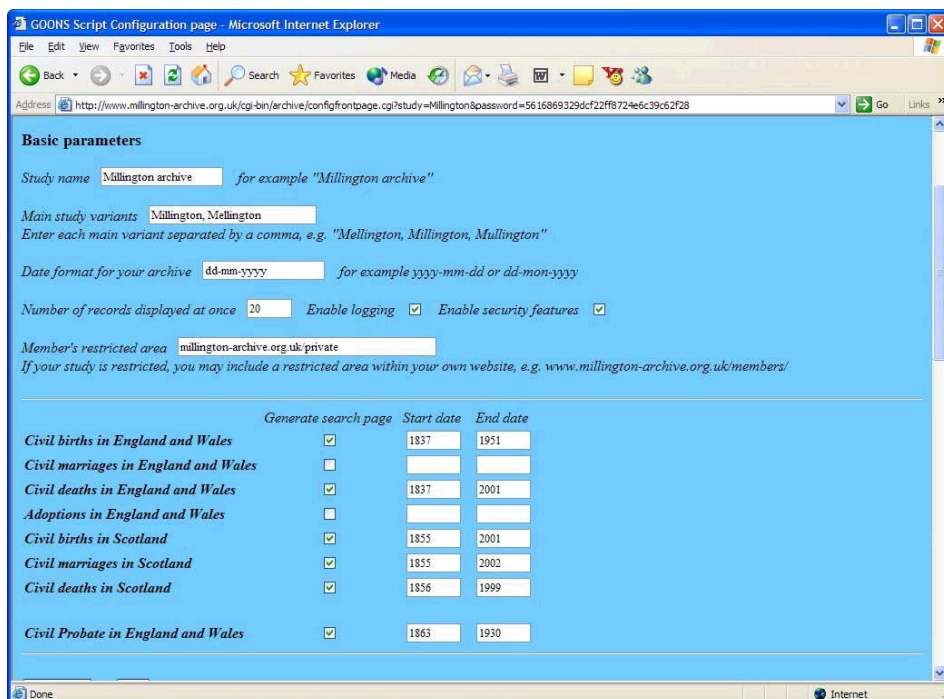


Figure 8 – Describing your records

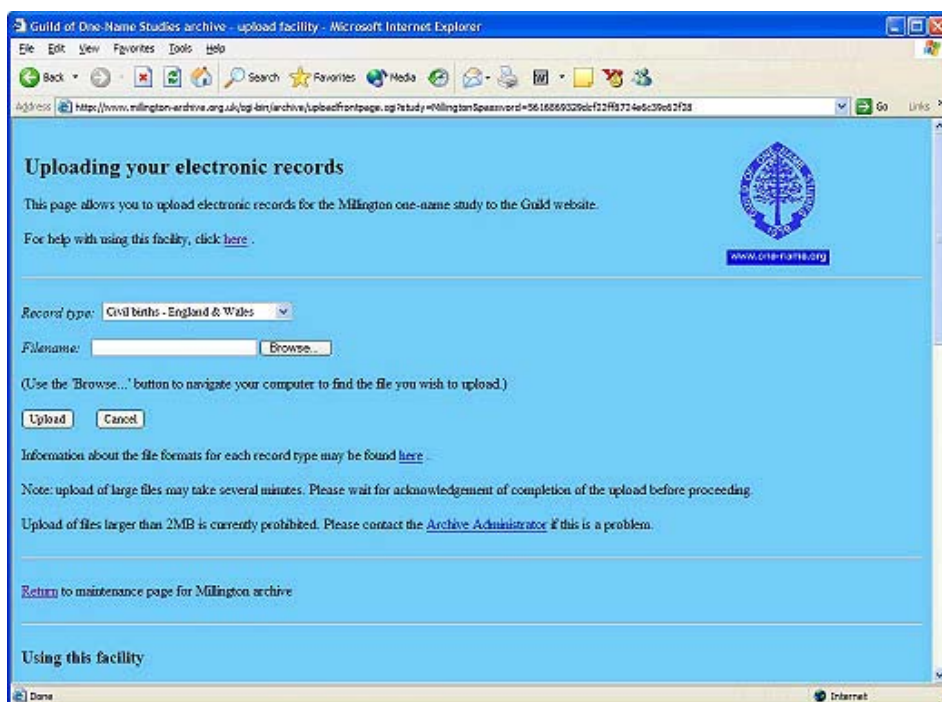


Figure 9 – Uploading records to the Archive

as to minimise the restrictions on you as the record owner – so that you can continue to maintain your records the way that you prefer. Restrictions are only imposed where they are necessary to ensure that searches work correctly. Thus there are no restrictions on how you represent:

- The exact date when an event occurred.
- The quarter when an event was registered.
- The volume number.
- The registration district.

