A PORTRAIT of Judge Smith Orr (1797–1865), founder of Orrville, Ohio. See the article on pages 200 and 201, "From an Irish martyr to the founder of a US town – the Orr story"
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Contributions for the Journal should be sent to
the Editor (address above).

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From the Editor’s Desk
Mary Rumsey

THE time has come once again for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. This year seems to have gone very quickly and I, for one, have only accomplished a small amount of the research that I had planned. Do other Guild members find themselves side-tracked into avenues of research other than their one-name study or research relating to their immediate ancestors? This year my local cemetery records were published on microfiche, so I considered compiling some statistics from these, but as yet have not started this. Also having completed the aggregate from the Alton parish registers for The Cambridge Group for the Study of the History of Population and Social Structure, I have now started on the surrounding villages. My dream for the future is to have a group working on family reconstruction for the area, at least for the Victorian period.

To return to the topic of confidentiality, one has to accept that the main sources for family history are those that are by their nature in the public domain. This means my neighbours can find out if my birth certificate shows me to be legitimate, "shows" being the operative word here, since if my father’s name is filled in and my mother’s maiden name is given, it is presumed that the child is legitimate, but what the certificate does not show is whether or not a marriage has taken place - it may not have done. Also, they can find out if I am bankrupt or whether I have inherited property, besides a number of other things. Why is this so? The answer to this is - it is in the interests of the public that people should have access to this information to stop irregularities and the breaking of the law.

Unlawful marriage

Two years ago I attended a civil marriage for the first time, and was surprised to hear the injunction to those present that if anyone knew of a reason why the marriage should not take place, he or she should declare it. Previously, I had thought of this as a religious injunction, but of course it is not. It is an attempt to stop an unlawful marriage taking place and always has been.

Hardwicke’s Marriage Act has proved very useful to researchers in so far as, unless our ancestors were Quakers or Jews, from 1754 to July 1837 in order for a marriage to be legal it had to take place in the Church of England. So, for example, if they were baptised or buried in a Non-Conformist Church and the registers do not begin until the end of the 18th
Chairman’s Notes
Roger Lovegrove

HERE WE ARE AGAIN. Has a whole year really come round again so quickly? The run-up to the AGM/Annual Conference/Committee elections starts with this edition. The Committee’s busiest time of the year will be just about finishing by the time that you read this, although, as always because of the Journal deadlines, it is just starting as I write.

I can easily tell when things are beginning to hot up, because my Guild e-mails start multiplying – up fourfold in one week.

□ Happy as can be

Actually, this is the most enjoyable time of year, at least for me, since this is when everything comes together into an overall picture and plans for the next year start to be laid. In fact, I would genuinely call it exciting. I can almost hear a buzz in the air.

David Abbott, the Treasurer, is the busiest of us all, getting down to finalising the Guild’s accounts for the year while also dealing with subscription renewals. The accounts look healthy without being too healthy (we are, after all, a not-for-profit organisation); just about perfect.

In a few week’s time, when the period of grace for payment of subscriptions runs out, the workload will shift from David towards Alec Tritton, our Data Manager, since he will need to produce the Register. But David will still be involved in that, as will our Registrar, Dominic Johnson.

The narrative part of the Committee’s Annual Report has, thankfully, been updated as the year has progressed so there is not much work left to do on it; the membership figures are still looking really good.

Our new Web Site Manager, Karen Naylor, ably assisted by her husband, Simon, is beavering away on a new-look web site. If you haven’t visited this for a while, then I strongly recommend that you do so if you are on-line. The on-line Register (which lists all members’ registered researches and contact details, not just those of on-line members) certainly seems to be producing results if my LOVEGROVE enquiries are anything to go by. I am now getting several per month, whereas before I was lucky to get one a year. The site is currently receiving visits at a rate of about 100,000 a year.

I did mention the laying of plans, didn’t I? The Committee have decided to instigate a Guild Award for the best One-Name Studies periodicals produced by members.

We are also starting to give serious consideration to recommending alterations to the Constitution so as to allow One-Name Societies, themselves, to become Guild members, rather than in effect being simply “proxy” members. See elsewhere. We shall also be introducing a new-look Register, but you will have to wait to see that.

□ All good pals

It’s been a good year. So good that other organisations have started jumping on to the one-name studies bandwagon that we have set rolling. But next year looks like being even better.

□ And jolly good company

Would you like to join the Guild “Management”? It involves working closely with a couple of dozen other people and can be jolly good fun. One way would be to stand for election. Instructions for how to go about standing will be found elsewhere in this Journal.

On the other hand, Roy Cox has had to resign, for health reasons, as the Guild’s UK Journal Distributor and we urgently need someone to replace him. This is basically about stuffing the quarterly polyopes that go to UK members, but there is inevitably some co-ordination work.

The Guild could use a commercial organisation to do this, but that would cost so much money that we could hardly afford it, despite the healthy state of the 1998 surplus on income: this could easily result in the next subscriptions increase being brought in a year earlier than would otherwise be needed. If anyone feels like helping the Guild and members, then please get in touch with our Vice Chairman, Alec Tritton.

More generally, we always need volunteers to give a hand with something or another, either immediately or at least to go on to a list to be called upon as needed. Only about one per cent of members are actually involved in dealing with the central workload, which is a very low level compared to other societies. for that is what we are, a society. We are not a commercial organisation with salaried staff, but a band of people with a shared interest, working together to everyone’s benefit. Certainly, anyone who has been a member for more than three or about four years (say with a membership number lower than about 2540) should now be thinking positively about how to help.

Volunteers one step forwards, please. Just drop a line to the Secretary. Thank you.

See you all at the AGM. 0

Eric Banwell

SADLY, I have to report the death in September of Eric Banwell. Eric was our Somerset Regional Representative and was – right up to the end – working on the Guild’s Taunton Seminar for next year. Please see elsewhere for a well-deserved tribute. The Guild was represented at Eric’s funeral by Committee member Geoff Riggs. 0

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 Secretary’s Notes
Jim Isard

At our September Committee meeting it was agreed that in future a short précis of what happens at Committee Meetings be produced in the Secretary’s notes in the next available edition of the Journal. It would also be placed in the members’ rooms of our website. To access this members would need to be on the Internet.

In October we received a letter from Twenty Twenty, an independent television company that was looking for families whose generations span the century for a programme they are making as part of the Millennium celebrations. We put details of this on the e-mail forum as the quickest way of communicating this information to some of the membership. Anyone interested in this project should contact Tanya Shaw on 0171 284 2020, but it may be too late by the time you have read this.

I know there are those who do not like all this modern technology, but the system is there and we as an organisation must use it. An example of why is with the TV programme previously mentioned. Within 24 hours of our receiving the letter it had been put on line and those with access could have contacted the company.

Many internet companies now will give you one month’s free trial, so why not give it a go? We have produced a fact sheet called Getting on Line and anyone who wants a copy may write to me at my address listed inside the front cover, enclosing an A4 stamped, addressed envelope.

Committee meeting, September 12 1998...

At the meeting in July it had been agreed that we bought a copy of the CD-ROM of Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914–1918. This had been ordered but there is now a delay in delivery; when it arrives members will be able to receive data from it. More news when it arrives.

It was agreed that the Guild would look into setting up its own award system for One-Name Society newsletters and journals, since it is viewed as unlikely that this type of journal could win the FFHS’s Elizabeth Simpson Award.

The Committee also discussed enabling societies as well as individuals to become members of the Guild. The Chairman will write an article for the Journal, inviting comments and views.

We have now produced A3 and A4 posters for display, for example in county record offices. It is hoped to get these displayed at as many sites as possible. However, initially they will be restricted to family record centres and county record offices to enable the impact to be assessed.

Karen Naylor has been co-opted onto the Committee as our new Website Manager.

The venue for the 1999 AGM was agreed as The King Charles Hotel in Gillingham, Kent. Prices will be comparable to those of 1998.

The date of the Guild’s AGM for the year 2001 has to be changed as it clashes with the Federation of Family History Societies’ AGM at Folkestone. A new date will be published when it is known.

From The Editor’s Desk,
continued from page 189

century we have a good chance of finding their marriages. Why were the Quakers and Jews exempted? Was this some form of religious tolerance? No, it is most likely because their records were far better kept and far superior to anyone else’s. I have done some research using Quaker records and they give an amazing amount of information.

However, Hardwicke’s Marriage Act was enacted, like much other legislation over the years, in the interests of a particular section of the population, in this instance the aristocratic and wealthy. The Act required better registration of marriages which had to be either after the publication of banns or by licence to prevent the clandestine marriages in which heiresses, etc. were married to highly unsuitable spouses. Later, a problem was to arise from this, as if clandestine marriages were not legal the children of such marriages were illegitimate – a fact that could have had great repercussions. Therefore, almost on the eve of civil registration, the Marriage Act of 1836 declared that clandestine marriages were valid, but that the officiating minister was a felon.

Again, in reference to the law, in his letter elsewhere in this issue Mr. Christopher Lerwill refers to defamation (libel and slander), but for the vast majority of the population in this country in practicality these laws might as well never have been enacted. First, legal aid is not available for these cases and you need to be wealthy to pursue them. Secondly, damages are awarded on the basis of damage to one’s reputation and/or financial loss occasioned by the defamation. Most people’s reputations are not of sufficiently high profile to be damaged.

Finally, Mr Lerwill places a great deal of faith in the Code of Practice and/or Ethics of professional bodies, a view which is not shared by many who have made complaints in relation to them, myself included.

It appears that the evidence has to be overwhelming before any action is taken and that these codes are used to protect the members of a particular profession, rather than the general public whom they serve.
Internet search produced a Jesuit priest for my one-name study
By Graham Jaunay

It is not often that one-name researchers come across detailed biographies of individuals and I was quite surprised when, on-line to Excite websearcher, I typed in the name jaunay and apart from the previously found sources came across an entirely new reference to a Jesuit priest in North America.

Being wary of the information outlined, I then set about to confirm the story, using the resources available to me on the web. These involved the original web posting, research by an Ontario-based professional and contact with various Jesuit organisations using home pages, e-mail and news groups.

One could say this is the very first piece of research I have undertaken from my desktop from start to finish and a wonderful story has been revealed about life in 18th century North America.

Pierre-Luc du Jaunay is said to have been born on either August 11, 1704, or August 10, 1705, at Vannes, France. He died on July 16, 1780, at Quebec in Canada.

Pierre du Jaunay entered the Jesuit order in Paris on September 2, 1723, and studied theology at La Flèche from 1731 to 1734.

Ordination

After ordination he was sent to the French colony of Michigan in 1734, and in 1735 he accompanied fellow priest, Jean-Baptiste de Saint-Pe to Michillimackinac (now Mackinaw City) where he first met the Ottawa Indians to whom he would minister for nearly 30 years.

The risk involved in missionary work among the tribes in North America was made tragically clear to du Jaunay early in his ministry when his friend Jean-Pierre Aulneau was killed in the Lake of the Woods in 1736. Despite this, he made several requests to be sent to the Mandans and other tribes of the far west. These wishes were not granted by his superior and, instead, his career was based at the trading town of Michillimackinac.

With this settlement as a base, he served other small communities in the Upper Lakes region. His first documented baptism took place on June 21 1738 at St. Joseph Mission, near present day Niles, but the exact location of the site is now lost. He was apparently at this mission only briefly before returning to Michillimackinac, but he visited it again for short times in 1742, 1745 and 1752 and his ministrations are recorded in the surviving registers.

