



**Welcome to the mid May 2020 emailinfoservice, the NWKFHS fortnightly information service, comprising the latest information about the Society and other items of interest for family historians.**

In this issue John Nightingale has answered my plea for articles about the earliest born ancestor you have actually met: the photo above is of the **JUTTON** Family group at 72 St. Donatt's Road, New Cross, London SE14 probably 1931: Gladys (John's mother) in front, her parents seated, four brothers behind.

John writes:-

"I wondered if my membership of the Society since its very first year (though not quite as a founder member) might qualify me to contribute to your series on the oldest ancestors we have met ?

There are certainly no candidates on my paternal side - in fact I scarcely remember my own father, who died in 1952 when I was six, and his parents died in 1910 and 1935 ! However, I do (just) remember my maternal grandparents, Arthur Sidney and Elizabeth Esther **JUTTON**, who were certainly the oldest, in the sense of earliest-born, ancestors I knew, having been born in 1868 (Margate) and 1863 (Dover), respectively.

They came to London in the mid-1890s, and lived for almost forty years in St. Donatt's Road, New Cross, from where my grandfather 'commuted' to London's theatreland to work as night manager for James Heppell & Co.'s 24-hour pharmacy at the northern end of the Haymarket. He later acquired the pharmacy known as 'Jones & Co.' in Rectory Road, Beckenham, where he worked as dispenser alongside his eldest son, my uncle 'Bill', who continued to run the same business until the early 1970s.

My grandparents lived well into their eighties, but were eclipsed in this respect by their only daughter, my mother Gladys, the real 'star' as far as family longevity is concerned. Born in December 1904, she was the fourth of their five children, growing up with her four brothers against the background of the declining Edwardian age and on into the dark days of the Great War.

In the 1920s she worked as a telephone operator in London, initially at the Mayfair exchange in the West End and later at the new 'Royal' exchange in the City. These were of course far-off times and most of today's developments in telephone technology were a complete mystery to her !



My parents married in 1930 and apart from wartime evacuation to Reigate - which she loved - Gladys remained in Beckenham for the rest of her long life, enjoying such pursuits as gardening - probably her favourite - bridge-playing, dressmaking, needlework, handicraft, and water-colour painting which she took up to great effect in her nineties.

She had also been an enthusiastic tennis player in earlier days, and Wimbledon latterly became the highlight of her television-viewing year.

She passed away in 2009 aged almost 105 - certainly the longest-lived ancestor I can claim to have known !"

Gladys, the School Prefect, Addey & Stanhope School, New Cross Road, c1920.

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*I (Stella Eames) welcome photos of people or places (specially historical or family history) in the North West Kent area with a story about them as I like to start each newsletter with a photo and story. Please email me at [emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk) with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.*

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#### **Inscriptions in family bibles**

A few issues ago I asked readers to tell us about the oldest / earliest born ancestor they had met; and I thank John Nightingale, and other authors who rose to the challenge in previous issues.

In the absence of any talks and workshops to tell you about I am still in need of family history articles. My suggestion for the next couple of issues is:- **inscriptions in family bibles.**

Have you got a family bible (not necessarily your own family) in which family births, marriages and deaths have been written?

These are a valuable source of research and are not usually 'on line' or available on the databases of the big commercial companies. Therefore, unless publicised by the bible owner, they are invisible to other researchers.

If the handwriting is in different inks and hands this is an indication the entries were made contemporaneously with the events. All in same handwriting and ink indicate they have been copied from another source. Either way they are a marvelous source of data and it is exciting to see the old handwriting.

If you are lucky enough to possess such a bible with family events listed, would you be prepared to send me a scan of the handwritten events plus a typed transcription of the information for a future emailinfo ? Please send to me, Stella, at [emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk)

I like to quote your email address in case any readers are interested in the same names and want to contact you, so please give me your permission.

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### V E Day 75

I hope you all managed to enjoy V E Day at home. We had a street party although we each sat outside our own homes, not as was usual with all the tables pushed together and communal food and drink.

Afterwards I enjoyed watching and listening to the singing on the BBC, the Queen's Speech and the recollections of those alive in 1945.

In my own road, one neighbour lived here then and remembered the celebrations with barrage balloons still in the sky above. We live in bomb alley, so called because it was on the route the German planes took from the Channel to London. Near both Biggin Hill and the research establishment at Fort Halstead.



Member Graham Jansen sent in a photo of V E Day in Erith which I posted on our Facebook Page on 8 May. If you'd like to join our Facebook Group ask to join here <https://www.facebook.com/groups/767236786758351/>

This is a photo taken in 1943 of his mother Valerie Jeanette HOUSE in Trafalgar Square age 9.

To read about, and see pictures of, animals who served in WW2, and received medals, click here: [https://www.pdsa.org.uk/what-we-do/animal-awards-programme/ve-day-2020?keycode=242847&utm\\_source=press\\_release&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=tf3veday&utm\\_content=vedaymainpage](https://www.pdsa.org.uk/what-we-do/animal-awards-programme/ve-day-2020?keycode=242847&utm_source=press_release&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=tf3veday&utm_content=vedaymainpage)

If you'd like to read another account of the war in this area see here:-  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/91/a6884391.shtml>

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### What might happen to all my hard-done research after I die? A case study.

I (Stella), and some other NWKFHS members, are members of the One Name Guild <https://one-name.org/> an organisation for people making an in depth study of one surname. Although I have not started a one name study for my maiden name GRATWICK, I have stayed a member as I enjoy its seminars and I like reading the Journal.

In this quarter's Journal there was a classic example showing how all the precious certificates, documents and data you have spent much time and money obtaining, could all be disposed of unless you make very careful arrangements and ensure duplicates of your precious certificates are also held by others.

I reproduce the article here with the written permission of the author.

