

THE GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES
NEWSLETTER

Member of the Federation of Family History Societies

Chairman and

Acting Registrar:

Frederick N. Filby
15 Cavendish Gardens
Cranbrook, Ilford
Essex IG1 3EA

Hon. Treasurer:

Sydney Brewin
23 St Catherine's Rd.
Baying Island
Hants.

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs Pauline A. Saul
37 Seven Star Road
Solihull, W. Midlands
B91 2BZ

Editor:

Frank Higenbottam, BA, FLA
25 Glenside Avenue
Canterbury, Kent CT1 1DB

Assistant Editor:

David Rose
8 Clover Rise
Whitstable, Kent CT5 3HA

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is with a mixture of gratitude, anticipation and pleasure that I send you this message of welcome and goodwill in the New Year of a new decade in this, the first issue of the Guild's own Newsletter.

The gratitude is for the positive response of the two hundred from a total of three hundred "One-Namers", who were invited to become founder members of the Guild. Such active support reflects the enthusiasm that exists for our particular style of researching and recording family history and may it bring the reward it deserves.

The anticipation arises from the continuing flow of enquiries for and about membership of the Guild, which encourages hope for the ultimate objective of a family historian for each and every surname.

The pleasure has come, not only from finding that there are so many others with whom I share this fascinating hobby, but also from the discovery that there are so many different ways of pursuing this mutual interest in helping those whose common link is a particular surname.

Through the pages of this Newsletter it is hoped that from now on you too will discover the satisfaction of finding some things new and something shared. It is your Newsletter and I am sure our Editor will be pleased to have your suggestions, comments and contributions.

FREDERICK N. FILBY

LEICESTER WEEK-END CONFERENCE

The Guild is organising a week-end conference on one-name studies at the Grand Hotel, Leicester, on Saturday and Sunday, 23-24 February 1980. The Conference fee is £2.00, evening meal on Saturday £6.50, accommodation - single room (with bath) £14.50, double or twin room (with bath) £20.50, including service charge, VAT and continental breakfast, English breakfast £2.00 extra. Anyone interested in the subject of one-name studies is welcome to attend. Write to the conference organiser, John K. Marfleet, 4 Robotham Close, Huncote, Leicester LE9 6BB for fuller details (s.a.e. please). Cheques to be made payable to "Guild of One-Name Studies - Leicester Weekend".

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

The Editor invites articles and notes from members on a wide variety of subjects concerned with one-name studies. Your system of filing your notes and documents may be just the thing that those beginning their family history research will welcome. Notes on usual sources are also always welcome.

Just as the Federation of Family History Societies with its half-yearly conferences and publications, particularly the Family History News and Digest, has proved exceedingly helpful in inspiring members of regional societies, so the Guild of One-Name Studies hopes to encourage its members, be they individuals or full-blown societies, to a great realisation of the abundant possibilities open to all of us.

We are very pleased to announce that that doyen of amateur genealogists, the Rev. Canon S. Graham Brade-Birks (now in his 93rd year) has agreed to contribute a series of notes that will be of interest and help to our members. He was born at Burnage, Manchester on 2 November 1887 and has been interested in genealogy and family history for over seventy years - he ran his own one-name society before the first World War! The first of his articles appears in this issue. Suggestions from readers for future topics are welcome.

This Newsletter is going to be very much of a "do-it-yourself" journal and members of the Guild have a vital role to play in making it a success. So all those budding writers with a desire to see their name in print are invited to get busy and send along their contributions to the Editor.

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THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

It is proposed at our first Annual General Meeting to put forward an amendment to the Constitution connected with the annual subscription. Strangely enough, despite the present level of inflation, it is not the amount of the subscription that we wish to change, which is in any case not covered by the Constitution, but there is a need to change the date when it becomes due, firstly to bring it into line with the financial year, which is also the calendar year, and secondly, to avoid delay in the purchase and despatch of the 1980 Family History News and Digest, whilst awaiting the renewal of subscriptions. A deficit has not yet occurred but certainly will unless steps are taken to prevent it happening.

As explained elsewhere in this Newsletter, £2 of the initial £5 paid by members of the Guild is required to prepare and maintain the revised Register of One-Name Studies, a copy of which, when published, will be supplied free to everyone who has paid the registration fee of £2, and they will be kept updated with additions and amendments. For the annual subscription of £3 an undertaking was given to supply two issues of Family History News and Digest, then priced at 75p each but now increased to 90p. However the Guild receives a discount on its bulk purchase so that the total amount paid for two issues in 1979 was 110p of each member's subscription. The U.K. postage has added a further 51p (two at 13½p plus three at 8p) and the cost of envelopes, paper and printing for previous letters, the draft constitution and this Newsletter has amounted to 29p making a total of 190p.