Space does not permit me to describe the exact format of the files for each type of record, but a complete description can be found on the Guild website at: [members/archive/fileformats.html](#).

well as equivalent files for those entries in Scotland, and so forth. The type of record you wish to upload is specified using a drop-down menu. The location of your file is identified using the “Browse” button on the upload page. This allows you to navigate your computer’s file system by bringing up an additional window. Selecting a file and clicking on the open button in this new window will identify the file you wish to upload.

The name of the file is unimportant, as the file will automatically be renamed as it is uploaded. The program then attempts to validate the file you have chosen to upload by interpreting the file you have just uploaded and displays its understanding of your data by showing you how the first five records from your file agree (or not) with the required format.

There is an arbitrary limit of 2 Megabytes (MB) on the size of file that may be uploaded. This would represent the records of a very large one-name study. As a guide, 2MB is approximately 32,000 records. Larger files may be added by agreement with the archive administrator.

## Representing the data

In order that these search engines work, the data has to be in a particular format. The Guild Archive uses a format called Tab Separated Values (TSV). This is a very basic style with no special formatting such as bold, italics or the use of special fonts. Each line of the file represents an individual record.

Elements of the record are separated by a tab character, so that there is a tab between the forenames and the surname, a tab between the surname and the year, and so forth. TSV can be created from many applications including Excel, Word Access, and Custodian.

Within the basic format, the data is recorded so

## Who’s been viewing my records?

One of the questions that is always of interest is: who has been searching my records and what were they looking for? The latter is easier to answer than the former. All searches of your records are logged and can be examined by viewing the access logs. This allows you to see what people are looking for and the number of successful results that they found.

With each search, a series of numbers is also recorded. Each computer when it connects to the Internet is given a unique identifier (an IP address). Unfortunately, for most users such identifiers change over time, so that it is not possible to link IP numbers to individuals except in a few cases (see [www.whois.co.uk](#)). If members of the Guild have an idea how this could be improved for possible inclusion in a future release, I would be pleased to hear from them.

## Summary

This article has inevitably been somewhat technical in nature. However, I hope I have managed to convey the possibilities that the Guild Archive offers to members. I believe the Guild Archive is a major step forward for both the Guild and members. For the Guild, it provides an extra benefit to attract new members. For members, it offers a means to advertise their one-name study and, hopefully, attract new contacts as well as providing long-term storage for their one-name study.

*I hope that the archive will be appreciated and used by many members of the Guild. The Guild has a deserved reputation in the genealogical world for accuracy and thoroughness through the work of its members. This Guild facility will enable the work of members to be brought to a wider audience. ○*

## Kent Seminar hears about the value of newspapers for family history

By Rod Clayburn

**T**HE Kent Newspaper Seminar – a repeat of the successful event staged at Lambeth a few years ago – attracted a good audience to the Memorial Hall in the picturesque village of Otford on February 21, and the audience enjoyed four very different talks.

Ken Toll, Guild Chairman got the Seminar under way, which had been organised by Jeanne Bunting who, in turn, introduced the speakers.

Roy Stockdill, Editor of the Journal, called his mostly light-hearted talk *The Second Oldest Profession*. Some may not be aware of Roy's background as a journalist with several local and national newspapers.

Opening with photographs of himself and Christine Keeler – not, I hasten to add in the same photograph – Roy demonstrated the close relationship between the oldest profession and the second oldest: news reporting. This was coupled to the well-known saying, "Bad news travels fast", that was demonstrated to have very early origins and yet still holds as true today.

In case members were unaware, Roy hails from Yorkshire. He ran through his early years where his boldness with the local newspaper editor in Halifax acquired him a reporter's job straight from school – a job that was almost terminated early by an error in reporting water levels in the local reservoirs! This career took Roy to Leicester and Watford and then Reynolds News, prior to joining the News of the World.

Throughout his career, Roy has collected many titbits of informa-

tion which he shared with his audience, plus a number of stories concerning famous people, among them Robert Maxwell and Cary Grant.

*The Spirit of Invicta* was the title of the second lecture by local Kent historian and newspaperman Bob Ogley. It comes from the Kent county motto.

Bob was born in Sevenoaks, has lived in the county all his life and is proud to be a Kentish man. As author of more than 20 books, he has travelled extensively in pursuit of information and photographs and is in great demand from organisations across the south-east to tell his unique story. A former editor of The Sevenoaks Chronicle, Bob was a journalist for more than 30 years before he left his newspaper to concentrate on writing books and giving his talks. He is a regular broadcaster on BBC Radio Kent.

### Hurricane

Explaining how, following the 1987 hurricane, he resigned his job to start the Froglets Publications company with his wife, Bob enthralled us with a 20th century history of Kent and referred to his four-volume millennium history of Kent. Bob's list of famous persons who have lived in Kent just went on and on – from H. G. Wells, Rolls of Rolls-Royce fame, Sigfried Sassoon through Jack Warner, Elsie and Doris Waters and Enid Blyton to Bob Geldorf, Frederick Forsyth and Ann Widdecombe.