Father Pierre also journeyed to Sault Ste Marie, where he is recorded as saying the Mass in 1741. Extensive travel was not necessary for him because the travellers and traders of the Upper Lakes made frequent trips to Michillimackinac. The parish register there records the presence from time to time of people from Saint Joseph, La Baye (now called Green Bay), Sault Ste Marie, and Chagouamigon (near Ashland, Wisconsin). Though he attended to the French people of the area, Father Pierre's primary love was for the Indians and he was deeply upset by the treatment they received from the whites. He saw this as a stumbling block to securing potential Indian converts.

The focus of du Jaunay's ministry was the log church of Saint Anne, situated within the palisaded town. Behind the church a door in the palisade opened into a court enclosing a bake oven and an ice house. Close by the rectory was a blacksmith shop where Pascal Soulard

THE area of the Great Lakes of North America, where Father Pierre-Luc du Jaunay ministered to the Ottawa Indians for almost 30 years. He was based at the trading town of Michillimackinac near the north-west tip of Lake Huron.

and Jean Baptiste Amiot worked under contract to the priest. When the Ottawa Indians, who lived close to the Michillimackinac people, decided to relocate their village in 1741, Father Du Jaunay helped persuade them to move only as far as L'Arbre Croche, now called Cross Village, in Michigan so that he could maintain contact with them. He then had two foci for his work - the parish ministry at Saint Anne and the mission of Saint Ignace at L'Arbre Croche. In the new location Father Pierre established a farm. In the 1740s he compiled a 396-page manuscript dictionary of the Ottawa language.

In 1743 a new church was constructed at Michillimackinac to accommodate the growing community. During his ministry in the parish from 1742 to 1765 Du Jaunay conducted 25 weddings and 120 baptisms.

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assurances of the goodwill of the French and the Ottawa.

In 1754, after nearly 20 years in the interior, Du Jaunay visited Montreal. This was rather fortuitous for him, as he missed the tragic smallpox epidemic in the Michilimackinac region in 1757 and a strong chance of an early death, as such epidemics took a heavy toll on the priests administering to the sick and dying. Father Pierre returned to Michilimackinac to find an impoverished and desolate community.

In 1760, following the British capture of Canada, Du Jaunay spoke out for a peaceful acceptance of the new regime. His influence assisted the smooth transition when British troops finally arrived at Michilimackinac in 1761.

“A very good man, and had a great deal to say with the savages hereabout, who will believe everything he tells them.”

Survivors

A short time later, the Ottawas from L’Arbre Croche arrived and took the survivors under their protection. In a letter to Henry Gladwin, George Etherington, the commandant, remarked that the priest was a “very good man, and had a great deal to say with the savages hereabout, who will believe everything he tells them.” Du Jaunay himself carried this letter to Detroit, arriving there on June 16, 1763, encouraged by Indian Chief Pontiac’s attack on Detroit, the local Ojibwa led by Minawah and Madjeckewiss surprised and overpowered the local British garrison. Appalled by the slaughter, Du Jaunay risked his life in sheltering some of the soldiers and traders in his house.

In 1765 du Jaunay was recalled and the mission closed. After celebrating his last baptism at the Straits on July 3, 1765, he packed up the sacred vessels of the mission and took them to Detroit. At Quebec he was appointed spiritual director of the Ursuline Order there on August 2, 1767. He maintained his interest in western affairs, however. In 1769 he briefly became embroiled in the events stirred up by the court martial of Robert Rogers. When Joseph-Louis Ainsse of Michilimackinac, a prosecution witness, was himself charged with theft, Du Jaunay travelled to Montreal to testify to Ainsse’s good character.

Revolution turmoil

Despite the turmoil of the American Revolution, the old priest continued his work at Quebec until his death on July 16, 1780. At Michilimackinac and at L’Arbre Croche his memory lingered. As late as 1824 the Ottawas were still pointing out the spot “where Du Jaunay used to walk up and down, saying his office.”

In the 1773 Suppression of Jesuits Father Pierre was one of twelve Jesuits allowed to stay in Quebec and he was not imprisoned. He was allowed to stay because of his missionary work with the Indians.

Father Pierre was buried in the Jesuit seminary grounds in Old Quebec City. The old seminary still exists, but the Museum of Civilization now occupies the site of the former burial ground. Even if the burial ground did survive, it is unlikely that we would find the grave site as no markers were placed on the graves and no grave yard plans were kept due to the Suppression.

Survivors

A short time later, the Ottawas from L’Arbre Croche arrived and took the survivors under their protection. In a letter to Henry Gladwin, George Etherington, the commandant, remarked that the priest was a “very good man, and had a great deal to say with the savages hereabout, who will believe everything he tells them.” Du Jaunay himself carried this letter to Detroit, arriving there on June 16, 1763. Two days later Gladwin sent him back with verbal instructions and a wampum belt for the Ottawas. The pious priest, who is reputed to have “never told a lie in his life”, had refused to carry a letter from the soldiers and traders in his house.

Before leaving Detroit he held a council with Pontiac in an unsuccessful effort to free the English prisoners. Affairs at the Straits of Mackinac remained chaotic until the post was re-garrisoned by the British. Du Jaunay tried to restore order and wrote to Sir William Johnson to give assurances of the goodwill of the French and the Ottawa. On Sept 22, 1764, when British troops returned, the priest was at the waterside to welcome them. He was the first to sign the oath of allegiance as an example to the community. He demonstrated his good faith by supplying food for the troops and delivering up a captive soldier whom his servant had ransomed from the Indians.

Adapted from an article by David A. Armour, Dictionary of Canadian Biography Vol IV, 1771 to 1800. Supplemented by research by Graham Jaunay and Michelle LaBrosse-Purcell of London, Ontario, with assistance from Father Robert Toupin, Society of Jesuits of Montreal.

Note: Father Toupin’s records give the date of birth for Pierre as August 11, 1704 in Vannes, France. Unfortunately, the Archives of Morbihan which hold these records in France is not on-line and I know they will not undertake a search. These records should reveal Father Pierre’s parents, but a local professional researcher will have to be engaged to undertake this work. To date I have not been able to locate an on-line researcher to do this work.

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Eborall, Abrahall and a tale of three hedgehogs
By Duncan Currie

My mother's maiden name was EBORALL, quite a rare surname, so when I realised that it was not mentioned in any standard works on the origin and etymology of surnames, I decided to research it, beginning my one-name study five years ago.

It used to be thought that the name originated from Ebor, associated with Eboracum, the Latin name for York, and "hahl" or "hale", meaning a nook, corner or cave, a sheltered place. Many people held this view because Canon J. C. Adams promoted the idea in his book "Hampton-in-Arden", and he believed that the Eboralls of Balshall had misinterpreted "boar" for "hedgehogs" or "porcupines" on an Eborall coat of arms, a boar being the badge of Richard III, who was of the House of York. Indeed, the Eboralls themselves may have promoted this view in an attempt to gain protection or prestige. However, from my own research I believe that the Eborall name evolved in the Midlands and most noticeably in Warwickshire.

Abrahalls were a Herefordshire family with whom the Eboralls are possibly linked, not only because of the similarity in phonetics of the two names, but also there are two Eborall tombs bearing coats of arms that contain three hedgehogs or porcupines passant and the Abrahall arms have the same heraldic bearings.

One in Hatton Church in Warwickshire is a monument to Joseph Eberall, an Attorney, Alderman and Mayor of Warwick, who died in 1793, which is surmounted by an apparently unrecorded coat of arms. It shows an azure field with three gold hedgehogs or porcupines. The EBORALL arms are similar, but contain three hedgehogs or porcupines passant and the Abrahall arms have the same heraldic bearings.

The Journal of One-Name Studies, January 1999

By Duncan Currie

The above William Eborall's pedigree and coat of arms come forward to sponsor this project! William Eborall) as to these being his hereditary arms, there is no reference to the "colours" whatsoever! At the end of the Visitations document there is a list of "disclaimers", families whose arms were unjustified and who were not allowed to display them. The Eborall name does not appear in this list, so it would appear that it was the "tinctures", namely the colours of the arms that were "not allowed". Thus, these arms were shown on William Eborall's memorial 24 years later. Rouge Dragon, Gregory King, writing at the time of the Visitations noted that a Henry Eborall became possessed of the family estates and died in 1441 and, I quote, "was buried in the Chancel of the Parish Church of Hampton in Arden together with Anne his wife, both under a fair stone which lieth on the south side and towards the lower end of the said chancel having time out of mind been the burial place of that family only, which stone of late years had this inscription upon it in brass:

Here ly the bodies of Henry Eborall and Anne his wyf and 18 children that on her he begat. God send them all the way to hit right in at Heaven's yatt (gate)."

"Which inscription with their Armes and pictures of himselfe, his wife and eighteen children curiously cut in brass in 5 plates all kneeling and holding in a praying posture were torn off and stolen by a Bell Founder (the then present Heir of the Family being out of the Country) having often been seen and read by divers yet living of those children as appeareth by the same Copy of Court Roll."

The original Visitations manuscript, I assumed, must have explained why the colours were not allowed, but the Harleian Society publication, Volume 62, failing to do so, I wrote to the College of Arms in 1993 asking what the phrase "colours not allowed" meant. Roger Fearnside, then assistant to Chester Herald, told me that he had looked at the Visitations but could not explain this. I was asked to pay what I considered an excessively high retaining fee of £150 before further investigations could be made, but being unable to afford this sum, the matter has remained unresolved. Perhaps one day a more affluent Eborall researcher will come forward to sponsor this project!

Another interesting piece of Eborall history came to light in the Visitations pedigree. Canon Adams recording the following in his book: "In 1603 Richard (Eboroll) had married Mary Howell of Packwood, and this, later on, meant privileges he may not at the time have forseen. Mary was a sister of Thomas Howell, Fellow of New College, Oxford, and her father, William Howell, was the
same man, but it is impossible to know with so little information.

The Eborall root may also have been considered a variant by some, and so it is with 'The Records of Wroxall'. Within a six-year period four Eborall variants appear, each with the first name, William. It might be assumed that William Deberale and William Ebrehale recorded in 1368, Willelmus Ebrehale and William Ebrehale in 1371, and Willelmus Ebrehale recorded in 1374, are variants of Ebrall or Eborall. One was told that Eberle was a mid-European name, and another that Eberle was a variant of Everill. Regarding the names Ebrill and Ebbrell, these are shown as variants of Ebrall on the IGI and I have included them in my research, however there are no instances of either name in early records. Ebrill first appears on the IGI in 1706 in Birmingham, while Ebbrell is first found in 1710 in Nottingham, the next references being in 1809 in Cheadle, Cheshire. The GRO indexes show this name mainly in Liverpool and the Wirral, but on the IGI for Ireland Ebrill occurs more often and is shown as a variant of Everill.

In correspondence with Ebrills and Ebbrells I have found that several do not believe their surnames to be variants of Ebrall or Eborall. One was told that Eberle was the origin of the name, Eborall, based purely on the fact that Eborall is not given in any source books for English surnames. However, Eberle is a mid-European name and appeared in this country much later than earlier variants of Eborall. The Eborall link to Abrahall seems to be the most positive point of origin.

I would be very happy to hear from any member who may have any ideas on this.

