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# NO(R)STER NEWS

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**F**or those of you who have access to the Internet and e-mail, you can contact me on:

[norster@one-name.org](mailto:norster@one-name.org)

Or, please visit our (your) website at:

[www.norster.org.uk](http://www.norster.org.uk)

which has recently been updated. This newsletter will be on the website by the time you read it. It gives you the opportunity to see your ancestors in a normal tree format. Please e-mail me, or write, or phone, or leave a message on the guestbook and let me know what you think of it.

There is also a Blog on the website, though you can access it by RSS from :-  
<http://www.norsterfamily.talktalk.net/atom.xml> - just type this into an RSS link.

**A**s for me, my details have not changed: -

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If you have an e-mail address I could send this to you through, please e-mail me to let me know.

I thought this year that I'd mention some more of my 'mystery' people.

Samuel Noster - 15 January 1827 to 26 November 1913

Samuel Norster (as he was baptised, or Noster as he preferred to be known) was born in 1827.

He does not appear on the 1841 census, as far as I can find, nor any subsequent census in the UK.

He does appear getting married on 12th August 1882 in Dunedin, New Zealand. His first child was born on 20th August 1882, so it seems to have been a bit of a rush job!

There was a census in 1881, but he does not appear. There were residential status rules and he may not have complied - that is, he had to have lived more than 6 months in the area.

I am trying to find out when he left this country and when he arrived in New Zealand. The common route, apparently, was to go to Australia, become disillusioned and move on to New Zealand.

At the moment, I don't have a clue - but I am looking.

I have found, on the New Zealand web-site "Papers Past", that Samuel was in Court on 27th November 1866 in Oamaru for smuggling Tobacco. He was fined 8 shillings.

It seems that smuggling was genetic!

However, on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1866 is reported the following :-

"We deeply regret being obliged to record a melancholy and fatal accident which happened in the Bay yesterday afternoon. A heavy sea was rolling in from the northeast, with short breakers, and two of the surf -boats had got drifted from their lines, when four men in the employment of Messrs Traill, Roxby and Co. went out in the small surf-boat to fetch in another large boat which was there. Arrived at the boat, three of the men got into it, leaving the deceased, John Hagan, in the small one. One man, we may remark, is usually left in it, so that he may run back on the line with it. In a very short space of time after the three men got out of it, a heavy sea came and filled it. Hagan still keeping his place, and making for shore as best he could. Another sea came and capsized it, throwing him out. The large boat was to

leeward, and a line could not be thrown to Hagan, but Samuel Noster, who was in charge of it, threw an oar, which unfortunately fell about six feet short. Hagan by that time was apparently powerless to make any exertion to save himself, having been more under than above water, although a good swimmer. All efforts to save him were unavailing, and he was carried beyond reach of help."

From this we now know that he worked for Messrs Traill, Roxby and Co, and that he was willing to help any fellow in distress.

Not such a bad lad after all.

Still no information on when he left England though.

Hannah Richards GILBERT - 1873 to 10<sup>th</sup> December 1896.

Birth recorded as Anna Richards GILBERT. She married John Richard NORSTER in 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr of 1896 in Newlyn, Cornwall and died 10<sup>th</sup> December 1986 of Phthisis (or Consumption).

She has 5 elder siblings and 3 younger ones. All of this is quite normal.

My problems occur because I cannot find out when (if) she was baptised. I can find all her elder siblings, but not her or her younger ones. They are not in the normal Parish registers, nor are they in Non-Conformist registers.

The only thing I have left to do, is to look at Catholic registers - assuming that the family turned Catholic at some time before Hannah was born. I have no evidence of this. Her husband remarried 6 years later in Kent - not Catholic as they divorced some time after 1911.