Bob has an amazing collection of anecdotes, which he delivered with great enthusiasm, entertaining and informing us on some of the finer points about his home county. And the name, Froglets?

It comes from the hundreds of young frogs Bob found in the damp basement of his house when they moved in!

It was a good move to put Colin Chapman on in the "graveyard slot" after lunch. Colin, the founder of the Chapman County Codes, never fails to keep people awake with really interesting lectures and his talk on the Colindale Newspaper Library was no different.

The newspaper library has undergone a number of name changes, even into 2004, and is currently known as "The British Library Newspapers". Its declared purpose is the collection, preservation and use of newspapers, magazines and periodicals, the emphasis being on preservation and, to this end, both digital and photographic methods are in use.

Newspaper collections were started by the British Museum in 1762 but space was soon at a premium on the Bloomsbury site. A new building at Colindale was constructed at the turn of the 19th century and has undergone several enlargements, especially after WWII when 6,000 volumes were lost and 15,000 damaged. The current situation is that historical collections are spread between the Colindale site and the British Library Euston site.

So what do they have? Accessing the library contents lists can prove difficult if you are not computer-literate, as the hard-back indexes of holdings are limited but may well be found in your local library. The-up-to-date holdings are detailed on the newspaper library's website...

[www.bl.uk/collections/newspapers.html](http://www.bl.uk/collections/newspapers.html)

There is a Gibson Guide to

# Seminars Update...

## Come to the Guild DNA Seminar in Oxford

By Sandra Turner

**THE NEXT Guild Seminar promises to be a very interesting day. A booking form is included in the package with this Journal.**

It will be held in Oxford on Saturday, May 29, and will concentrate exclusively on the subject of DNA testing and genealogy.

A number of members are now extremely interested in learning about DNA and what it means for one-namers. Can we identify family groups? What is genetics? What exactly can we learn from DNA? Can it prove or disprove anything? And how do we start?

### Pomeroy research

A couple of years ago we held a seminar at which one talk was about DNA and about the Pomeroy research. Chris Pomeroy (member no. 3400) gave the talk, which was very popular. He agreed not only to come back and talk to us again but to help put together a programme of talks for this seminar about DNA which will take up a whole day.

The other speakers are

- Dr. Clare Harvey, who is a research associate in the Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London, and daughter of Guild committee member Barbara Harvey.

- Dr David Ashworth, CEO of Oxford Ancestors Ltd, Britain's longest-established DNA testing company.

- Alan Savin, Guild member 2033, was involved in the first DNA tests for genealogists back in 1997 with University College London.

- Patrick Guinness, who is

local newspapers and a McLaughlin Guide to Family History from Newspapers, both published by the Federation of Family History Societies.

As a trip to Colindale can be somewhat difficult for out-of-town members, it is best to be prepared with a list of periodical and papers to consult.

As parking is limited to 13 spaces, pre-bookable if holding a disabled sticker, visiting the library at Colindale is best achieved by Northern Line tube train, which takes 35 minutes from central London, but do make sure that you take the Edgware line.

Proof of identification is required for visitors and a passport or new-style driving licence is best produced. Archive rules apply and the list of articles banned from the search room is extensive – no bags, cameras, photo mobile phones, word scanners, tracing, although computers are allowed for note-taking and left luggage is well catered for by attendants.

### Delivery

Delivery of material can take from 30 to 90 minutes, so pre-ordering is advisable. Potential readers are strongly advised to telephone the Newspaper Library on +44 (0) 20 7412 7353, or email [BookDelivery-Colindale@bl.uk](mailto:BookDelivery-Colindale@bl.uk), 48 hours in advance of their visit to the library in order to reserve up to four items which they wish to consult in the reading rooms.

Once you have found a gem of information, then photocopies are a very reasonable 50 pence for A4 size and 35 pence if from a film, with larger sizes pro-rata.

If you are planning a first trip to Colindale, then perhaps you are best advised to attend one of the frequent open days, but pre-book, though. The days are March 4, May 6, July 1, September 7 and November 4 2004.

In all, this was the type of well-researched, most interesting and informative talk we expect from Colin Chapman.

The final talk of the day was

given by the seminar organiser, Jeanne Bunting, who entitled her lecture *Reading Between the Lines*. Jeanne started out by pointing to the fact that what we read in newspapers normally reflects our age. The younger person will look to marriages and births awhile the older reader tends towards deaths and obituaries.

From her early days in Southend, "Essex Girl" Jeanne has collected all the newspaper cuttings relating to her family, and revealed that it was an Essex Countryside article on suspected relatives, read by her father, which started her on the family history chase.

One word of warning from Jeanne – do not repair your torn newspaper clippings with clear tape, as it will ruin the print.

### Family dog

Working back through quarter sessions records and obituaries in the North Devon Journal gave detailed information on her Trick and Martin families, even giving the name of her great grandfather's dog and a complete family tree from one obituary.