Variant spellings can cause frustration and confusion, and so it is with 'The Records of Wroxall'. Within a six-year period four Eborall variants appear, each with the first name, William. It might be assumed that William Deberale and William Ebrehale recorded in 1368, Willelmus Ebrehale in 1372 and William Eboral in 1374 were the same man, but it is impossible to know with so little information.

Ebrehale as a variant first appears in 1385, but Ebrehale was the most common form of spelling. However, from 1413 until 1431 Eburbale became the most common form. There are no Eborall variants recorded between 1421 and 1524, but this does not mean that they no longer lived in the area. During this period there are few records and those that exist do not show all the members of the community. Eborall-related entries reappear in 1524, when the name was recorded as Ebrall, but only for a period of two years. In 1530 the name Eborall appears for a period of five years. This then was followed by the variants Ebburall, Ebarall and Ebernal. Eborall was again recorded in 1545 and no variants appear between 1545 and 1593, but from the latter date until 1672 Ebrall was recorded eight times.

Eborall variants also appeared in other Wroxall documents. Ebburall was recorded in the Haseley parish registers in 1600, while Eborall was found at Hatton in 1617 and 1619. At Roxhall in the Register of Officers there Annually chosen Ebral is found in 1718, 1721 and 1723. Examples of Eborall variants appear even earlier than the Wroxoll records. During the reign of Edward III in 1332 at Baleshale in the Hundred of Hamelyngford in the Subsidy Roll, Robert de Ebrall paid 8s. 7d., the largest subsidy in the parish. In the same year Sir Thomas, Earl of Warwick paid £s. Od., Sir Edmund de Beresford paid 4s. 2d., and Thomas de Beauchamp paid 4s. 4d.

In his book "In the forest of Arden" John Burman remarks: 'This family of Eborall continued to be the most important in the parish until the eighteenth century, and must have held a landed estate separate from the manor, for they provided county magistrates and ranked as esquires.'

At this early time I found no reference to the name Eborall in other parts of the country and assessing the written forms of the name in such a small area does give valuable insight into its development. Warwickshire was clearly the Eborall heartland, but I feel that a link with the name Abrahall cannot be disregarded.

I would be very happy to hear from any member who may have any ideas on this.
My old notebook purchase led to 300 descendants of a Sussex couple
By Ash Emery

I DON'T suppose my views are any different to many members when I say that the Internet has been a boon to my one-name research. However, researching events in the 19th century is difficult, to say the least, and I am a stickler for proving dates.

In late 1995, I received a letter from an English antiquarian bookshop owner who knew I ran the Shoosmith One-Name Study Group and asked me if I was interested in purchasing a manuscript notebook once owned by Edward Shoosmith who had lived in Halland, Sussex.

I was aware that an Edward Shoosmith (1880-1956) had lived there and had assisted John Comber in the research of "Sussex Genealogies", published in 1933, so I purchased the notebook and subsequently worked my way through all the 184 unnumbered pages. Edward made notes at random and rarely believed in dating them. The notebook appears to have been compiled between about 1916 and 1936. On page 16 Edward refers to a Caroline Shoosmith who married a "Vincent of Northiam" in 1826.

Back in 1990 I had retained Judith Kinnison Bourke, an eminent researcher, to trace Shoosmiths in Sussex. Judith discovered a shoebox at the Society of Genealogists in London with 24 typescript pages prepared by the same Edward Shoosmith in which he recorded: "Caroline Shoosmith married Vincent of Northiam" and had then hand-written: "and Syracuse, USA."

I determined that I would trace this female Shoosmith line, so I searched the Sussex parish registers and discovered that Caroline had married Anthony Vincett (not Vincent), a butcher of Northiam, in Laughton, Sussex, in 1826. By 1851 Anthony and Caroline Vincett were living in Hailsham, together with seven children. They had nine children in all, but the eldest was already married and another had died in infancy.

Which Syracuse?

Anthony, Caroline and family were not in Sussex in 1861, so I assumed that some time after March 1851 they had emigrated to the USA. I checked my atlas and discovered that there were no less than four places called Syracuse located in the USA of which the major town was Syracuse in the state of New York. 1996 was a busy business year for me and I attempted to seek Anthony and Caroline.

I had suffered through two years of very indifferent Internet service before finding a good provider. I left a message on an Internet surname newsgroup and after it bounced back twice after incorrect capitalisation I managed to post a message requesting input on the Vincetts of Sussex who had emigrated to the USA in the mid-nineteenth century. Within 24 hours I received a 24 page e-mail from Rusty Okoniewski of Florida who enclosed details of 112 descendants of Anthony and Caroline and who stated that the family had journeyed to the USA "by sailing vessel in 1852." Rusty also confirmed that the family settled in Syracuse, New York.

A few weeks later I discovered a Harry Vincett on the West Coast of America who was descended from an uncle of Anthony who was also a butcher of Northiam. Harry passed on the name of a Dr. William Vincett who lived in Pennsylvania and who was researching his ancestry. In rapid time I was able to assist Bill and to prove his line back to Anthony and beyond. He put me in touch with two cousins, Steve Watrous of Utah and Jeffrey Ketterer of Pennsylvania, who were both keen family historians. Rusty, Bill, Steve and Jeff were all able to verify and correct various Vincett lines and to provide photographs of tombstones, copies of letters and various vital records. The one worrying factor was proving the date that the Vincett family sailed to America.

Then, Steve traced a document dated August 20 1851 in which Anthony Vincett had solemnly sworn at Onondaga County Court, New York State that it was his "bona fide intention to become a citizen of the United States of America." This document appeared to narrow the date of the family's sailing to between April and July, 1851, rather than in 1852.

By 1998, I was receiving regular e-mails from the Vincett descendants and regular airmail packages containing obituaries, family histories and census returns. Bill Vincett had corresponded with an English relative in 1983 and suspected that the Vincetts arrived in Syracuse via Canada. A biography of Anthony John Vincett, eldest son of Anthony and Caroline, published in 1888, stated categorically that the family emigrated to America in 1845. This was patently untrue. In the 1900 US national census Frank, another son of the couple, was reported to have arrived in the USA in 1852. Other census returns for other family members favoured 1850, which was obviously incorrect.

Another US family historian, Tom Maloney, contacted
Jeff Ketterer who directed him to me. Tom had married a descendant of Anthony and Caroline. In October 1998 Tom visited the Library of Congress and examined a series of seven volumes entitled "The Famine Immigrants: lists of Irish immigrants arriving at the port of New York" compiled by Ira A. Glazier. Tom found the family of Anthony and Caroline Vincent [sic] who were passengers on the ship London, which arrived in New York City from Liverpool on June 2, 1851. There they were, the couple and all seven children who had been in Sussex on March 30 that same year. As Tom said: "This must be our gang." A few days later Steve Watrous visited the main library at Brigham Young University and copied the actual handwritten passenger list of the good ship London and found that the family was in fact named Vincett rather than Vincent.

Thanks to the various enthusiastic Vincett researchers we have now traced over 300 descendants of Anthony and Caroline Vincett. We also know precisely when they arrived in America. Recent research on the ship London reveals that she was built in 1848. The vessel measured 170 feet long by 38 feet wide and sailed the Atlantic for at least 20 years. She received the dubious honour of the ship that made the westbound passage in the second worst time for the route, an amazing 85 days.

**Caroline is reputed to have been seasick for the duration of the voyage in 1851, but hopefully she endured a passage of only about three weeks rather than twelve.**

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The ironic and very small world of genealogy
By Beryl Metherell

I HAVE always had an interest in family history, right from when, as a child, my grandmother told me that her father was Irish and her mother was Scottish. This I am still trying to prove.

When I grew up and married I was quite fascinated by the stories my father-in-law told me about his family riding to hounds in Devon. Anyone who read my article which appeared in Vol 6 Number 3, July 1997, will know how my one-name research has evolved. However, what follows relates to the other side of my family.

I was born in Middlesex of a London mother and a Worcestershire father. While I knew my mother's family quite well, I didn't see my father's family very much, but when I did I was intrigued by my paternal grandmother telling me she had been born in Lancashire. For many, many, years I have searched for the elusive marriage of her parents and still haven't found it.

**Census disappointment**

The release of the 1881 census index, would be the answer to finding them, wouldn't it? Lancashire was the last county to be made available, of course! Patiently I waited, then eagerly I searched. Imagine how disappointed I was not to find them there.

I knew by now that great-grandfather Henry Taylor had died in Kidderminster in 1883, although the family weren't shown in the 1881 census for Worcestershire either, so I decided to do what seemed a logical search southwards from Lancashire to Worcestershire. Bingo! I found them in Staffordshire. The biggest surprise was to find the places of birth that were stated in the census... Henry Taylor, Melbourne, Derbyshire, and Annie Taylor née Lock, Aldbourne, Wiltshire. I could not believe my eyes. In the 1970s my husband's company had transferred him to Swindon and we had chosen to live in a village called Chiseldon, only a few miles from Aldbourne, so we knew it very well.

Armed with this new information, I settled down to find Annie's relatives and initially had quite a lot of success, but then I was stuck. One of the male ancestors, a Henry WORRAL (WHERRELL) had married a lady by the name of Keziah and it was only when I joined the Internet that I was given the information that the marriage of Henry WORRAL and Keziah (JEFFERIES) had taken place in Chiseldon and that many of my ancestors had been born, married and died in that village.

**Distant relatives**

When we lived there, I was a volunteer with the Senior Citizens Club that provided a meeting place and tea and biscuits once a month. Without knowing it at the time, I must have been helping distant relatives, as so many of the surnames were the same as my newly found ancestors.

There is yet another twist to this tale. One of Keziah's great nephews, a brother of the author Richard Jefferies, emigrated to Texas in the late 1800s. He settled and married a girl from the town of Sugar Land. By some strange stroke of fate, 100 years later we also emigrated from Wiltshire to America. A look in the members' register will tell you where we live.

**Is this a small world or not?**

Mrs. Beryl METHERELL, Member No. 332
My one-name study began on April Fool’s Day!
By Shelagh Mason

I NEVER expected to be running a One-Name Study. I first started researching my family history 12 years ago, after my first cousin wrote to the local papers from her home in Australia — not realistically expecting to find us. Ironically, my mother still lives in the same house that my cousin had found letters from, way back in the 40s.

My early foray into genealogy, researching whenever I could at Canterbury Cathedral archives, soon unearthed quite a lot of information about my main line of interest. However, I was frustrated in my efforts by working full time, so my mother, who was initially not enthusiastic, volunteered to search the archives and extract entries from parish registers one day a week — and she has been going there on this basis ever since, poor woman!

Some early researches into my registered COON name drew a blank, so we let sleeping dogs lie and carried on searching for our Holmes ancestors. About three years ago, I was looking at the tree and flicking through the printed copies of the database and managed to piece together back to my nine-times great-grandfather in about an hour. I seem to have the knack for doing this. I have done it again and again, and it is always so nice when it is proved by wills, etc. One of my more successful efforts has been to piece together a Suffolk Steed line back to the early 16th century and the commencement of parish registers. The proof of my suggested line hinged around a double marriage, and the line was shown to be correct by reference in a will to both a father (from whom the chap inherited) and his benefactors. Miracles sometimes happen. But I digress!