Federation membership and other correspondence, including a subsidy for airmail postage to overseas members has brought the year's expenditure up by 20p to £2.10 per member, leaving a balance of 90p in hand.

However before the next subscription is due on 1st May under the present constitution, we shall have spent a further £1.00 approximately on the Spring issue of Family History News and Digest, a second Newsletter and increased postage. On this basis we hope that members will anticipate the proposed amendment by sending their 1980 subscription of £3.00 to our Honorary Treasurer as early as possible in the New Year, using the enclosed form on which you will find his name and address.

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RUNNING A FAMILY HISTORY BULLETIN ON A SHOESTRING - I

By Frank Higenbottam, BA, FLA, Editor of The Higginbottom Family Bulletin

The amateur family historian in the course of his researches, particularly if they have gone on for a number of years, will have collected a mass of material, such as pedigrees, extracts from parish registers, census returns, and photocopies of wills as well as mentions of the surname from a variety of sources, both printed and manuscript. Some day this may well form the basis for a published work on the history of the family down the ages. In the meantime it may be desired to communicate these discoveries, as they occur, to others who are interested and there is no better way of doing this than by issuing a bulletin devoted to the history of the family. As time passes the editor will gradually become recognised as an authority on the history of the family. Letters will soon begin to pour in from this country and from abroad, both from those seeking information and from others wishing to add to your collection.

Title and Pagination

Choosing a title for his bulletin is entirely a matter for the editor. He can be prosaic and simply call it The (Surname) Family History Bulletin (or Newsletter). Whatever the title finally decided upon, bring the surname first as this will ensure that it is not buried in the indexes of any printed bibliographies produced by librarians and others. Our American friends seem to like titles like Digging up the Davies, or Fishing up the Fishers, which are quite good fun but a straight forward title with the surname coming first is best. The heading will include the name and address of the editor, and the volume number, part number, month and year of issue, and also the frequency of the issue (e.g. quarterly). Thus:

The (Surname) Family History Bulletin

Vol. I, no. 1

Issued quarterly

June 198-

The pagination for each volume should run consecutively through all parts of that particular volume. Thus, if vol. I, no. 1 consists of six pages, it will be paginated 1-6, and vol. I, no. 2 will then run on from pages 7-12 and so on until a new volume is started, when the pagination starts all over again.

Contents of the Bulletin

It is not for the present writer to dictate to the editor as to what material he shall include in his bulletin, but some idea of what is likely to prove of interest may be obtained from the following list of articles that have appeared in one family history bulletin over the past few years:

Making a Start in Family History
Derivation of the Surname
Transcripts of Wills and Deeds
Pedigrees from Wills
Studies of Branches of the Family in a particular locality.
Distribution and Spelling of the Surname in Telephone

Directories
(continued on page 10)

MEMBERS OF THE REGISTER

By David Rose

At the inaugural meeting in Plymouth in September 1979 the first main item to be considered, after the Guild had been set up, was what should be done about those in the original Federation Register, who had not responded to the invitation in March to join the Guild or re-register their name.

After some considerable discussion it became obvious that there were two distinct views. The first was that, as everyone had been sent the circular, those who had not responded either did not care, did not want to be included, were no longer interested, or could not undertake the conditions outlined and considered themselves unable to join. Those in favour of this view argued that as these people had not paid a registration fee they should not be included in the Guild's new Register.

The other point of view, which seemed to have majority support, was that the Guild should offer a complete service to enquirers on one-name research and include all those who had registered with the Federation.

The chairman, Fred Filby, made it clear that whatever the decision taken by the meeting, he would include all entries in the original Federation Register in any revised reprint planned by the Guild. Faced with this, the meeting decided to refer any question of who should and who should not be included in any future reprinting of the register to the executive committee.

The executive committee agreed that the printing of the first Guild Register should include all those who were registered with the Federation, but that subsequent printings would only include those who had registered with the Guild and paid their registration fee. At the same time the executive committee agreed to a second circular being sent to those who had not responded to the March letter to find out if they had overlooked the matter, or did not want to register. The committee was anxious to obtain some response, even if it was negative, so that the Guild could be sure it was not publishing misleading or incorrect information.

Arrangements were put in hand to get the Register - corrected and updated where possible - off to the printer. Then the light dawned. What if those people who had not replied to the March circular had never received it? Some had been returned marked 'Gone away' and these had been struck off the list. It was also found that some on the list had died. In one case a Kent one-namer had simply not received his letter as it was not forwarded from his old address. But what if all those others had been sent, but, for one or more reasons, they had not arrived because the details in the old Register were wrong? (How many of us have notified the Registrar of a change of address? Remember that most of us went on to the list several years ago and there has been no reprint since).