Jeanne's One-Name Study is of the surname Attersley, and useful information was found in the Petty Session reports for Stratford, Essex, on Ernest Martin Attersley.

Further advice from Jeanne was: if your research is in your local area, then try your local studies library first. Not only do most hold all the local papers on film, they may also have a comprehensive index. One such local index produced her great great grandfather's obituary from 1913.

Jeanne's lecture was concluded with a display of humorous, grammatically incorrect newspaper headlines, which left the audience laughing. ○

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organising the world's largest clan study in conjunction with Trinity College Dublin, and who will present the initial results in public for the first time at this seminar.

The venue is the Headley Lecture Theatre in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, which has seating for 100 people.

This seminar is expected to be very popular, so please book early, as we really cannot take more than the 100 maximum.

### **Park and Ride**

Parking can be difficult in Oxford – there are car parks fairly close but it is recommended that if you travel by car you take advantage of the excellent Park and Ride which Oxford has.

Oxford can easily be reached by public transport. Trains from many parts of the country go to the city and the railway station is just half a mile from the venue.

Travelling from London, the National Express coaches will be a popular way to travel. They run frequently from the Victoria Bus Station.

The Seminar will be held on the Saturday of the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May, so it could be an opportunity to make a weekend away of it. Oxford has many places to stay, but book early if you intend to do this.

### **Museum visit**

The Ashmolean Museum is one of the best in the country. We have allowed an extra long lunchtime to give the opportunity of a short visit to the museum. The café next to the lecture theatre is excellent and there are also many other places to eat in the area.

Please check the Guild website for details of this seminar. There you will find a link to a map showing where the museum is located, and also a link to the Park and Ride site.

*We hope to see many of you there and the room full! There will be a full report in the next issue (July–September) of the Journal.* ○

# Armies of the Crown look-ups offered to Guild members

By John Carbis

**THE GUILD has acquired the "Armies of the Crown" CD-ROM, with permission to do look-ups for members. The authors have divided the CD into two parts, as follows:**

- **Regimental Histories of the British Army.** This contains a list, together with a brief description of the numerous bibliographies that are available; however, autobiographies have been omitted.

- **Regiments and Corps of the British Empire and Commonwealth.** This, in addition to providing bibliographies, provides details of precedence, military chronology and general reference. This section includes the "Rarity, Research value, Sources and Contributors". It does **not** provide information on individual soldiers, but biographies of the various units, both British and Commonwealth, which in the past have gone a long way to the formation of the being loosely termed the British Army.

Details of how an extract may be obtained from this CD are shown in the Members' Room

section of the Guild website. Alternatively, for those who may not have such access, then please write to me:

In-Pensioner 347 John C  
CARBIS  
Ward 13-4, Royal Hospital  
Chelsea  
Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea  
London SW3 4SR  
Tel: 020 7881 5390

Please provide as much background information as possible of the individual unit concerned, together with an A5 self-addressed envelope. The Guild charges for this service as follows: £2.00 for up to four pages of printout. Additional pages are charged at 10p each. A free estimate of the number of pages will be provided on request. Cheques should be made payable to: Guild of One-Name Studies.

JOHN C. CARBIS  
Member 2772

## One-name studies without a computer

**IN the Journal Of One-Name Studies, Vol 8 Issue 4 (October–December 2003), I asked those Guild members who run their studies without the aid of a computer to write and tell us about their researches and how they keep their records.**

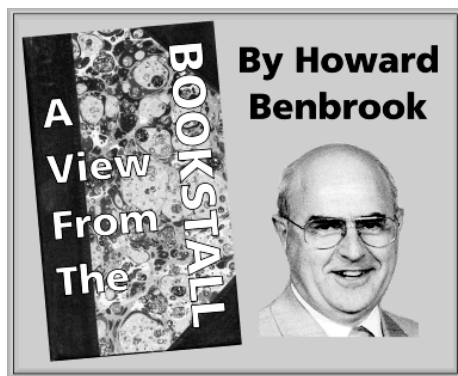
**The response, whilst not exactly overwhelming, was sufficient for us to be able to publish a special feature, hopefully in the next issue, which will be July–September 2004.**

**However, I would appreciate receiving even more material, so perhaps I could remind those computerless members once again of my challenge!**

**Do you keep your records on a card index file or in ring binders, and have you established an indexing system that you believe is the equal – or better – of anything a computer can do? Then why not share your system and experiences of running a one-name study with other members?**

**Send details (with a photograph, if possible) to me at the address on the inside front cover of this Journal – or, preferably, in electronic format if you have a computerised friend who can do this for you.**

**ROY STOCKDILL, EDITOR**



## The sweet taste of serendipity

**I WAS AT** the Bath Family History Fair a few weeks ago and, as usual, I was putting Surname Atlas through its paces. A lady came up and asked me to show her the distribution of her name, OTLEY. It happens to be one of those that has several clusters, which possibly points to its having several origins.