### TEECE: a different approach to preserving a study

In June 2019, an email was sent to the Guild mailbox by a member of the public asking who might be taking over the Teece study following the death of Brian Victor Teece in February 2019.

This came as something of a shock – at that stage, we had not been advised of the sad news that Brian had died. A Google search brought up a death notice which confirmed the news, and also a Deceased Estates notice in the Gazette inviting interested parties to contact the Executor/Administrator.

I wrote to the address shown in the Gazette – and received some exciting news: in his will, Brian had not only left his research papers and computer files to the Guild but also a legacy “*with the expressed wish that such sum be utilised for the purpose of maintaining and furthering research into the genealogy of my surname*”.

However, things were not as easy as they seemed. Although Brian left to the Guild “*all my computerised genealogical records and other written material relating to the family history of my surname*”, it became clear that the executor could not locate these files or papers.

Brian had established extensive contacts with others interested in the name, and we did receive some correspondence files – but there was no trace of key documents, such as certificates and other research papers. It was also not possible to obtain the computer files, though Brian did have a website.

The Guild Committee discussed how we could best approach this, and whether we might develop a different approach to preserving this study. It seemed clear that the main focus of Brian’s study had been on family reconstruction, and this could be continued by loading the data we had received into a Guild website under the Members Website Project. This would allow us to meet Brian’s wish to both maintain and further his research.

I volunteered to take on the role of handling the initial data set up. Brian had created a number of main family trees, generally tracing back to the English counties of Shropshire and Staffordshire where the name is most frequent. There is a pattern of the name moving from rural villages to the coal mines and ironworks of the West Midlands, and then on to Lancashire and Yorkshire, and migration to the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

It has been possible to extend Brian’s research by using some sources that he had not extensively used, such as the 1939 Census in England and Wales. Some queries could be resolved by using the mother’s maiden name in the GRO birth index for England and Wales for births before 1911, and some funds have been used to purchase BMD certificates and wills where these might be helpful. It has also been possible to add more detail to some of the female lines.

The study website can be seen at <https://teece.one-name.net>

If you have any Teeces in your study, do please take a look at the study website or get in touch with me. At the time of writing there is still more to be done to capture all of Brian’s work into the new website. It has been an interesting project for me, working with a name with which I have no connection and trying to deal with some of the puzzles left by Brian. I hope we have been able to go some way to fulfilling Brian’s wishes. For the future I hope to find someone to take over the study and the website, so that I can return to my own study.

**Stephen Daghish**

Article originally published in the April - June Journal of the Guild of One Name Studies, page 17

If you wish to contact Stephen there is a contact form on the website <https://teece.one-name.net>

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### NWKFHS Quarterly Journal

[www.nwkhfs.org.uk](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk)

Work of indexing the contents of all the previous NWK and TWFHS (Tunbridge Wells) back Journals has now been completed by our volunteers .

Paid up Society members can now log in and read and search the back Journals back to 1992. Why not do that for any surnames or places you are interested in? Someone may have written an article about them many years ago. The search results tell you the volume and page number of the article and you then go to that Journal to read the article.

If you have time on your hands at the moment you could also just start reading through the back Journals.

**The June 2020 Journal is expected to be on the website within the next few days.**

If you wish to switch to online reading only, and forgo your posted Journal, please email [chairman@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkhfs.org.uk) It does not make any difference to your subscription.

It costs £10 to join the Society and that lasts til 31 December 2020 <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/about/our-membership>

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### Scottish Heritage Anyone?

Reader Hilary Perring, who receives Scotlands People e-newsletter, thought that some of you might like to know about its free resources:

These include a transcribed version of the [1881 \(LDS\) census](#), a [maps and plans](#) collection, an [image library](#) (where images can be viewed for free with a charge to purchase copies) and the [Highland and Island Emigration Society](#) records.

Did you know that it has also made available [Scottish tax records](#) which you can view for free? And why not practice reading old handwriting with free online tuition in [palaeography](#)?

<https://www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk/>

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### London Metropolitan Archives - free access to some Ancestry.co.uk Databases 18 - 31 May

This may be of interest if you are not already an Ancestry subscriber.

[https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/london-metropolitan-archives/Pages/default.aspx?ct=\(LMA-Newsletter-41\)&mc\\_cid=c5a910f401&mc\\_eid=28c9fa350c](https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/london-metropolitan-archives/Pages/default.aspx?ct=(LMA-Newsletter-41)&mc_cid=c5a910f401&mc_eid=28c9fa350c)

[https://www.ancestry.co.uk/ai/collections/UK/LMA?o\\_xid=108335&o\\_lid=108335&o\\_sch=Library%2fAssoc.](https://www.ancestry.co.uk/ai/collections/UK/LMA?o_xid=108335&o_lid=108335&o_sch=Library%2fAssoc.)

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PS In the last newsletter I mentioned some research I had carried out on Louisa Gould. In the event I have not included this time it as I felt it might make his newsletter too long.

*I am a volunteer creating this e-newsletter in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next emailinfo.*

*I often get asked to publicise family history fairs, new books on genealogy and small genealogy businesses. I use my discretion in including ones which are local to our area or which I think may interest readers. It does not mean that I or NWKFHS has any personal knowledge, or makes any recommendation, about the event or business.*

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*If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfoservice, please let me know. I do receive many suggestions and requests for external events to be included, but there is only room for so much and I am conscious that the longer this email is, the less likely it is to be read. Some external events I publish on our Facebook page instead. But I'd welcome your opinions on the length and content and whether there is anything additional you'd like included.*

*Please mention it to others and encourage them to sign up so that we can keep society members and anyone interested in family history informed of NWKFHS activities.*

Stella Eames, Editor

[emailinfoservice@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkhfs.org.uk)

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