So the printing of the new Register was held over until the new circular had been sent. It has produced a number of new members - 'I'm sorry that I did not reply earlier, but it came at a time when I had more important things on my mind and it was overlooked' - but it has also revealed that because of address changes some were never delivered. On the day Fred Filby was going to post a letter to an American on the original list, his first circular was returned marked 'address unknown, return to sender'. It had taken six months to come back!

Now that the reason for the delay in printing the new Register has been explained, there are other decisions to be made about one-name enquiries. The Registrar's job is to keep information about researchers up-to-date. He should also be responsible for registering new one-name studies. But what about an enquirer who simply wants the name and address of a particular one-namer, but is unaware of or unwilling to buy the Register? The question arises for two reasons: (a) only by sales of the Register can it be kept up-to-date with reprints; (b) the Guild will be the loser if the Registrar has to spend too much time and Guild money on such replies (how

often do you get letters with sae's?). The questions then are; should a charge be made for giving information, should enquirers be asked to buy a Register to answer their enquiry, or should replies only be sent if an sae is enclosed? Members' comments would be welcomed by the committee, bearing in mind that the printing of the Register and handling of replies can only be covered by monies raised from Registration fees, which being non-recurring are something totally separate from the Guild's ordinary subscription income.

On the question of monies, some members seem confused about the two amounts they have paid - £3.00 to the Guild and £2.00 for registration. It must be pointed that the £3.00 is the Guild's subscription, which covers the cost of printing and posting this newsletter, copies of the Federation News and Digest, election expenses, etc. while the £2.00 was intended as a one-off payment to record all one-name studies in the Guild's Register. The £2.00 entitles each person registered to a free copy of the Register. Whether regional family history societies will get a free copy to answer enquiries will be considered by the committee later. One researcher was most indignant about being asked to re-register the name she was researching, claiming that it had been done once and was not necessary again. What she did not seem to realise was that until now the Registrar has been an officer of the Federation, which had undertaken coverage of one-name activities at the expense of its member societies. Now the maintenance of the Register is the responsibility of the Guild - a separate and independent organisation, which is also a member of the Federation like all other family history societies. Whatever happened in the past no longer applies as far as the new Register and registration is concerned.

On the subject of the Register, members are reminded that they are required to fulfil certain criteria in order to qualify for specific categories on the Register. These criteria were printed on the back of the form which those registering had to return. Unless you had the foresight to make your own copy, you may like to be reminded of the details.

Criteria for inclusion on the Register:

There are five categories of entry:-

- A. Formally constituted societies.
- B. Correspondence groups producing a newsletter.
- C. Individual researchers specialising in ALL references to a single surname and the specified variants.
- D. Overseas groups or individuals specialising in a single surname.
- E. Individual researchers specialising in a single surname, but subject to limitations of area and period as defined.

In order to cope adequately with enquiries from Great Britain and overseas it is expected that the Registered Researcher will have accumulated a reasonable volume of data on the specific surname and variants, and will aim to include (i) the listing of all relevant index entries of births, marriages and deaths at St Catherine's House; (ii) the listing of all relevant entries in the PCC Will indexes up to 1700, and, (iii) the listing of the names and variants from U.K. telephone directories.

Whilst it seems essential that each entrant in the Register will eventually require such a compilation, completion of the task is not a prerequisite to registration, but in the interests of all concerned could well be covered by the registration category E rather than C.

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HAMBLYN FAMILY HISTORY, by M.N. Shaw. New Zealand: Gore Publishing Co. (1971) Ltd. 1978. 74 illus. NZ.\$11.50. Reviewed by Derek A. Palgrave.

This book, subtitled "Plymouth to New Plymouth - Fitzroy District, 1841-1976", was written so as to be available as soon as possible after the Hamblyn Family Reunion had been held at Fitzroy, New Plymouth, during the weekend 22-25 October 1976. It traces the history of the Hamblyn Family, which descended from James and Ann (née Moore), who were married at

Pancrasweek, Devon in 1799.

The research appears to have been carried out in a most painstaking manner, taking due account of the numerous variants of this surname appear in archival sources. There are sixteen chapters, most of which are devoted to specific branches of the family or related families, although two chapters are concerned primarily with local history. The inclusion of the latter is most welcome in an account which is mostly in the form of narrative pedigree.

There are copious illustrations, the majority of which are photographs of people, which in a few instances suffer from poor quality reproduction. Nevertheless their inclusion enhances the value of the book as a record.