The lady found this interesting and she bought a couple of books and went on her way. But then there was one of those amazing moments of serendipity: no more than an hour later, another woman came to the bookstall and asked precisely the same question – you could have knocked me down with a feather! Unfortunately, the first lady had by this time disappeared into the crowd, or I might have started a family reunion!

My recommendation in the last issue, Atlas & Guide to London 1908, a scanned copy on CD of a 1908 tourist guide and a valuable aid for all of you with London ancestors, is still selling well at £11.00 (£10.00 to Guild members).

I'm also pleased to tell you that the new edition of the very impressive *Ancestral Trails* by Mark Herber is finally here. To quote John Titford in his Foreword to the Second Edition: "Exhaustive but not exhausting, this is a book to be read, dipped into and enjoyed." If you're fed up with buying all those little books on British genealogy, and you would rather have it all

inside one cover, then this must be the book for you. It's very readable, too. First published in 1997, there are over 40 additional pages in this new edition (that's 873 pages in total), and it's available in hardback at £30.00 (£27.00 to Guild members).

### Price list

Accompanying this issue of the Journal, I hope you'll find your copy of the Members' Bookstall price list. We've had a limited selection of items available for regular purchase for some time, but the bookstall stock has been slowly building up over the past two years, and I think I'm now ready to offer to members the many items that we hold for purchase by post. I know there are many of you who simply can't make it to a family history fair or any of the Guild events, and so it seems only fair that you should be able to take advantage of the 10% discount offered on nearly all the items that we hold.

I'm afraid there's a price to be paid for the postage and packing, but I've tried to reduce the burden by offering just two mail order prices, UK and non-UK. The list of items available is likely to change as new books are published, so I expect to re-issue the price list regularly; but if you want an up-to-date version, the place to look will be the Member's Room on the Guild website.

If you'd like to order an item, then please use the order form attached to the price list. All orders will be despatched by 1st class post (in the UK) or by Air-mail (non-UK).

### Where we've been

Since the last Journal, I've taken the bookstall to Bracknell, Crawley and Bath and attended the Guild Newspapers Seminar at Otford in Kent. The seminar and the Bath fair were both on the same weekend, and since one of these is 100 miles to the east of my home and the other is 100 miles to the west, I've seen quite a bit of the English countryside recently! By the time you read

this, the bookstall will also have visited Wolverhampton in Staffordshire, Brentwood in Essex, and Kidlington in Oxfordshire.

### Where we're going

We're now into the final three months of the season before there's a bit of a summer break from family history fairs, and these are the events we plan to attend soon:

- Guild AGM and Conference, Wyboston, Beds, April 2–4
- South Coast FH Fair, Worthing, Sussex, April 25
- SoG Family History Show, London May 1–2
- Guild DNA Seminar, Oxford, May 29
- Yorkshire FH Fair, York, June 26
- Kent FHS 30th Birthday & Open Day, Chatham, July 3

If you live near one of these events and you've got a bit of time, why not pop in and introduce yourself? It's always good to know faces rather than names and numbers. And, of course, you can take advantage of the discounts we offer to Guild members. Those brave people who gave up a few hours to stand behind the bookstall all seem to have had a good time. It's really refreshing talking to other enthusiasts and especially to help those new to family history. Maybe you'd like to help, too?

### Thank you

I had a splendid response to my call for volunteers last time around and my thanks are due to Ken Toll, Barbara Harvey, Sandra Turner, Kirsty Maunder, Steven Whitaker, Ken Grubb, Ken Dilkes, Jean Morgan, Polly Rubery, Russell Bulkeley, Peter Copley and Peter Walker. Each gave up valuable time and I am sincerely grateful. My special thanks to Barbara Harvey and Peter Copley, who managed the bookstall when I had other commitments.

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



Registrar's  
Notes  
By  
Roger  
Goacher

# Is your Guild research appropriately registered?

with the Guild in 1998. I also chose to register the five most common variants still around worldwide at that time – GOATCHER, GOCHER, GOTCHER, GOUCHER and GOUTCHER.

the most common likely variant spellings. I believe that members know their own study best and must be relied on to undertake it responsibly. Where there are obvious alternative spellings I do point this out to new members. However, I must rely on members to monitor their own registered names and ask for additions or deletions if their research shows this to be necessary.

## Checking

Sometimes my checking is not as good as it ought to be. Humphrey Nye (Member 2401) has been studying the name POTIER and variants for many years as a Guild member. The name is probably a variant of POTTER, but Humphrey shied away from the task of studying the latter name because of the likely size of the study – over 19,000 entries in the 1881 British census.

Recently, a potential member came forward to study the name POTTER. As always with large-incidence surnames, I corresponded with the applicant to ensure that they appreciated the size of the task involved and had the time to devote to it. Christine Wicks (Member 4181) was able to provide me with evidence that she had already done much research on the name and was enthusiastic about undertaking a full one-name study.