I registered with the Guild of One-Name Studies after I had a number of communications by both post and e-mail late in 1995. After Christmas it was becoming quite involved, and I thought I would check to see whether anyone had registered the names — and, to my surprise, no-one had. By April, 1996, I had registered — officially starting on April 1, it seemed so appropriate at the time! — and we haven’t looked back.

The Guild was a little lacking in its welcome. It failed to provide me with guidelines for registered members and I had no idea about membership categories, nor did I receive an application form. It also appeared that I should have started out with a reasonable amount of information on my name, but I had very little other than my mother’s research. Still, it didn’t seem to matter.

We started with a little band of five. I put together the first newsletter — a very brief affair — placed a small advertisement in Family Tree Magazine and off we went. Interestingly, members of the Guild e-mail group were asked recently why they registered their surname. Most answers were obvious, i.e. it was their family name. Mine is a little unusual in that it is my great-grandmother’s surname, and as such, she is quite a way removed from me. But would you register Cook, Kemp or Baker? (The Kemp Family Association already exists — Bob Young, whose Guild-registered name is Ranger, is its secretary.)

Databases
What then? My first task was to establish databases by county/country and I was provided with copies of the IGI for some counties by helpful members and extractions they had made from original sources. It was a slow process, as I did not have a proper computer at home, and relied on going in early to work and using my 486 there. Within a year I had acquired on semi-permanent loan a 486 B&W laptop from work, which had a tendency to crash. By the end of 1997 I had enough money put by to lash out on a wicked system, complete with 56K modem, flatbed scanner, colour printer and Zip drive. It’s already hopelessly out of date!

By mid-November we clocked up our 100th member, covering seven countries, and I have information on Stead/Steed and all variants on databases for 11 countries, if one counts Britain as one country. I have put together a substantial number of family trees, including my own, and have had great fun doing so.

OK, so the study goes from strength to strength — but what else have I to recount? Well, it’s useful to have “canterbury” in your e-mail address. I get all sorts of enquiries just because people notice my location in my works e-mail address, and have established many friends throughout the world this way. I also have the pleasure of meeting a number of them when they “do” Canterbury, often on a whistle stop tour but sometimes, like Bob Young, for a longer period when they are researching at the archives. In 1999 Bob and I are hosting the Stead/Steed and the Kemp FA Reunions at the same time at Canterbury Christ Church University College.
My mother is the lady who has been transcribing those awkward English wills for fellow GOONS, while incapacitated awaiting her hip replacement. Mother's years of experience and attendance at a 10-week course run by the Cathedral Archives means she can read that awful scribble as easily as you read this. I have to confess that after many years' research myself, I'm not that bad at it, either — but I will never be as good as mum!

Famous editor

Any famous Steads in my study? Yes! The celebrated editor, William Thomas Stead, son of the Reverend Thomas Stead, was a high-flyer from youth. Employed at the Northern Echo in Darlington, his dramatic journalistic style soon came to the attention of Gladstone, the then Prime Minister. It wasn't long before Stead was head-hunted and went to London. His influence was sufficient that General Gordon was sent to the Sudan, and his subsequent death, at Stead's insistence. Stead attacked wrongdoing wherever he found it. He was sent to jail when he shamed Victorian Britain by purchasing a child for £5 to uncover child prostitution.

He used his position at the Pall Mall Gazette to great effect and in a letter to the Daily Mirror in 1912, he let England know that he was travelling by ship to New York to give a lecture and expected to be back by mid-May. The ship was the Titanic.

Two of Stead's brothers were also notable. Francis Herbert ran the Walworth Settlement in London and was an ardent social campaigner, while John received recognition for his work in the iron industry.

Other notables include Christina Stead, Australian author who has Ramsgate, Kent, roots, as do I, and the Steede family of Steede Hill, Harlentisham, Kent, near Maidstone, who number a Governor of Barbados in the 1670s. Sheriffs of Kent and an early pioneer of cricket, Edwyn Steede (1700–1735) amongst them.

Only recently I was put in touch with an archivist who has spent many years working on the remains of Stead Hall, near Otley in Yorkshire. It has been a site of importance since the 7th Century and was well-established by the time of the Norman Invasion in 1066. His greatest thrill was to unearth a Saxon "beehive" oven from the site of the original, timber-framed structure, upon which site many grander buildings were erected in later times.

I shall never regret founding the study. There are constant surprises and delights and the people I have found through genealogy have, in the great majority, been the nicest people I shall ever have the pleasure to meet.

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Small and uncommon can be beautiful
By Viv Dunstan

Some people start one-name studies working on their own surname, or their maiden name, or the name of their mother, or something close in their family tree.

My one-name surname is quite far up my tree (mother's father's mother's father's surname) but the CAVERS name passed down to my grandfather, Thomas Cavers Hall Dodds, because of trusty Scottish naming patterns, so it's a name that I've been familiar with for a long time, even before my family hunt.

I didn't realise how localised it was, though. I come from Hawick in Roxburghshire and Cavers parish is next door to there. Black's "Surnames of Scotland" suggests that Cavers, the surname, comes from the estate, Cavers Carre, in Bowden parish, elsewhere in Roxburghshire, but my research indicates otherwise.

As the records go further back in time, the references seem to focus more and more around the area of Cavers parish and its neighbouring parish, Kirkton. My own Cavers ancestors come from that area and, although I'm stuck with them in the 18th century at the moment, I've managed to establish that most Cavers in Scotland — indeed most Cavers in the world — are related to me.

I didn't start a formal one-name study until December 1997, but I'd gathered lots of information over the years. As I realised how rare this name was and how many people with it were related to me, I'm glad that I didn't tackle a more common name because I can really get to grips with the families and individuals involved. To give some sense of scale, there were only 135 Cavers in the 1881 British census, of which a third were in Roxburghshire — a huge proportion when you take into account the small population of that county. Working on a small one-name study means that I can usually tell who someone is from a 19th century reference and link them in very quickly to other information.

So far I'm still getting to grips with this one-name study but I'm having a great time, extending my knowledge of my own family and really enjoying tracing the other families as well, both in Britain and elsewhere in the world, especially Canada at the moment. It's also nice to put people in touch with cousins and I'm currently juggling with about five descendants of a 19th century couple who don't seem to be related to me but have a fascinating family history.

If I ever branch out into a one-name society I may need a subsociety just for the descendants and relatives of that one family! Still, all that's for the future. For now, I'll continue juggling references and having a ball.

Mrs. Viv Dunstan
Member No. 2847
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The Journal of One-Name Studies, January 1999
From an Irish martyr to the founder of a US town – the Orr story
By Brian Orr

My route to a One-Name Study began some 25 years ago when I had the good fortune to be able to talk to many relatives, including several elderly great-aunts and a great grandmother who gave me access to a quantity of old wills and insurance policies. But these were my wife’s relatives from Lincolnshire and Staffordshire, my own family residing in Australia.

Thus, at an early date I came up against the hurdle of researching my paternal line in Ireland. I resorted to using a local researcher, which was moderately successful back to 1845 or so when registration was introduced but tailed off when research was needed through the many subsidiary records available such as Parish Registers, Griffith’s Valuation, Tithe Applotments, muster rolls and the like. At this juncture, I took to researching an old family story, told to my father in 1932 by an elderly great-aunt of his (she was in her 80s and father 18 at the time) of an alleged connection with the family of William Orr of Farranshane, County Antrim.

Family stories, as we all know, tend to be gilded in the re-telling but may occasionally contain a grain of truth. William Orr (1766-1797) was a farmer in the townland of Farranshane and a member of the United Irishmen whose original aims sought equality for all under the law, regardless of religious persuasion. In the turmoil of those times and fear of war with France, an Insurrection Act was passed and it was deemed a treasonable act to administer the oath of membership for the United Irishmen. William was alleged to have done so, was arrested and tried.

Trumped-up charge

There was great sympathy for William and many considered it a trumped-up charge. Indeed, the jury was locked in a room and were copiously supplied with food and whiskey until they reached a decision. A guilty verdict was followed by attempts to have it overturned. The foreman was an elderly man who was so confused he did not know what he was doing and one of the two soldiers who were witnesses was of unsound mind. The judge himself cried when passing down the mandatory sentence of death.

Appeals were made to the powers that be, but it is clear that the government wanted to make an example of William and he was executed at Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim on October 14 1797. The cry “Remember Orr” was a watchword in the Rebellion that broke out in 1798. His speech from the scaffold was a humbling address. Reproduced in part here, it comprised a powerful statement of innocence:

“My friends and fellow-countrymen – In the thirty first year of my life I have been sentenced to die upon the gallows and this sentence has been in pursuance of a verdict of twelve men who should have been indifferently and impartially chosen. How far they have been so, I leave to that country from which they have been chosen to determine; and how far they have discharged their duty, I leave to their God and to themselves. They have, in pronouncing their verdict, thought proper to recommend me as an object of humane mercy. In return, I pray to God, if they have erred, to have mercy upon them.

“The law under which I suffer is surely a severe one – may the makers and promoters of it be justified in the integrity of their motives, and the purity of their own lives! By that law I am stampled a felon, but my heart disclaims the imputation.

“My comfortable hut, and industrious course of life, best refute the charge of being an adventurer for plunder; but if to have loved my country – to have known its wrongs – to have felt the injuries of the persecuted Catholics, and to have united with them and all other religious persuasions in the most orderly and least sanguinary means of procuring redress – if those be felonies, I am a felon, but not otherwise.

“To the generous protection of my country I leave a beloved wife who has been constant and true to me, and whose grief for my fate has already nearly occasioned her death. I have five living children, who have been my delight. May they love their country as I have done, and die for it if needful.”

The researching of William Orr’s life and times led to in-depth reading and acquisition of works about the 1798 Revolution, thence back to The Plantation of Ireland circa 1610. I was fortunate to find a specialist bookseller John Gamble, of Emerald Isle Books, Belfast, who kindly copied a manuscript family tree of William Orr that he came across and he found for me a copy of Ulster Pedigrees. Descendants, in Many Lines, of James Orr and Janet McClement who emigrated from Scotland to Northern Ireland circa 1607. This latter work by Ray A. Jones builds on an earlier genealogy by Gavin Orr of Castlerheigh (1756-1830) that is in the Linen Hall Library, Belfast.

This wealth of information did not, however, take me...
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 1999 Annual General Meeting of the Guild will be held at The King Charles Hotel, Brompton Road, Gillingham, Kent at 10.30 am on Saturday 17th April 1999.

The Agenda will be as follows:-

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 4th April 1998
3. Matters Arising
4. Announcement of the result of the Committee election to take effect from the end of this AGM
5. The Committee’s report on the Activities of the Guild
7. Election of a President (if any)
8. Election of a maximum of four Vice Presidents (if any)
9. Any Other Business

James Isard
Secretary

GUILD OF ONE NAME STUDIES
Minutes of the AGM held at the
Lime Trees Hotel Northampton
on Saturday 4th April 1998 at 10.30am

Present The President, some 58 members of the Guild, and 4 guest
IN THE CHAIR Derek Palkgrave (President of the Guild)

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Wendy Archer, Ron Duckett, John Hebdon, Dominic Johnson, Jenny Towey & Peter Towey

2) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 15th April 1997 were agreed subject to the following alterations
Page 1 item 86 Line 6 to read “Committee to consider organising a ballot”

3) MATTERS ARISING
Item 88 :- An opt-out system has now been introduced, and 20 members have opted out

4) RESULT OF GUILD ELECTION 1998
The secretary reported that there had only been 14 nomination received by the closing date, and that these 14 members were declared elected unopposed.

