

From the January 11 Tween-Meeting News

In the last Tween-meeting News (30 November), I gave advance notice that one of the topics of our first meeting in 2021 would be “Origins of family names” (prompted by this message from Troppo, <http://lists.slq.qld.gov.au/read/archive?id=169096>). I suggested that you should come along ready to contribute to the conversation around questions such as:

- What family names (aka surnames) do you have in your tree that fall into the various categories? (see <https://familyst.weebly.com/family-names1.html>)
- Can you link any family members to those (presumed) origins, such as working at that occupation or coming from the particular location?
- Does anyone in your tree have a patronymic or matronymic surname? Can you trace its use back to a time before it became fixed?
- Do you have any family names that come from a LOTE (language other than english)? Are you able to translate it to match one of the usual English categories?
- Can you cite any examples (probably recent, so take care of privacy) of family members moving away from “traditional” naming practices to create new family names (for example by hyphenation or blending)?

I also promised to remind you of that, so you would be well prepared to join in on 9 February. You have now been reminded. A note signed by any two (of your) grandparents will be accepted as explaining why you were unable to complete the task.