However, to Humphrey's annoyance and my considerable embarrassment, I allowed the name POTIER to be registered as one of Christine's variants of the name POTTER. The situation has been rectified, and I hope that in the future Humphrey and Christine can exchange information where it might be mutually beneficial.

*So please take a moment to look at the new Register and review the names you hold. Let me know whether you want any changes made. ○*

**D**EREK PALGRAVE wrote about variants and deviants spellings in the last Journal and with this issue you will receive the 2004 Register. These have prompted me to think again about my responsibilities for registering members' studies. Have you checked the variants for your registered surname recently? Do they reflect your current research? Are the variants still appropriate? If I receive a new application to register a name, might it impinge on your study?

Twice in the last year I have registered, or nearly registered, surnames that an existing member was studying but I did not know. As an example, June Perin (Member 4107) holds the registration of HALSTED and HALSTEAD for the Halsted Trust. Last autumn a potential member sought to register the names HOLSTED and HOLSTEAD. Basic research showed that the names might have a common root and were largely found in the same areas.

I approached Jeanne Bunting, Research Director of the Halsted Trust, to ask if the names HOLSTED and HOLSTEAD figured in the Trust's research. It transpired that the Trust already had much material on these two names, which were considered legitimate variants. Subsequently, the Trustees decided to ask for these names to be added to June Perin's registration.

Conversely, taking my own study as an example, you might consider whether you have too many variants registered. I registered my own surname GOACHER

The surname GOACHER and variants appears to have a number of points of origin in Britain – Sussex, Shropshire and Yorkshire – probably all stemming from Huguenot immigrant miners from France. I have found dozens of variants or deviant spellings in older records, including all of the above. However, GOTCHER is now largely confined to North America. Extensive research by an American "cousin" has shown the name may have arisen from the transportation of GOACHER felons. However, it can also be traced to Germanic immigrants and other Ellis Island arrivals whose names were changed when they arrived in the USA.

## Other roots

Other researchers have shown that the spelling GOUTCHER probably has other roots. It may be a corruption of a Gaelic name and was most commonly found in Scotland and Ireland in the past.

For the above reasons, I have de-registered GOTCHER and GOUTCHER to free them up for any other researchers who may want specifically to study these names, though, of course, I still collect material on these names in case they are deviant spellings.

When a new member applies to register a surname, as well as ensuring it is not already being studied I do try to see whether it is close in spelling to an existing name. If it is, I contact the existing member and ask if this is one of their variants, even if they don't have it registered.

I do not insist, as has sometimes happened in the past, that a new name is registered with

## REUNIONS...

### The Blencowe Reunion, Vancouver BC, 2003

OUR Association has been meeting every two years since 1987 and the get-together in Vancouver proved as enjoyable as ever. About three dozen BLINCOEs, BLINCOWs and BLENKOes travelled to Canada from seven American States, England, Wales and Australia to join local namesakes for a long weekend. A coach tour to Victoria Island followed.

The reunion was organized by Freda Christie, whose grandfather John Pheasant Blencowe, a locksmith from London, emigrated to Canada in 1905 and established a pioneer homestead in Saskatchewan. It was John's younger brother William who founded the well-known Blenko Glass Company in West Virginia and six of Freda's kinsfolk came over from there and from Pennsylvania.

Whilst there was plenty of talk of family history, the main joy was the renewal of the lasting friendships that have been made over the years. Two things were missing: no-one with the BLEN-COWE spelling attended, and Helen and Bob Simpson were unable to travel from Los

## Blencowe Reunion in Canada

Angeles. Helen descends directly from James Blincow, who settled in Virginia about 1670. She and Bob had founded the association almost twenty years ago and have been prime movers in its activities ever since.

The Association now has to decide on the venue for 2005, (and persuade someone to organize it!). We hope for a less ambitious gathering in England in September this year.

### Blencowe cookbook

Our Blencowe Families book has been well received; about 800 have been taken up and we have recovered the £11,000 outlay on publication of 1,000 copies. Some 300 have been bought in America and about 90 in Australia and New Zealand, the rest in U.K.

One of the items of more general interest in the book was a selection of recipes from the 18th century Receipt Book of Lady Anne Blencowe, published privately in the 1920s from the original manuscript. Recipes include "To make Buns Marston way", "Mrs Sydall's Rabbit Pye" and "To Broyle a Carp". There are also remedies for coughs, colds, dropsy, hysterics and "The Opening Mixture" whose ingredients would — apart from other effects — make your hair stand on end!

We have decided to re-publish the book and have been fortunate in gaining the help of Mrs. Christina Stapley, an expert on early cookery, herb-growing and herbal medicines. It is planned to reprint Lady Anne's recipes with Tina's comments and suggestions for modern ingredients on the facing page. She has tried out many of the recipes and is full of enthusiasm for their tastiness. There will be colour plates illustrating some of the dishes. Publication is scheduled for mid-summer.