David Abbott  Ernest Hamley  James Isard
Dominic Johnson  Sue Lawn  Roger Lovegrove
Mary Rumsby  Geoff Riggs  Mary Rix
Roy Stockwell  Alex Tritton  Graham Tuley
Alan Tupman  John Witheridge

The chairman then introduced them to the meeting.
5) THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GUILD

Everyone attending the meeting had been issued with a copy of the report. The Guild's Chairman Roger Lovegrove gave a full account of each item on the report. Questions were asked about the 21st Anniversary Committee, Roger said that this had been closed, as it has not been successful. But hoped that it would be possible to continue to make arrangements to organise the Guild's 21st birthday. There was some disappointment that the Guild would not be attending the Society of Genealogist Family History Fair. This had a good airing and it was put that volunteers from the Guild could help man this table in future. It was agreed that a vote of thanks be given to Roger Lovegrove for his report.

6) GUILD ACCOUNTS AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR

The treasurer David Abbott presented the Guild's accounts for the year. The Guild had continued in deficit, with a similar amount as in the previous year. But this had now been corrected by the increase in subscriptions, which was expected to lead to a surplus in the next year.

He also presented the Independent Examiner's report on behalf of the Guild's Assessor Frank Scott.

It was agreed that a vote of thanks be given for his report.

7) ELECTION OF HONORARY APPOINTEES FOR THE YEAR

PATRON - There was no proposal.

Roger Lovegrove now took the Chair.

PRESIDENT - Derek Palgrave was proposed by Alec Tritton and seconded by David Cutley. Carried

VICE-PRESIDENT - The following were proposed

John Hebdon proposed by Alec Tritton seconded by Ray Hulley
Peter Goodall proposed by John Witheridge seconded by Ernest Hamley
Peter Towey proposed by Eric Barnwell seconded by Peter Goodall

That these three be elected as Vice-Presidents

Proposed Roger Lovegrove Seconded Michael Bunting carried by 54 votes to 2

The Chairman now took the Chair.

8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Polly Lawrence asked that a report from the Regional Representative Co-ordinator be given to the meeting. The Chairman then invited Graham Tuley to present his report. Polly Lawrence then went on to give the meeting an account of what she had done as a Regional Representative. She also asked that RR should be advised when new members enrol or resign for whatever reason, or changes of address occur, in their area, so that they can make contact quickly. She also went on to ask the committee that the budgets for RR be reviewed. Finally she thought it might be a good idea for the Co-ordinator to call a meeting of all RR that attended the AGM and this could be held sometime over the weekend. The chairman said these items would be taken on board by the committee.

The following committee members were retiring from the committee at this time, George Lashbrook, Keith Plant and Mike Spatisfy. Roger Lovegrove thanked them for all they had done with regards their work while on the committee.

Graham Tuley then proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his chairmanship of the meeting. This was carried by acclaim.

The meeting closed at 12.02 p.m.
Notice of 1999 Guild Election

Closing Date for Nominations: Wednesday 17th February 1999

Nominations are invited from all members of the Guild for election to the Guild Committee. The Committee has agreed measures in advance to protect the fairness and integrity of the election procedure. The procedures described here are in accordance with those measures.

The 1999 Annual General Meeting of the Guild of One-Name Studies will take place on Saturday 17th April 1999 at The King Charles Hotel, Brompton Road, Gillingham, Kent at 10.30 am. The closing date for nominations is therefore Wednesday 17th February 1999.

For the convenience of members, a nomination form is printed below.
Each person nominated for election is entitled to have circulated with the ballot papers one election statement of not more than 200 words of his or her own choosing. If more than 200 words are submitted the first 200 words will be circulated.

It is recommended that each person nominated sends their election statement in a sealed envelope with the words Election Statement and their name on the outside.

Nominations and election statements (not necessarily together) should be posted to the following address to be received not later than Wednesday 17th February 1999:

Mr. James Isard, Guild Secretary
74 Thornton Place, Horley, Surrey, RH6 8RN, UNITED KINGDOM

The sealed envelopes will be opened after the Closing Date by the Secretary in the presence of another Officer.

The relevant clauses of the Constitution are:

6.4 For a nomination for the Guild elections to be valid, it shall be received in writing by the Secretary no later than two calendar months before the date of the AGM, and shall contain the names, signatures and membership numbers of the Guild member being nominated and of two other Guild members as proposer and seconder.

6.5 Each validly nominated candidate shall be entitled to have circulated with the ballot papers one election statement of not more than 200 words of his or her own choosing, provided that such statement shall be received by the Secretary no later than the closing date for nominations. The Secretary shall add to each such statement the name and membership number of the candidate and of his or her proposer and seconder. Statements over 200 words shall be truncated to the first 200 words.

GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

Nomination Paper for Election to the Guild Committee - 1999

Name of nominated Person ____________________________ Guild Mem No. __________

Signature of Person being nominated ____________________________ Date __________

Proposer: Name ___________________ Signature ____________ Mem No. __________

Seconder: Name ___________________ Signature ____________ Mem No. __________
forward in the research of my paternal line but opened another area of interest – the Orr origins in Scotland. From reading about the The Plantation and the history of the Montgomery and Hamilton families who settled the larger parts of Co. Antrim and Co. Down from circa 1606, there was a lead directly to the West coast and Renfrewshire. In particular, there have been Orrs around the Parish of Lochwinnoch for some 700 years. The earliest found is one Hew Orr who gave an oath of allegiance to Edward I in 1296 (the Ragmans Rolls). There is a record of four persons named Orr being called before the Abbott of Paisley in 1503. There is evidence, too, of the Orr family being supporters of Clan Campbell. John Or was a follower of Campbell of Cawdor in 1578. Orr is an acknowledged sept of Clan Campbell and appears in a list of associated names at Inveraray Castle, the home of the Duke of Argyll and MacCallely Mor.

Yet another knock-on for me was the extent of the emigration from both Ireland and Scotland to the Colonies. We tend to think of North America, both Canada and the United States, as the main destination. But there were other adventurers who went to the West Indies and South America – Argentina, Chile and literally up the Amazon. Then, of course, the deportation of prisoners to the Colonies, and especially to Australia, which is said to have led to the nickname “Pomme” from POMMIE Prisoner of His Majesty in Exile.

Many of these emigrants and adventurers were not only fleeing poverty, religious and social persecution but were enticed by the thought of a better life and free or exceedingly cheap land. To many, anything was better than the environment from which they came; they were incredibly resolute and also remarkably mobile for their time. They went to Canada and the wilds of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia; to the floodplains of Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia; to New York and Pennsylvania and the Ohio valley. Some were in the Mormon trek to Utah. In all these places they made their mark by fighting off the native Indians, clearing land and establishing townships, some bearing the Orr name. Orrville, Wayne Co., Ohio, is such a place named after an early pioneer, Judge Smith Orr, son of Samuel Orr who went to America in 1810. Living a hard, frugal life, the family managed to buy small plots of land and gradually accumulated some 300 acres. Some of this land was used to found the township that bears the family name.

The Orrs also made their contribution to the emerging United States. They were undoubtedly involved in the slave trade and were slave owners. Indeed, this is clearly evidenced in several hundred black American families in the Southern USA bearing the surname, Orr. A Hugh Orr (1717–1788) from Lochwinnoch was a manufacturer of edge tools – ploughshares – and invented agricultural machinery. He was also a gun maker who supplied the Revolutionary Army, and later a Senator who represented Plymouth, Massachusetts. His son, Col. Robert Orr, was the armourer of the arsenal at Springfield. Alexander Ector Orr from Strabane, Co. Tyrone, was a pioneer of the subways in New York City. James Laurence Orr (1822–1873) was governor of South Carolina and Speaker of the House of Representatives. A later Orr, Andrew, was also Speaker.

Fate or good fortune?

In my rambles through history I had accumulated a substantial amount of individual Orr data which was not of direct relevance to my line and I wondered what to do with it. I knew that it represented some 20 years of dabbling and would probably be of interest to other Orr researchers. How, then, could I continue my wider interests (as they had become) and build on what information I had? Fate, or maybe it was good fortune, directed me to the GOONS. I felt some trepidation in joining the “professionals” but my aims and objectives were consistent with the Society’s, and so I joined.

When I look around at the extent of some One-Name Studies with perhaps only a couple of hundred individuals and their researcher burrowing away in a narrow geographical area, I sometimes feel a fraud. My catchment area is the world and the Orr population far greater than I anticipated – 90,000 in the USA (1990 Census statistics); 9,730 in the UK (1997 Electoral Rolls) and several thousands more in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. I have now passed 50,000 entries in my “stray” Orr databases. Some may regard a study of this kind as “stamp collecting” in another guise. Perhaps it is, but I’m not proud! I will gladly accept Orr information from anyone anywhere, any time. Who knows, a future Orr researcher just might be glad of my efforts.

On the up side, I have acquired a number of Orr family trees from Scotland, Ireland, Iowa, Ohio, Alabama, Australia and New Zealand and made contact with very many “cousins” around the world. I enjoy it and wish I had started sooner.

So if there is a message in my tale, it is for those who hit the brick wall – don’t give up. Look around you. There are other ways of pursuing your genealogical interests, so why not a one-name study?

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To publish or not – my Choice/Choyce choice
By Betty Choyce Sheehan

SINCE 1977, my husband, Joe, and I have been collecting, compiling and indexing every Choice or Choyce reference we came across. We have made several trips to England and have laboured at St Catherine's House; researched at Somerset House; delved through the records at the PRO and several county record offices and checked at numerous libraries.

We also made a research-intensive visit to Salt Lake City, Utah, devouying the records at the Mormon Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We would arrive at the library at opening time, eat lunch in the library cafeteria and search until closing. That was our regime for a full 10 days.

As our research data was gathered, Joe concentrated on making indexes for our own use for “hatches, matches and dispatches”, as well as a Spousal Index. Joe also constructed a unique cross-reference system of Choice and Choyce families, which allows the user to access a married Choice or Choyce, man or woman, by either the exact date or the approximate date of their marriage. The resultant references will list their spouse, all their children and their married children’s spouses.

In 1978, I had an article published in our local newspaper about my project. I mailed a copy, with a covering letter, to each Choice and Choyce whose address we had gleaned from telephone directories across England, parts of the US, South Africa, New Zealand and Canada. In Australia, I obtained addresses from electoral rolls. The response was most heartwarming, with a 90% plus return to my inquiries.

I received a death certificate for May (Small) Choice, born in Pleck, Staffordshire, but died in Australia. She and her husband, Charles Choice, were married at West Bromwich. This document was sent to me by their descendant, Christine Clark Sweetnam, of Bathurst, New South Wales. Also, I received a photograph of Samuel Choice, born 1828 in Hinckley, Leicestershire, son of Elizabeth (Smith) and George Choice/Choyce (he used both spellings). Samuel married Elizabeth Tunaley on 13 April 1869 at Litchurch, Derbyshire. He initially served in the Royal Artillery and was later the Recruiting Sergeant for the City of Leicester for many years.

While Joe was busy with his projects, I was constructing family charts for individual families. I also kept up the national and international correspondence, a daunting task. One year I spent over $1,000 just on postage. That was when Joe was working and we could afford such extravagances. Now that he is retired, we are trying to make ends meet on a fixed income.

