



Rowberry One-Name Study

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Dear All

Although I have had nowhere near as much time to devote to it this year as I would have liked (earning a crust of bread kept getting in the way!), the ROWBERRY One-Name Study continues to grow. The main source of new information over the last year has been of course the newly released 1911 census, and the wonderful indexed London Parish Registers on Ancestry. I have hardly started on these but already they have helped to solve a few more mysteries and tie in some of the earlier "orphan births". These are ones where children have been born and died between census dates. It had been hoped that the promised MAGPIE facility of the GRO's DoVE project (which would have given the mother's maiden name for the complete birth index from 1837, instead of just those after 1911) would have helped with this which is why I had only bought "mystery" certificates from 1911 onwards. Sadly this project has at the moment ground to a halt, so any help at all is very welcome!

As usual I have also been helped a lot by new contacts, coming in via the RONS website but also now through the RONS Group that I have set up on Facebook. This is proving especially valuable for those families based overseas, and the USA and Australian based trees have grown as a result. Another mystery which has been solved is why the Australian artist William Rubery BENNETT had "Rubery" in his name. It turns out that his great-grandmother, was an Elizabeth RUBERY, born in Stockport around 1799, the daughter of a Thomas and Mary RUBERY. I am still not sure where they fit into the general scheme of R trees...

But thanks to all those who have so generously donated to the ROWBERRY Y DNA Project and even more so to those who have taken part so far, we have been able to link up some of the trees, and confirm what were rather putative links on others. My hope this year is to get some of the RUBERYs with Black Country origins to take part and see if any of them link back to the Herefordshire and Worcestershire trees. So if you can help in anyway to this end, I would be most grateful. You can read more about the Project and the results that we have had so far, and apply for a Y DNA test kit or make a donation on the dedicated Project website:

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/Rowberry/>

As my life has been so busy this year, and Nicky's too has been particularly hectic, not only with her work (where I calculate she is now doing the work of three people due to redundancies!) but also family commitments, we have not yet felt able to book a date for the next Family Gathering. Rest assured that we do mean to have one, and we will let you know as soon as we have worked out a date that we can manage.

However I do have one invitation for you to join us at the Hundred House Hotel - it is my 60th birthday in February, and I will be celebrating with a Sunday lunch at the Hundred House Hotel, Great Witley, WR6 6HS on the day before, Valentine's Day! You are cordially invited to join me - just ring 01299 896888 to add your name(s) to the list (just mention my name), but be prepared to pay for your own lunch!

Hope to see you there!

Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2010