Tina conducts tutorials of period cookery at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum at Singleton, near Chichester, West Sussex, and a full day's practical training on Lady Anne's recipes will be held on September 7. The fee for the course is £45.00 and anyone interested in participating can contact the museum or email [courses@wealddown.co.uk](mailto:courses@wealddown.co.uk)

I am suggesting that Blencowes, who, like me, belong to the can't cook-won't-cook brigade might meet for a reunion at the museum on that day and take the opportunity to buy our copies of the cookbook.

JACK BLEN-COWE  
Member 2010

### Filby Association

THE 12th Triennial Reunion of the Filby Association will be held on Sunday, July 4 2004, at 2.30pm, at Filby Church in Norfolk. All people with an interest in any spelling of FILB(E)Y, FILBEE, PHILB(E)Y, etc. will be welcome to join our family. Refreshments will be served after the service in the church hall. Our computer and other records will be available for members and guests. Contact Ruth Smith, 2 Barrington Close, Little Clacton, Clacton on Sea, Essex, CO16 9PN, or email [ruth@filby.org.uk](mailto:ruth@filby.org.uk) for details.

### Clan Egan Rally 2004 over 4 days

THE Clan Egan Rally is being held over four days from Thursday, June 24 to Sunday, June 27, in Dublin and Athlone, Co. Westmeath. In Dublin the venue is Jurys Christchurch Hotel and in Athlone the Creggan Court Hotel.

Visits arranged include to Christ Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Guinness Stonehouse, Dublin Zoo, the National Museum of Ireland and Trinity College, the Newgrange/Knowlth Neolithic sites, Athlone Castle and Redwood Castle, plus a boat cruise on the River Shannon. Full details can be obtained from Michael J.

S. Egan (Guild member 996) at e-mail: [egan@one-name.org](mailto:egan@one-name.org) and from the Clan Egan website (<http://clanegan.org>).

### Library publicity

DO you have a public library with a family history section in your locality? The Guild's publicity manager, Roy Rayment, has some publicity material, including a new display poster, for each of these libraries. Contact Roy Rayment, Publicity Manager, e-mail: [publicity@one-name.org](mailto:publicity@one-name.org), or Tel: 07956 271886

## 16th century merchant with a dash of James Bond in Russia

**SIR JOHN HEBDEN Kt 1612–1670: HIS HISTORY AND FAMILY**, by John Reid Hebden, published by J. R. Hebden, Aldergarth, Galphay, Ripon HG4 3NJ. A5 booklet, 24 pages, ISBN 0-9544502-0-5. Price £2 + p&p.

IT'S not often when browsing through the pages of a soberly written, genealogical tome that one comes across such an apparently flamboyant character as Sir John Hebden Kt, who appears to have been some kind of 17th century entrepreneur with a dash of James Bond thrown in.

Hebden was descended from a medieval Yorkshire family whose origins could be traced back to Arkill, a Saxon thane and a leader of the 1068/9 uprisings against William the Conqueror. Sir John's theatre of operations in the murky business world of the 17th century was principally the Russia of Tsar Alexis, for whom Hebden



Sir John Hebden

worked as a buying "agent at large" whilst operating as a merchant at Archangel.

However, he also performed other services, for in 1652 he caught a pretender to the Tsar's throne and returned him to Russia.

Sir John also gave his services to Charles II and in 1665 was granted sums of £200 and £100 "without accompt for HM Secret Service". The Russians took less than kindly to Hebden leaving their service and claimed he owed them money. Sir John's son, also John, was equally colourful and spent years in the Fleet Prison. The author, a Guild vice-president, cites copious sources for this brief but interesting tale of an obviously interesting man.

ROY STOCKDILL



Reviews  
Reviews  
Reviews

*New genealogy books and CDs*

*RIGHT: An engraving of the Battle of New Orleans by Thomas Phillibrown, 1858. He was the great-great-great-grandfather of Glenda Thornton, Guild member 1959, who has written and published a splendidly researched and illustrated book entitled "Dead Relatives: The Rise and Fall of the Phillibrowns in Essex, London and New York City", covering the history of this family from 1561 to 1909. We*



*had hoped to publish a full review of this work but, due to severe space problems, it has had to be held over and will now appear in the next issue (July–September)*

### Guild is targeted in virus attack

AS the Journal was going to press, the following warning – which has also been published on the E-Mail Forum – was received from Ken Toll:

At least 3 different emails are circulating purporting to come from the One-name.org Team, each with a ZIP attachment (containing a malicious EXE or SCR file depending on which version of the message is received). The e-mail looks something like:

*Dear user of e-mail server "One-name.org", Some of our clients complained about the spam (negative e-mail content) outgoing from your e-mail account. Probably, you have been infected by a proxy-relay trojan server. In order to keep your computer safe, follow the instructions. For further details see the attach. In order to read the attach you have to use the following password: 61700. Kind regards,*