As the fruits of our research ripened, I felt that I should gear my worldwide one-name study towards publication of the results in a book. I wanted all Choice and Choyce families to realise that they are probably all related, if they are able to trace their lineage back far enough. With few exceptions, each family has its fledgling roots in Derbyshire, Staffordshire or Warwickshire, but the preponderance has been in Leicestershire.

This publication goal was set before the Guild of One-Name Studies was established. I joined the Leicestershire Family History Society, submitted a series of queries and was most surprised and pleased by the response from fellow Society members, most without a Choice or Choyce to their name. They merely wanted to help a fellow genealogist. That’s a trait I have found among most genealogists over the years.

Let’s flash ahead to the present, 20 years later. My book has been completed. Note, I did not say “finished”, as one never finishes genealogies. I call my book “The Choice/Choyce Compendium”. Joe suggested I publish it under my maiden name of Betty Choyce, as compiler and author, because future genealogists would not know enough to look in an index under the name Sheehan.

The book has over 1,000 pages covering Choices and Choyces in seven countries and hundreds of individual families. It has 370 photographs and primary documents, most of them sent to me by family members. Also, it contains quotations from letters written by older family members who are no longer with us. There are 24 chapters of geographically individual families whom I could not relate to Choice and/or Choyce families in other geographical areas and spread over three continents. The names of collateral lines extend well beyond 500 surnames and there are thumbnail sketches for many of these families for whom I have additional information.

A book of this size, with a large number of graphics, incurs astronomical printing charges. The lowest estimate I have received, for printing and binding only, has been $350,000. This does not include the additional charges to scan the photographs and documents, which would cost another thousand or two. It would appear that the results of my 20 years of effort may never see the light of print. Has my bluebird of happiness become an albatross around my neck? But I am optimistic by nature and this article is being written in late October and will not be printed until the January 1999 issue. Who knows whether or not this bird will fly?

Return to this nest again in February or March, and if I have not fallen off my perch by then (I’ll be 73 in December), I’ll grasp my quill and pen a sequel to this saga.

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The Journal of One-Name Studies, January 1999
Poem on the death of a Bristol sailor
By Brenda Dimond

WILLIAM Saunders, a Bristol sailor, wrote his will on January 23, 1597/8 and this was proved on April 1 of that year. Below is an extract from the will from Tudor Wills Proved in Bristol, published by the Bristol Record Society, Vol. XLIV.

William left his soul into the hands of God "of whom I do not doubt, but that he of his manifold and great mercies, will forgive me my sins, And make my soul to be perpetual Inheritour, with him of the everlasting joyes yn heavin."

He ordered his body to be buried in St. Stephen's Churchyard "As nse my Childerine as maybee."

House for life

To his wife he left his house for life and after her death to John Saunders, son of his brother, John Saunders. He also ordered his brother or "the Heier of the houce afier the death of my wyfe", to pay 4 marks to churchwardens of St. Stephen's towards repair of the church, his house to remain to the heirs and name of Saunders for ever.

William also left to Thomas Tyzon, the parson, 2s. 6d, and the residue of his estate to his wife, sole executrix to receive and pay all debts, "And to see mye honestlie buried."

The witnesses to the will were Lewis Runway, Peter Follen and Philip Evan.

Brenda Dimond, Guild member No. 2935, wrote a poem based on William’s will entitled The Death of a Bristol Sailor” which has been published previously but is being published in the journal for the first time.

The Death of a Bristol Sailor

Weep not, dear wife, but let me sleep for winter chills my bones so deep that death is but a welcomed ending yet thy tears my soul are rending.

Widow’s poverty do not dread:
I leave some wealth, a small homestead is thine until the day you die and nephew John will lend an eye to see its worth does not decline. Neither need loneliness be thine for Parson Tyzon, keep in mind, has many reasons to be kind.

So aid me in my heavenly quest and lay me honestly to rest near our dear, departed children in the churchyard of St. Stephen. Close by the stinking, salty sea, where, if my bones should restless be, to see the galleons, hard-pressed, tack up the river to be blown back will ease my endless wanderlust make me content beneath the dust, And doubt not that the Lord Almighty in his great and tender mercy will my selfish sins forgive and take this humble soul to live with him in the joys of heaven.

So let the knell thy sorrow leaven and pray, dear wife, we meet again joined in peace in God’s domain.

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Reports...news...forthcoming events

A guide to what's new and what's happening in the Guild world...

Should one-name societies become Guild members?
By Roger Lovegrove, Chairman

Under the provisions of our Constitution, only individual people, not societies, may belong to the Guild, although we do have a category of registration, Category A, for representatives of fully constituted one-name societies.

The Committee is currently looking at the possibility of allowing societies themselves to become members. If we were to decide that this was worthwhile, practicable and possible, then we would place the appropriate constitutional changes before the membership for a postal ballot.

A preliminary investigation of the constitutional position has made it clear that any changes to the Constitution would, for technical reasons associated with the payment of subscriptions, need to be timed to take effect from the end of a Financial Year, i.e. midnight (UK time) on October 31st, with the ballot papers being circulated with the previous July’s mailing. If the Committee does decide to place recommendations before you, then this could take place either this year or next.

This gives time for the Committee to seek members’ opinions and views on the subject, and it is the purpose of this article to start that consultation process going.

Please submit your comments to our Vice-Chairman, Alec Tritton. You might also/alternatively want to write a letter on the subject for the journal. Letters should be sent to our Editor, Mary Rumsey. All comments sent to Mary in this way will be passed on to Alec, regardless of whether or not they are published. But please note that if the Committee does decide to place constitutional changes before you this year, the timescale will be too short to enable a full exchange of views to take place through the pages of the Journal.

Reasons for possible change

Why are we looking at a change? There are three main reasons:

The first reason for any change would be the correction of what many see as a wrong: that a society which has a Category A representative has no control over who that representative should be, since membership of the Guild is attached to the individual not to the Society.

It has actually happened that a Society wanted to change its representative – that is, the Category A member who was the representative of that Society – but the member concerned did not want to give up his registration and refused to do so. Since it was he, not the society, who was the registered member, the Guild was powerless to do anything about this, and in particular could not give recognition to the person whom the society actually wanted.

The second reason is that it seems peculiar, to say the least, that we should encourage members to form one-name societies, and then not have a recognised place for those societies within the Guild.

The third reason is that it is natural for one-name societies to want to promote themselves by saying something such as “Registered with the Guild of One-Name Studies”, and, in fact, several of them do this. But, strictly speaking, this is factually incorrect. The societies are not registered with us: the Category A members are, but the societies themselves are not.

Preliminary discussions indicate that opinions on the subject are genuinely divided, with some members being strongly in favour and some strongly against.

Technical problems

What are the problems? There are technical problems. There are too many of these to list here, and they are in any case usually more amenable to solution by technically-minded people rather than by debate. Anyone who is interested in following up on these aspects is encouraged to read the Guild’s Constitution, which all members should have. It was published in the centrefold of the January 1998 Journal and is also sent to all new members. If you are interested in doing this, look for all uses of words such as “individual”, “person”, “member”, etc. and also for all actions (such as signing something or voting) which can be carried out only by actual people: doing this will highlight where the Constitution would probably need to be altered and, therefore, areas where there might be technical difficulties.

There are also conceptual problems. The two main areas where opinions appear to differ are as follows.

If we were to introduce membership for societies, then we would in effect be doing away with the current Category A memberships. This means that each current Category A member would lose his/her registration, for that would be taken over by the society. Of course, in practice a current Category A member would usually
continue as the representative of the society, but that would be in the gift of the society concerned – which could at any time (in accordance with its own Constitution) change its representative to someone else. This potential loss of control is a worry to some people.

Should a representative of a society be allowed to stand for election to the Guild’s Committee? If so, then what would happen if the society changed its mind about who its representative should be? There would be no problem, here, if that representative had also taken out a personal membership in his/her own name. But if that had not been done then we would cease to recognise that person: that, after all, would be the main point of the exercise. Would he/she, therefore, cease to be a Committee member? It sounds easy to answer: yes, he/she would automatically cease being on the Committee.

But what if that person happened to be our Treasurer? If we were to answer “No, he would not automatically cease being on the Committee”, then the representative could remain on the Committee, presumably until the next Guild election when everyone automatically retires. But we could still be then faced with the loss of a crucial member of the Committee because that person could not stand for re-election or co-option. On the other hand, if we sought to avoid the problem by not allowing representatives to stand for election, or to take office, then we would be barring a very important section of the membership – and this might not seem proper on democratic grounds. This is an area where people can, and do, have differing opinions.

I do not want to take up any more of your time, since there is already enough from me in this edition. I believe that I have covered all of the main points. Please let Alec or Mary, as appropriate, have your comments as soon as possible. Thank you.

My plans to improve Guild’s Internet presence

By Karen Naylor, Web Site Manager

If ten years ago you had said to me that I would be running the web site for a major genealogical society in 10 years’ time, I would have laughed: “What?”!

It was only eight years ago that I was bitten by the genealogical bug, five years ago that the computer bug got me and two years ago that the wonderful world of the Internet got her teeth into me.

Eight years ago I was twenty-something (it’s not polite to ask a lady her age, but I’m sure if you look long enough at the FRC Indexes for my maiden name, Vidler, you will find me) and had just had my first child.

Genealogy bug

She was eight weeks early and gave us a very worrying time for the first few weeks of her life. On the day she came home from the hospital I stood and watched her four grandparents cooing over her and realised that I had only ever known one grandparent. That is when the genealogical bug bit me.

Three years and a lot of work later, it was the turn of the computer bug. My husband is a computer whizkid. He built his own first computer from a kit, aged 15. From then on computers were his life and still are. You have heard of golf widows, well I am a computer widow. So computers have been around our house for years, but I never really paid them much attention, except to dust them.

Hooked

Then one night my husband was connected to a BBS (a Bulletin Board System) and said to me that the board had a genealogical area and that was it – I was hooked! The computer then became a tool that I never wanted to be apart from. From letter writing to record storage, I found that a computer was invaluable to me.

Then two years ago my husband went and got us an Internet connection. Once again the bug bit me. Two years on and I host my own set of pages called Gen Link UK, a site full of genealogical links, I run my own one-name study pages for the surname SLEE and I have just taken over as Web Site Manager for the Guild.

I feel that the Internet is going to be around in one form or another for a very long time and we should make the most of it. The Guild site was a good site when I took over and Mike Spathaky should be congratulated for the time and effort he put into getting it up and running. I felt that the site was good but could be improved in some areas. So the layout was changed and some new features were added.

In the coming months I hope to have the Journal online in four or five formats for members to download, a set of printable leaflets for the beginner to one-name studies and an area for the Regional Representatives.

Members’ pages

As for the future some ideas that I will be looking into are: the Guild site hosting members’ own pages, a quicker and easier way of searching the online register, being able to subscribe or re-subscribe with credit cards and a better publications area.

But the most important thing to me is you, the members who use the site. What do you think? Do you agree with the changes that have been made or do you have any suggestions? Please let me know.
Eric Banwell, Member 981
1927–1998

It will come as a great surprise and sadness to his many friends and acquaintances in the Guild to learn that the Somerset County representative, Eric Banwell, passed away in hospital on September 30, 1998. He had been admitted a short time earlier for observations and it was a shock to all to learn of the severity of his illness, about which neither he nor all around him had any apparent, previous inkling.

