

## Entering dates correctly on Genes

Due to the way you are able to enter dates in GR we have identified some date errors that can occur, that are not compatible with gedcom and therefore likely to cause a few errors when printed out by tree software. We apologise for forcing you into this date check but we think it is important for us to get your chart printed correctly rather than disappoint you.

Below is some guidance on how to enter dates on your records at Genes Reunited.

The screenshot shows the Genes Reunited interface for a user named Stephen Buttle. On the left is a family tree diagram showing relationships between Fred Matthews, Margery Wood, Colin Buttle, Sandra Matthews (1951), Stephen Buttle (1974), and Alison Carter. On the right is a profile form for Alison Carter. The form has tabs for Details, Photos, Lifeline, and Records. The 'General' section includes fields for Forename (Alison), Middle name, Maiden Surname (REQUIRED), Known as, and Gender (REQUIRED, Female). The 'Birth' section has a 'Year of birth' field (1976) and a 'Date of birth' field (17/02/1976). A callout box with a black border and white background points to the 'Date of birth' field, containing the text: "Make sure that all the date information is in this box. Do the same for all dates, i.e birth, marriage, death etc." The 'Date of birth' field is also circled in black.

Please make sure that all the relevant information is in the 'date of birth' box. If not the dates will be incorrect in the gedcom file and so on your printed chart. Keep the year in the 'Year of birth' box as well if you want Genes to do research in the background, or to display in the on-line tree.

The recommended format for entering dates is dd/mm/yyyy. If you don't know the full date that's fine, just put all you know into the 'date of birth' box as follows:

### **Acceptable formats:**

dd/mm/yyyy eg: 01/03/1953

dd/mmm/yyyy eg: 01/Mar/1953

It's ok to use quarter dates eg: Q1 1953

If you are unsure it's ok to use abt eg: ABT 1953

### **Unacceptable formats:**

ddmmyyyy eg: 01031953

mmm dd yyyy eg: Mar 1 1953

**This means Jan to Mar (1st quarter)  
1953, useful for BMD transcripts.**

Remember to hit 'save' before moving to the next person.