*The One-name.org team <http://www.one-name.org>*

*Another informs you that "your e-mail account will shortly expire" and to read "an attachment which contains important information."*

These are NOT from the Guild. There is NO such One-Name.org Team, NOR is there a "noreply@one-name.org", NOR a "support@one-name.org". We do not send out such warnings and never send out attachments to members without due notice. The Guild is not alone in being targeted. Virus writers increasingly employ social engineering techniques to try to persuade people to open attachments. **Don't** open attachments unless you are expecting one – just delete! Update your AV software frequently! Information on the latest viruses can be seen here at <http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/>

KEN TOLL  
Chairman



# Letters

## I am entitled to my 10 variants

I NOTED with dismay the letter from Steve Tanner published in the latest JOONS (Vol 8, Issue 5: January–March 2004) in which he states that “some are more equal than others” with respect to the number of surname variants allowed in the GOONS list. However, as is regrettably all too common these days, this is another example of correspondents (and, by default, editors) going into print before establishing their facts.

In the letter I, and my FLOYD–FLOOD One-Name Studies (note the plural), are given as an example of apparently being allowed to have 10 variant names in the list rather than the permitted five (I cannot, of course, speak for the other example given). I, therefore, request the right of reply to Mr Tanner.

The simple answer is that I have 10 so-called variants because I have TWO registered names – FLOYD and FLOOD – each with their own set of four variants, i.e. FLOYDD/FLOYDE/FLOID/FLOUD, and FLOODE/FLOODY/FLUDE/FLUDEN respectively, for which I have paid the appropriate fees. This came about because when I first joined GOONS, only the FLOYD name was available since another person had already registered FLOOD (these are normally two distinct names).

However, when this person later allowed his GOONS membership to lapse, and with it his FLOOD surname registration, I immediately requested, paid for, and received registration for FLOOD as well as FLOYD. I, thus, became the registered and paid-up owner of two names. Note that I have since registered, and

paid for, a third name, GEMMELL, which is allowed, but is not strictly relevant to the point in question. I should also point out that 2619 is my membership number in the Guild, not the registration number of my (three) one-name studies, as Mr Tanner seems to think.

### History

The history of registration of the FLOYD–FLOOD variants could have been found in the files of the GOONS Registrar, who is, of course, the responsible officer to whom this letter should have been addressed or forwarded in the first place. Alternatively, a simple e-mail to myself, either from Mr Tanner, or the Editor or the Registrar (if the files are lost) would have clarified the situation before making any suggestions of wrongdoing, particularly via the official mouthpiece of the Guild.

Indeed, I am surprised that the Editor did not ask me for a response, or reply to the letter himself, either directly or in print, rather than publishing it without comment, since the letter does imply either error or collusion on the part of the Guild.

I do not normally stand on ceremony on such matters but on this occasion I do expect an apology from Mr Tanner, not for requesting clarification on this subject (which is entirely acceptable) but for his public insinuation of cheating by myself (which is it not).

Dr JAMES D. FLOYD  
Member 2619  
84 Pentland Terrace  
Edinburgh EH10 6HF  
[floyd@one-name.org](mailto:floyd@one-name.org)

• *Dr. Floyd has a fair point and, as Editor, I duly apologised for not first checking the situation with him – Editor.*

## Your views on issues in the one-name world

### Yorkshire surnames

FURTHER to the articles in the October–December Journal (Vol 8, Issue 4) mentioning Dr. George Redmonds, anyone with an interest in West Riding surnames would be likely to benefit from consulting Dr. Redmonds’ book, “English Surnames Series, Vol 1: Yorkshire West Riding”.

This includes in-depth research into the different types of surname, suggested backgrounds and origins of many West Riding surnames, along with references to early records and occurrences.

The book is now out of print but undoubtedly available for consultation in the appropriate repositories of the West Riding towns or through the inter-library loan service.

Dr. Redmonds has more than 40 publications to his credit. From the surname point of view, the following are probably the most relevant:-

- Yorkshire Surname Series, Part 1: Bradford & District (1990).
- Yorkshire Surname Series, Part 2: Huddersfield & District (1992).
- Yorkshire Surnames series, Part 3: Halifax & District (2001).

The last of these is still available from Mr. D. M. Shore, 4 Fixby Park Drive, Fixby, Huddersfield, at £4, including p&p (cheques payable to D. M. Shore).

The book covers a large area and is a valuable purchase for anyone with interests in the region. Each surname recorded has a small selection of the many references accumulated during research.

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**rep-scotland-north@one-name.org**, with the name of the region replacing  
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Where there is no e-mail contact, the message will go to **rep-coordinator@one-name.org**

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of your spare time to the  
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Vol 8 Issue 6 April–June 2004

*THE opening screen of Custodian 3, latest version of the software specially created for one-name records. See our review by Ken Toll, starting on page 6.*

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