Though in the last days in much discomfort, he contrived to put his affairs in order, including issuing various instructions on how to proceed with several outstanding family history — including GOONS — projects, and dictating his letter of resignation as newly re-elected Chairman of the Somerset & Dorset Family History Society to its President.

Eric was born in 1927 of several generations of farming stock at Wedmore, Somerset — not far from the village of Banwell, from whence came his surname. He left Somerset in 1944 to graduate in mechanical engineering and led a nomadic life in a broad spectrum of chemical engineering, retiring in 1981 as Divisional Engineering Manager of ICI Paints but continuing to do a little part-time consultancy work.

With his London-born wife, Rosemary, he moved back to Wells in Somerset from the Derbyshire Peak District in 1986. His career had monopolised much of his time and energy, and it was only from the late 1970s that he began to take a serious interest in researching and studying his own surname and his general family history.

Dynamic chairman

He was a member of many of the local family history societies: the Weston-super-Mare FHS; the Burnham-on-Sea FHS and, in particular, the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society, whose Mid Somerset Group he chaired for several years, as well as being a member of the main S&DFHS Executive and, since 1995, its dynamic chairman. He was a member of the Society of Genealogists and, of course, an active member of the Guild of One-Name Studies.

He contrived to attend, over the years, both Guild seminars throughout the UK as well as its Annual General Meetings and others. He regularly contributed to our Journal, either with letters to the Editor, or with learned, but lucid, articles on many aspects of one-name researches.

Through his family history interests he had a wide range of friends and contacts throughout the world. Though he, himself, sought no "high office" in the GOONS, he was instrumental in persuading others to take up office — often over a convivial glass or two of wine at Guild events, once official matters were over.

At the time of his death, Eric was much involved in planning and arranging the Somerset Regional Seminar to be held near Taunton, Somerset, on Saturday, May 15, 1999. Work on this goes ahead and the day will be dedicated to his memory.

The editor of the S&DFHS magazine, "Greenwood Tree", describes Eric as a very positive and decisive leader of that Society. "He knew genealogy, its skills, its people and its politics very well and was much respected nationally. Our Society was very fortunate to have his expertise and we will miss him."

These sentiments can be equally applied to Eric's associations with the Guild of One-Name Studies.

Ken Dilkes
Member No. 2318

Record Office details

Lancashire Record Office

THE Lancashire Record Office would like Guild members to know that the Office will be closed on the following dates: December 7–11, 1998; January 4–8, 1999; February 1–5, 1999; and March 1–5, 1999.

The normal times of opening are: Monday 9am–5pm, Tuesday 9am–8.30pm, Wednesday 9am–5pm, Thursday 9am–5pm, Friday 9am–4pm. The Record Office is closed for the first full week of every month, The Bank Holiday closings are: the Tuesdays after Easter and the Spring Bank Holiday and for an extra day at Christmas.

The Lancashire Record Office is located at Bow Lane, Preston PR1 2RE. If members have any enquiries, please phone the Record Office on 01772 263039.

Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office

THE Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Archivist has written, upon receiving the Guild's poster, that there are two leaflets available which might be of interest to members. One is "Northumberland Archives — Genealogical Publications for Sale", and the other is "Family History Resources in the Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office". These both look useful, especially the former, as there are many parish registers available on microfiche, including Presbyterian ones of the area. The leaflets can be obtained from the Record Office by sending an A5 SAE.

The address is: Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office, Council Offices, Wallace Green, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1ED. Telephone: 01289 330044 Ext. 230. Fax: 01289 330540. E-mail: Archives@berwickc.demon.co.uk.
A CORRECTION

IN the item about the Stead/Steed Reunion at Canterbury on page 187 of the October Journal, an unfortunate error occurred. The cost for the day, including tea/coffee and buffet lunch, is, in fact, £20.00, not £2.00 per head, as stated. Our apologies! 0

Roger Lovegrove
Chairman

FORTHCOMING GUILD EVENTS

Musket, Fife and Drum is the theme for 1999 Conference

THE Guild’s 1999 Annual General Meeting and Conference will have a major military and seagoing theme. And, appropriately, it will be held in the Medway region of Kent which is steeped in the military and naval history of Britain. The three-day conference will have expert speakers on the collective theme of “Musket, Fife and Drum.”

- The important date is the weekend of Friday, April 16, to Sunday, April 18.
- The venue is the King Charles Hotel, Gillingham, a Three-Crown English Tourist Board hotel with 85 bedrooms, all ensuite, restaurant and nightclub.

Gillingham is the largest town on the River Medway and with its near neighbour, Chatham, is a major centre for naval and military establishments, like the famous naval depot and dockyards and the Royal Engineers barracks.

Finishing touches were being put to the programme as the Journal went to press, but you will find with this mailing a separate leaflet giving complete details of hotel accommodation and tariffs.

For those booking for the whole weekend, the conference will begin on the Friday afternoon with a tour of local military history sites, led by John Witheridge. Those taking this tour will be following in the footsteps of the men who returned victorious from the Battle of Waterloo.

On Saturday lunchtime there will be a demonstration of Custodion, the genealogy software for one-name studies, by Phil Smith.

Two days of lectures on Saturday and Sunday will include lain Swinnerton on “Gone For A Soldier” and lain Kerr on “In Kilt and Trews.” It is hoped to have further talks on World War I soldiers’ records and the Coastguard Service.

Two hours have been set aside on Saturday morning for the ACM.

All in all, it looks set to be one of the most exciting and enjoyable conferences the Guild has ever had.

Two Regional Seminars

Surrey – Saturday, February 6
Venue: the Salvation Army Church Hall, Walton Road Woking.
Time: 10.00 a.m.
Programme – The new Data Protection Act, Martin Gegg; One-Name gatherings, Colin Ulph; Using computers for one-name studies, Jeanne Bunting; General Questions Session, led by Alec Tritton.

You will find a booking form for this seminar in with this mailing of the Journal. Hope to see many of you there!

Somerset – Saturday, May 15
Venue: West Monkton Village Hall, West Monkton, near Taunton.
Time: 10.00 a.m.
Programme – to be finalised but will include: Surname distribution on file and computer, Geoff Riggs; Local resources and archives. * This seminar will be dedicated to the late Eric Banwell.

Future Seminars

Liverpool – October, 1999, venue to be arranged.
Wales – October, 2000, Tintern.

The Journal of One-Name Studies, January 1999
Guild procedure aims to encourage feedback between Committee and members

THE Guild is continually striving to improve its services to members. As part of this process, the Committee feel that it would be helpful to members if there were a standard procedure for developing feedback between members and the Committee. That feedback might, for example, consist of suggestions about new ideas, or might be complaints or enquiries.

The advantages of doing this are:
- Such correspondence would be traceable through the system, so that progress could be monitored and shortcomings identified.
- Confusion, due to such items being sent to the wrong person, would be minimised.
- Handling time would be improved.

The Procedure

In order to keep things as simple as possible, a two-step procedure is recommended:

(a) Any suggestion, complaint or query should be sent in the first instance to the person directly responsible.

(b) If no satisfactory response is received, then the Chairman should be approached with details of the suggestion, etc. and, wherever possible, of previous correspondence.

The names, postal addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of all Officers are printed in each edition of the Journal, as are the names of the other major post-holders (their addresses can then be obtained from the Register.)

If someone has an “official” Guild e-mail address, then please use that in preference to a personal e-mail address. This will ensure that the e-mail is directed to the correct person, even if the postholder has changed since the Journal went to press. This is especially important during the period April/July when new post-holders would have been elected after the April AGM but there would have been no opportunity to inform the membership.

We hope that common sense will usually indicate which person to contact under (a), but if there is any doubt then the Secretary will be available for advice.

Quality Objectives

We aim:-
- To acknowledge all suggestions and complaints within 7 days of receipt.
- To give a fuller response, if necessary, within 28 days.
- To give reasons for our answers.

However, we do ask members to be tolerant. The Guild does not have a central secretariat, so all mail is dealt with by the volunteers concerned in their own homes. Delays and errors will inevitably be caused by personal circumstances, such as holidays, moving house, illness, etc.

Also, we will sometimes not be able to give full replies if doing so could involve revealing confidential personal circumstances of a volunteer.

Roger Lovegrove
Chairman

Lanarkshire hosts Scottish FHS Conference

THE Scottish Association of Family History Societies 10th Annual Conference will be hosted by the Lanarkshire Family History Society. It will take place on Saturday, April 24, 1999, in Hamilton Town Hall, Lower Auchingramont Road, Hamilton. The theme of the Conference will be: Lanarkshire — its Life and Labours. Further information and reservations may be obtained from: Mrs Golda Morrison, Ailt-Na-Strubbain, 10 Loudon Road, Valleyfield, East Kilbride, G75 0QT.
Ethical Principles in Family Research

FAMILY historians carry out academic research and, as part of the academic community, should conform to accepted guidelines. Or are they engaging in their activities in order to satisfy a need for voyeurism? Most academic and professional organisations support published Codes of Practice and in many cases will debar individuals who contravene such guidelines. Codes of Practice are concerned not with the needs of the researcher but with respect for individuals who may be affected by the research.

There are statutes which are relevant to the conduct of research with human participants. Legal aspects relate to the right of privacy, data protection, harassment, grievous and actual bodily harm — recent court cases have set a precedent to include mental harm resulting from disclosure of information which the individual had a right to expect to remain private — and libel.

To what extent might family history research adhere to or contravene accepted codes of conduct and legal frameworks? Family historians sometimes uncover relationships of which others may not have been aware. I have found illegitimacies and infra-familial "adoptions" which living descendants are not prepared to acknowledge. Should information about family relationships be published without the consent of living persons who might be upset or embarrassed by the information? Do living persons have a right to privacy about their origins, their parentage and themselves?

One finds in family history publications and increasingly on the Internet dates of birth, marriages, etc. of living persons. Has the information been publicised throughout the world with the informed consent of the persons concerned? Does such publication respect the right to privacy of the individuals? Additionally, there is no guarantee that the information is correct. Especially on the Internet, there is erroneous information based on illogical suppositions. Such information if it relates to living persons could constitute libellous publication.

The concept of confidentiality requires that any reporting of data should not enable the reader to identify living individuals. This principle is frequently contravened in family history publications. Even Ken Toll's idea of a 100-year restriction may not respect the privacy of living persons. Some do not wish illegitimacy within their ancestry to be advertised, no matter how distant.

Roy Stockdill seemed to be expressing the attitude: "If I don't mind, no-one else should." This shows a lack of insight and respect. He further comments: "The onus is on the informant ...". No, it is not! The onus is on the one who wishes to make it public. We obtain information from a wide variety of sources and that information may affect many more than just the informant. We must take cognisance of the wider implications of our investigations. Roy Stockdill justifies his view by his own example which he has published with his "sister's full consent." Why did he feel it necessary to obtain her consent? Could this indicate a degree of respect for his own family that he is not prepared to extend to others? I wonder how he would feel if someone discovered that his father had been a murderer or that he had been conceived through rape!

I have found within a family I am researching an individual who was suspected, although not proven, of murder within the last 100 years. I know that members of this family would be subjected to considerable distress should I publicise this information. Roy Stockdill presents a journalist's view but fails to acknowledge that rights to privacy may apply differently to "public" and private individuals. Authors, politicians, etc., by their chosen activity make themselves public and available to reportage by the media. The majority of individuals do not choose to make themselves "public".

