



## For Immediate Release

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## WikiTree Makes its Privacy Tools Easy to Use

January 17, 2010: [WikiTree.com](http://WikiTree.com)

Today WikiTree is announcing the release of a new feature that makes its unique privacy tools more user-friendly. This represents a significant enhancement in the website's defining blend of private family history and large-scale public collaboration.

WikiTree connects living people and distant ancestors on one worldwide family tree. Users can confidently include personal photos, memories, and family details while gaining the benefits of public sharing and wiki editing. The key is what WikiTree calls "Trusted Lists". Profile Managers decide who can access and edit each individual profile, and they control how much of each profile should be visible to those outside the Trusted List. It is an uniquely powerful set of tools, but new users have had trouble understanding what information can be seen by whom.

Genealogy technology expert [Thomas MacEntee](#) of [GeneaBloggers](#) explained the problem in his November [review of WikiTree](#): "As I entered information such as birth dates, it always appeared for me and I didn't know what a non-member of WikiTree would see. I had to log out to understand what this view would look like." This led him to recommend that WikiTree add a "preview or a public view function."

WikiTreeers now have this public view function. They can easily toggle back and forth between the private view, for themselves and others on the Trusted List, and the public view that everyone else sees. If they change a privacy setting, they can instantly see its

effect.

**About WikiTree:** WikiTree's mission is to create a rich worldwide family tree resource by striking the perfect balance between collaboration and privacy. It gives families a free and easy way to privately share information and organize their facts, memories, and photos. At the same time, it enables distant relatives and strangers to grow a worldwide family tree and create a valuable resource for future historians. WikiTree was started in 2008 by Chris Whitten, the creator of WikiAnswers - one of the top 50 websites in the US. Content on WikiTree is owned and edited by its contributors. Join the free community at <http://www.WikiTree.com>.

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