

## HELEN SMITH

### About Helen



Helen has been researching her family since 1986 when her Mother lamented the fact she had never known her Grandfather, George Howard Busby. Helen found some information and a newspaper photo of him, was hooked and has been addicted ever since with research in Australia, England and Ireland.

She is researching the surname Quested anywhere, anytime and has registered the name with the Guild of One-Name Studies.

She is the author of *Death Certificates and Archaic Medical Terms* and has written for a number of publications including *Inside History*, *Australian Family Tree Connections*, *Forgotten Times*, family history journals as well as scientific publications. She is the author of a number of blogs which can be accessed via <http://helensmithresearch.blogspot.com.au/> and you can follow her on Twitter @HVSresearch

Helen has spoken to a wide variety of audiences nationally and internationally including Genealogical Society of Queensland Day Conferences, Library Technician Conference, Unlock the Past Cruises, Unlock the Past Expos and Roadshow and numerous family history society meetings. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. Helen is President of Southern Suburbs Branch of the Genealogical Society of Queensland.

Professionally, she is a Molecular Epidemiologist specialising in Public Health Microbiology and has a strong interest in infectious diseases and Public Health through the ages. She has a Graduate Diploma in Public Health, Bachelor Applied Science: Medical Laboratory Science and Associate Diploma in Clinical Laboratory Techniques and is currently studying the National Institute of Genealogical Studies: English Certificate.

### Her topics

#### Friendly Societies and Family Historians

Intermediate

Friendly Societies were mutual aid organisations designed to help people protect themselves against hardship. Subsidised health care was only one of the services offered by Friendly Societies to our ancestors as Friendly Societies played an integral part in many of our ancestors' daily educational and social world.

#### One name studies – what use are they to you?

Intermediate

One Name Studies are a neglected resource for family historians. The study co-ordinator of a One Name Study collects information about a specific surname worldwide or restricted to a geographic region and utilising a wide variety of sources, nowadays often including the use of DNA testing, and then tries to establish family linkages where possible.

### Distressed cotton weavers emigration scheme

Intermediate

This presentation talks about the Queensland scheme. There were many types of immigration schemes but this one was unusual as it was basically a humanitarian scheme where money was raised in Queensland to help fund the emigrants to leave England.

### The English Workhouse and its Records

Intermediate

The dreaded workhouse came into being in England due to the introduction of the New Poor Law in 1834 and the establishment of the Poor Law Unions. The workhouse was deliberately made to be as unpleasant as possible so that people didn't think it as an easy option but instead a place of last resort.