The views expressed by John Titterton showed respect for others and consistency with various professional codes of conduct — "we should behave in a manner which positively seek to avoid causing distress".

The cases presented by the authors of the articles, and also by the editor, illustrate the variety of feelings that may be engendered in people by facts unearthed by family historians. However, many of these cases relate to those who are personally involved and interested in family history research. It must be remembered that many people in our families are not interested and we should ensure that their dignity is respected by the non-revelation of information which they may find upsetting and distressing.

Unless the Guild develops an acceptable Code of Practice consistent with those of other professional bodies and requires its members to adhere to such a code, the society will come to be regarded as a group of insensitive and uncaring intruders into private life.

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To Tell Or Not To Tell?

HAVING noted the articles in respect of secrecy and information, I feel I must show that there are cases where a failure to disclose can bring genealogical progress to a halt.

I am the sole child of a late birth. Both my parents were 40 at the time and had been born in 1888. Thus at the occurrence of the events to which I refer, namely the birth of my grandfather and his two brothers, we have only gone back to about 1860.

Now I am the sole carrier of the knowledge of the "skeleton" from that time. The surviving granddaughter of one of the brothers passed the knowledge on to me alone when I first started to study family and local history. She passed it on with the
words: "Someone has to know or no-one will ever know who they are." She is right. I was already at the point where I found my grandfather registered in his mother's maiden name, although her previous children had been registered in her married name. So what had happened?

Great-grandmother Ann married John in 1842. Two children were born before John died in 1849 of a brain tumour. Between then and 1860 Ann had three more sons, each registered in her maiden name. So who were the fathers? The usual sources, overseers accounts and so on, revealed nothing. Ann did not have a regular job, just part-time work. It looked like she was a lady of the streets and it was at this point that Molly owned up. The father was, in fact, John's own father and he was keeping Ann as well as his own wife, who outlived him. It was not until after his death that Ann remarried and had yet another child.

Incidentally, John's father also had at least two more illegitimate children prior to his marriage, living in the country area where he must have had the original "fast bike" or, rather, horse. He was born in 1786 and the bike had yet to be invented.

Without this knowledge, the study of the lines of direct descendants would have come to a halt. The grandfather had seven children and his brothers 13 between them. If I do not leave this information where it can be found, how will others be able to reach the 1554 date that I have managed, and with knowledge of the father of the family at that date, still able to make progress? I agree that in some cases discretion is necessary, but not a limitation by date.

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Exercise caution
I TEND to be very cautious when it comes to 20th century information, preferring to put distant cousins in touch with each other but being vague about their precise relationship and leaving it to them to exchange more detailed information. Even if someone says to me: "Pass on whatever you like," how can I be sure that their close relatives are equally happy about this? Information may be in the public domain but it's not always that easy to obtain and I don't believe that justifies publishing it irrespective of people's views, and maybe alienating some.

My approach tends to deal with issues such as recently deceased people and publishing "recent" genealogical material. If I wanted to use such material to illustrate a genealogical case study I could always change the names, yet still retain the essence of it. I don't think that research on living individuals should require a higher level of proof than those who are deceased. The same standard should be used and, if anything, it can sometimes be easier to research people today. I do believe that the living are entitled to greater consideration, including living relatives of recently deceased people. They are the people I want to help trace their ancestry, and they're also the ones who can help me piece together the Cavers jigsaw.

I realise I've made a distinction between the roles of a general genealogist (for example, people who contact me with Cavers forebears) and a one-name studier. However I think it's an important one. As a one-name studier I have to be even more cautious with privacy issues because many of the families I trace have no connection with me and I'm also unlikely to meet many of the people I correspond with. The chance of upset is that much greater, and, equally, I think the need for tact and diplomacy is greater too.

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Cut-off date of 1875?
I READ with interest the articles in the October Journal, particularly those by Roy Stockdill and John Titterton. I have no problem in following Roy Stockdill's message of Publish And Be Damned in respect of events which happened before, say, 1875, but I feel far more caution should be exercised regarding later information which may cause distress. While I agree with Mr Stockdill that there is too much secrecy in the world as a whole and too much suppression of information, I do not feel that we have an absolute right to publish information on relatively recent events which may cause distress to those that are still living.

To this end, I would rather err on the side of caution and consider, at the present time, 1875 as a cut-off date. I feel in sympathy with the views expressed by John Titterton that any enquirer should be assisted towards making the discovery for themselves concerning information which might cause distress.

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* Space prevents us from publishing all the letters we have received on this topic. There will be more in the April issue.
Access to Irish records

MARIE Booth’s letter in the July Journal may explain the blank I have drawn in my request to The Galway Family History Society for a list of FARGUS mentions in their database for Galway in the 18th century. They say that they want a specific family to look for and make a charge for this. They do not allow individuals to search for themselves and a telephone call explaining that I was researching the name did not produce any results, except the information that they had “50 or 60” names on the computer, but needed a specific family to look for. Frustration! Does this apply to other counties in Ireland?

Mrs. Sheila Weston, Member 2511
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From heraldry to ONS

IN regard to John Charnell’s letter in the October issue of the Journal, I am sure that you will be hearing from at least John Titterton and lain Swinnerton.

In my own case, rather than a one-namer going into heraldry it was my interest in heraldry that took me into my one-name study. Most fellow heraldists are also members of one or other of the various heraldic societies in the UK. Perhaps this is the route for Mr. Charnell?

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Guild misconceptions

ON Saturday August 1, 1998, I attended a very informative course at the Society of Genealogists entitled “Day Meeting on One-Name Studies”. There were about 60 people there, each of whom had a one-name study. However, of that number, only about half had registered with the Guild. The main reason seemed to be they were concerned they could not meet the Guild’s minimum requirements, especially in making the study worldwide.

I wonder whether it is time to consider another category of membership, namely a one-name study of a stated area, for example one country or one county. This would leave the way open for others with an interest in the name to register a study in another area or enable studies into more common surnames. My main concern were twofold. Firstly, a lot of valuable research is inaccessible as it is not centrally recorded and, secondly, would-be researchers are precluded from studying their preferred name if a study is already registered. I appreciate that it is always possible for those people to offer their services to the person who registered the name. I would be delighted to be knocked down in a rush of people wanting to research Farthing in a stated area! However, the letters column in the past has indicated that occasionally, the person who has registered a name is only interested in a particular geographical area.

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Premises for the Guild

MEMBERS sometimes ask what they should do with the results of their research, and no satisfactory answer has been given to this important question.

Now that the Society of Genealogists are looking for new premises again, could the Guild arrange to rent a room, or part of a room, from them, to be a “One-Name Studies” section and a place where we could deposit our work?

Chris Pagan, Member 102
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Daughters of Job

THE correspondent in the last issue of the journal referred to the name, Keziah, as being one of the daughters of Job. This recalled to mind two of my namesakes.

First, John and Mary Goult of Forncett St Peter, Norfolk, who had seven children, four sons and three daughters. The latter were named after Job’s daughters: Jemima born in 1710, Keziah born in 1715 and Karen-happuch born in 1722.

The second occasion occurred in the family of Robert and Jane Goult of Ranworth, also in Norfolk, who had nine children, three sons and six daughters. Three of the latter again were named after the daughters of Job: Jemima born in 1859, Keziah born in 1864 and Karen-happuch born in 1872.

The names of Job’s daughters suggest beauty both by their sound and their meaning. Jemima means “dove”, Kezia means “cassia”, a variety of cinnamon used as a perfume, and Karen-happuch means a small box used for eye make-up, incidentally neither of the Karen-happuchs used their full name, but were always known as Karen.

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Acknowledgements

IN my article “Desperately Seeking Susan” in the October 1998 Journal, I omitted some acknowledgements. I would like to thank the following for their invaluable assistance: Ronald Amsden, Forrest Anderson, David Childs, Joanne Goodchild, Steve Marshall and Sandra Stevens. In particular, I must express my appreciation to Polly Lawrence for her guidance and her mental and physical efforts in searching the FRC records for me.

Peter Amsden, Member 1053
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From a Slugg to a Grubb – ugh!

WITH a surname like Grubb, you can imagine the stick that I and other family members received throughout our school days and, indeed, in adult life, especially if one served in the forces!

Imagine the feelings, therefore, of Charlotte Holton from Warminster, Wiltshire, who first married a man named Slugg. By 1859 she was, unfortunately, a widow with three children living in Portsmouth. Having already married and survived one man with an entomological surname, Charlotte then met Stephen Grubb, a marine pensioner of Black Bourton, Oxfordshire, and married him at St Thomas’s Church, Portsmouth, on February 23 1859.

They went on to have children, but the 1861 census return shows that the children of Charlotte’s first marriage retained the name Slugg, which is hardly surprising when you think of the choice they had!

*Ken Grubb, Member No. 2970.*

No connection

FROM the Wiltshire Militia Orders 1759–1770: “FELTHAM John, Sgt of 4 Co (Swindon Co) CM 19 Dec 1759 – 100 lashes and drummed out of the Regiment, 20 December 1759 for being drunk, lying out of quarters and behaving indecently to several private men (at Marlborough).” [CM Ailesbury Papers].

I can state truly, that there has been no “proven” connection with that John Feltham and this John Feltham!

*John Feltham, Member No. 2796.*

An enumerator’s lot

This entry appears in the 1841 census for the Registration District of Waterloo Road, Borough of Lambeth:

“The houses in Jane Place are occupied principal (sic) by Prostitutes who denied to the Enumerator that any male had slept therein on Sunday night the sixth instanta. However upon careful enquirey among Neighbours, he (the said Enumerator) ascertained that not less than 12 or 14 males (whose ages ranged from 20 to 50 yrs) had abided in the said Jane Place on the night of the 6th inst.”

There were 43 persons enumerated in Jane Place, of whom 37 were female, for whom in 15 cases the occupation reads “Indt.”

Maybe it was not only the policeman’s lot that was not a happy one!

*Howard Marriage Knight Member no. 1750*

**Neighbours from Hell?**

THE following made me smile as I weaver? And what had the Pinfold what had the Pintold wondered what had brought about ladies done to upset these men? one to upset these men?

*Ken Grubb, Member No. 2970.*

**Now, THAT’s the way to be remembered!**

**SOME examples of bizarre tombstone humour sent to me by an American cousin...**

Playing with words in a Ruidoso, New Mexico, cemetery:  

*Here lies  
Johnny Yeast  
Pardon me  
For not rising.*

Memory of an accident in a Uniontown, Pennsylvania, cemetery:  

*Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake  
Stepped on the gas  
Instead of the brake.*

A Wild West inscription in Silver City, Nevada:  

*Here lays Butch  
We planted him raw  
He was quick on the trigger  
But slow on the draw.*

Lester Moore was a Wells Fargo agent in the 1880’s. He’s buried in the famous Boot Hill Cemetery in Tombstone, Arizona:  

*Here lies Lester Moore  
Four slugs from a .44  
No Les No More.*

Someone determined to be anonymous in Stowe, Vermont:  

*I was somebody,  
Who, is no business Of yours.*

On the grave of Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York:  

*Born 1903—Died 1942  
Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on the way down. It was.*

On Margaret Daniels’s grave in Richmond, Virginia:  

*She always said her feet were killing her but nobody believed her.*

And in a Georgia cemetery:  

*I told you I was sick!*

*Alan Tupman, Member No. 2013*
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Contributions to the Journal

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