



# England Project Newsletter

March/April 2019

Dear Project,

There's a lot to tell you in this edition of the newsletter as a number of changes have been made since January/February. What I would like to do is take this opportunity to send out an enormous thank you to all of you who have contributed to the project this month. We have certainly faced some challenges but what I have seen has really encouraged me that we are a fantastic, dedicated, passionate and loyal group of people who share the goal of making English profiles on WikiTree reach the highest standards possible. I feel that an especial thank you is due to [Joan Whitaker](#) for rallying the troops in our hour of need. Joan, you are an absolute Superstar and the England Project is very much in your debt.

The exciting additional news regarding Joan is that she has agreed to take on two new Team Leader positions - the England Bio Builders and a new team, the GEDcom team, which she is co-leading with our very own [Wendy Sullivan](#). This new team is listing all the English GEDcoms that need work doing on them and collaborating on all aspects of profile improvement to get them up to scratch. If you'd like to be a part of this new team, see either Joan or Wendy.

Flagship Profile: [Jabez \(Meal\) Mayall](#)

This month's flagship profile was worked on by [Chris Colwell](#), and is of a pioneer in the photographic industry. It is the fascinating journey of a self-made man and contains within it some great images. Definitely worth a look.

If you'd like one of your profiles to be in a future newsletter, feel free to send them my way. You might also like to consider joining the Bio-Builders Team. If so, Joan would be delighted to hear from you.

## Team Changes

### Categories Team

As many of you know, we're sad to say that we've had to say goodbye to Martin Allen as Project Coordinator for Categories. We are very grateful to Martin for all the work he has done for the

project and for WikiTree over the past eighteen months, and we wish him well in his future pursuits outside of WikiTree.

I'm standing in for Martin until we find a replacement for him and as such am leading the Categories Team in England and am our official liaison with the Categorisation Project. I have met with Ales, Natalie and Steven a number of times, and we have devised a Category Information Box that works for us. We are starting to roll this out across England. We are also sorting categories on each page which will enable us to remove some extra layers that do not need to be there. While we do this, don't be alarmed if you see things moving around and give me a shout if you have any questions.

If you'd like to join the team we'd love to have you. You need to be a member of the Categorisation Project to get needed permissions and then you can join in the fun. The functionality of these boxes is fantastic and will make categories in general across WikiTree a lot easier to use.

### Profile Improvements Team

As already said, we have a new team and Joan is also taking on the English Biographers. The other good piece of news is that [Joe Farler](#) has agreed to become the Project Coordinator for Profile Improvements. He now has a full contingent of Team Leaders and has hit the ground running in helping them build their teams and get going on profiles.

### Membership Team

We're also excited to announce that [Lizzie Griffiths](#) has come on board as our Project Coordinator for Membership. Lizzie already contributes an enormous amount to the England Project, both in her role as Trailblazer for the Orphan Trail and as Regional Coordinator for the North of England. As PC for Membership she is the smiling face at the door of the project who introduces new members to their Team Leaders and ensures that no one falls through the cracks.

### Orphan Trail

The Orphan Trail is almost a victim of its down success. We have had outstanding numbers of people join the project and participate in the Trail in recent months and this has necessitated adding additional Trailblazers to help [Fran Weidman](#) and her team. Fran now has eight Trailblazers and there are currently 27 people on the trail with people graduating all the time and moving on to other teams in the project.

## County Teams

The County Teams, under the leadership of Project Coordinator, [Chris Weston](#), are also going great guns. We now have a full contingency of Regional Coordinators across England, and are rapidly filling up the vacant county Team Leader positions. We were sorry to have to say goodbye to Stella Jones in Bedfordshire. I am currently covering that role until we find a replacement.

Looking ahead...

Stay tuned for more news on the Managed Profiles Team in the next edition.

In the meantime, two exciting things to look forward to:

Firstly the up-coming Clean-a-thon which is being held Friday 26th April to Monday 29th April noon to noon GMT. England is fielding two teams - the [Sandringham Strollers](#) lead by [Janet Wild](#) and [Gillian Thomas](#), and the [Windsor Warriors](#) lead by [myself](#) and [Wendy Ling](#). the Strollers take their time concentrating on the tougher suggestions and the Warriors are a little bit more competitive. Both teams have Discord chats which they use throughout the weekend. If you'd like to join either team post your answer [here](#) saying which team you'd like to be on.

Finally, a group of us are looking forward to meeting up at the [Genealogy Show](#) in Birmingham, England in June. We're planning a dinner on the Saturday evening and information meet-ups throughout the weekend. If you're planning on being there and would like to join us let myself or Janet Wild know.

Thanks all, you are amazing.

I love it when a team comes together,

Susie :-)