

Akehurst List statistics for 2016

A total of 230 messages were posted during the year. November was the busiest month (with 36 postings) and February the quietest (with only 3).

During the year, 41 members posted to the List, well up on 2015. Thank you for joining in. If you asked a question, we hope we helped you find the answer; if you helped with the research, thank you.

If you did not post a message during 2016, we look forward to you joining in this year. Your email does not have to be complicated - it can range from something as simple as "I am still here" to "My current brick wall is ...". Address your email to Akehurst@yahoogroups.com

There are nominally 148 members on the List. It would be really, really, really(!) good to hear from the quiet ones.

Subjects covered in 2016 included:

- 2016 GetTogether
- Ackhurst's in South Africa
- Adrian Lloyd Akhurst
- Ancestors of James Holden and Sarah Akehurst, m. 1799, Hellingly
- Annoyance from Bean feasts
- Clan McDuff sinking
- Congratulations to Julie Akhurst - award-winning B&B
- DNA matches
- Ellen Akhurst, b.1856 [gotcha at last!]
- Frances Holden daughter of James Holden and Sarah Akehurst
- George Akhurst (1811-1866) & Dinah Graffham (1823-1909)
- Gwendoline Akhurst Coombe - buried Italy [never did solve that one]
- Immigration into South Australia
- J. Clifton - which tree does he belong to? [another one we did not solve]
- James Ackhurst of Smarden, Kent 1846
- James Akehurst born 1676 [our earliest query]
- John Ackhurst - to Cape Town
- John Akehurst of Hellingly
- "Paris the Prince and Helen the Fair" a play by William Mower Akhurst
- Railway accidents
- Roll call of Akehurst-ers
- Tilden Akehurst's dog tags
- Violet Edith Akehurst
- Which Henry Akehurst of Hellingly is which? [still unsolved]
- Which John Akehurst of Hellingly is which? [was, but now not, solved]
- Which Sarah Akehurst of Hellingly is which? [finally resolved]
- Wilfred Onslow Akehurst

If you missed any postings that interest you, simply ask the other members of the Akehurst List by posting your query to Akehurst@yahoogroups.com.

'Departures'

I am not aware of any of our group who went to the 'Great Record Office Above' during the year. If I have missed anyone, please let me know. We should record them.

As part of our War Dead Project (see below), we paused to remember the centenary of the deaths of eleven of 'our name' who were killed in World War One. We also remembered the 75th anniversary of the deaths of four of our number who were killed in the Second World War. (This will be a busy year - twenty-one WWI servicemen and two WWII servicemen will be honoured.)

2016 Akehurst GetTogether

September saw eighteen of us meet in Barham, Kent, for the 2016 GetTogether. It was a very successful weekend with lots of talking, listening, learning, sharing, reminiscing, eating, and laughing.

As part of the GetTogether, the Akehurst List held a Roll Call. The twenty-one responses were workshopped during the GetTogether and many of the questions were answered. Work is still going on to answer the remainder.

The next GetTogether will be a 'first'. Normally the odd-numbered years see the GetTogether being held in the Southern Hemisphere but this year we will be heading to the USA (South Haven in Michigan). Keep your eyes on the footer of the List messages, as they will contain updates.

Akehurst Forest

Morwenna Akehurst continues to do a good job as our Keeper Of The Trees. If it has been a few years since you updated your tree, Morwenna would be pleased to receive an update. The address to use is KeeperOfTheTrees@akehurst.org

If you have questions, they are best sent to Morwenna via the Akehurst List as it gives others an opportunity to contribute.

Akehurst One-Name Study

Work continues on allocating UK census and civil registration information to our 'forest' of 55 trees. So far, almost 90% (8,700 out of 9,800) of the 1841-1911 census information and almost 45% (7,330 out of 16,300) of the BDM records, covering 1837-2014, have been added. The remaining census records are proving 'tough nuts to crack'.

The number of transcripts/copies of original certificates continues to grow. At last count, we have over 1,200 in our 'vault'. A shade over 800 of those certificates have been provided by fellow members of the Guild of One-Name Studies as part of the Guild's Marriage Challenge. As certificates cost £9.25 each, this collaboration has nominally saved the Akehurst ONS £7,500.

The Akehurst ONS is always on the look-out for BDM certificates (from anywhere in the world). If you would like to contribute, please scan them and send to ONS@akehurst.org

As we noted last year, the emphasis on research is moving from the UK to the previously 'Red Bits' on the map. This year's GetTogether will progress the US/Canadian area of research.

Akehurst DNA Project

The Akehurst DNA Project (at FamilyTreeDNA) has eight members. The Y-DNA tests are for males with 'our name'. A constant flow of 'probable matches' are sent to project members, who are encouraged to follow them up. For information about the project, visit our page at www.familytreedna.com/public/Akehurst

This year saw three members (Janet, Geoff, Angela, David) take an Autosomal DNA test. This test is more general than a Y-DNA test, but is particularly useful for females and for male Akehurst-ers who do not share 'the name'.

We are very interested in hearing from people who are willing to take a DNA test. The more who join, the greater the chance of answering the question, "Do all Akehurst, Akehurst, Ackhurst, Ackehurst families share the one origin?".

The Akehurst War Dead Project

Alan Pett is continuing to collect information about our people who have died serving their country during time of conflict. There are 83 names on our Roll of Honour - from three wars (WWI, WWII, Vietnam) and from the Armed Services of seven countries. Sixty-two of them have been attached to trees and we have photographs of 52 headstones/memorials.

Alan is still looking for material, particularly family stories and photographs. Time is rapidly running out for this project to be concluded before the centenary of the end of World War One, so please help him. You can contact him at AkehurstWarDead@akehurst.org

The Akehurst-er website

Angela Hollands does a great job keeping our website refreshed. Her task would be much easier if members contributed research stories. Angela is happy to place free 'classified advertisements' (i.e. publish your brick wall). Our website is at www.akehurst.org and Angela can be contacted at webmaster@akehurst.org.

Akehurst Family History Society

The Akehurst Family History Society continues to act as the umbrella group coordinating all the various research aspects noted above. The Society only meets formally once every two years - the last meeting was at Barham in September; the next will be at Shoreham-by-Sea in September 2018. If you have a question about our Society, send an email to the Chairman at Chairman@akehurst.org.

A big thank you to the small band of folk who willingly spend their time, effort, and money, contributing to the various workings of the Akehurst Family History Society - you know who you are! Without your input we, collectively, would achieve very little.

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David (D-Oz)
List Owner of the Akehurst List