The Hamblins emigrated to New Zealand in the "Amelia Thompson", Chapter Two comprising an account of the voyage based on a journal written by Mr John Newland. They settled in an area where the Maoris were active and, during the Maori Wars of 1861, were obliged to flee their home. Their descendants are dispersed widely throughout New Zealand and the rest of the world.

The final section of the book describes the 1976 Reunion when about 450 descendants gathered together in New Plymouth. Those responsible for its organisation were well prepared and the very full programme was a great success. Any One-Namers contemplating similar family gatherings would do well to read this part of the book.

Margaret Shaw (née Hamblin) has given the Hamblins of New Zealand a marvellous insight into their common heritage of which they can be justifiably proud. The book is moderately priced considering its limited circulation. However as a reference work for the Hamblins it is priceless. An index would have helped but with current publication costs one can understand the omission.

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TRACING THE WHEREABOUTS OF PERSONS

It is sometimes possible for an enquirer to be put into communication with the person he desires to trace through the Department of Health and Social Security. The Department cannot disclose anybody's address, as information about insured persons and beneficiaries is regarded as strictly confidential, but they will be prepared to forward a letter to the last address shown in their records if the information supplied to them is sufficient to enable them to positively identify the record of the person sought.

When forwarding a letter in these circumstances the Department of Health and Social Security disown any responsibility in the matter and advise the addressee that his address has not been disclosed to the person who has asked them to forward the letter.

If you decide to seek assistance through this source you should write to:-

Special Section "A", Room 101B
Department of Health and Social Security
Records Branch, Newcastle upon Tyne

It will be necessary to supply the following information:-

- (1) the full name of the person you are seeking
- (2) any known address
- (3) the person's date of birth or approximate age
- (4) the last known marital status, e.g. married or single.

(General Register Office, St Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6JP. Leaflet Pas.6)

FROM THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE INDEX TO PERSONAL CARD INDEX

By Ann Chiswell

This an account of how you can make a workable Index of Personal Names collected from the GRO. It is assumed that you have checked that this has not already been done, by consulting the Register of One-Name Studies (a new edition is in preparation. Acting Registrar is Fred Filby, 15 Cavendish Gardens, Cranbrook, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3EA).

First, all the birth entries from July 1837 to date should be copied from the GRO Index at St Catherine's House, London, for your surname and for any obvious variations such as double l or an extra e at the end. This list will show the quarter and year, the forenames found (plus any listed just 'male' or 'female') and the Registration District where the birth took place, and, after July 1911, will also include the mother's maiden name. Keep this list always, as it may be quicker to find a series of births registered in one District over a period of years this way rather than by any other method and this may be the only clue to which children had the same parents before the mother's maiden name began to be shown, and even afterwards if two mothers have the same maiden name. Obtain some standard small-size (5"x3") cards, or make them from stiff paper which cost less and take less space. These may be filed in boxes and cabinets available commercially, or less expensively, in strong shoeboxes.

On each card write the surname in capitals as found in the GRO Index in the top lefthand corner, followed by a comma and the forename's in lower case letters:

WARNE, Richard John	LN
b. J 1913 West Ham,	BARNETT
m.	
d.	

Write down the lefthand side of the card the letters b., m., d. (born, married, died). Next to b. write the quarter and year the birth entry was found (e.g. S 1864) followed by the Registration District. At the end of the same line write the mother's maiden name capitals, if known. In the top righthand corner write the standard abbreviation for the county in which the Registration District occurred at the time of the entry.

On a separate similarly-sized card write the entries for 'male' unnamed children in date order. and do the same on a separate card for 'female':

WARNE 'male' births
 J 1877 Islington
 S 1877 Bodmin
 J 1880 St Olave
 D 1885 St Pancras
 etc.
 J 1915 Kensington WARNE
 J 1926 Isle of Wight BROWN
 D 1938 St Austell RICHARDS

(note: M = March, J = June, S = September, D = December)

It will be useful to make an alphabetical index on large paper of the Registration Districts encountered, together with their counties, to save looking up the same ones again and again in a gazetteer!

An Alphabetical Index of Unusual Forenames can help link families later. Put the unusual name first, then the first name in parentheses afterwards.

AARON	Robert M, Ruth M	Normanton
ABIFF	(Hiram)	
ACKLAND	Stephen G (mother's name ACKLAND)	
ACE	(Walter) (Albert F)	
ACOURT	Violet	
ACOCK	Hebe E	

SWEET LASS OF RICHMOND HILL

Tom Wolstencroft of 29 Meadowfield, Whaley Bridge, Stockport, Cheshire, produced Vol.1, No.1 of The I'Anson Times in January 1976, "for the formation of a Name Society for the ancient Yorkshire family of I'Anson". His introduction continued, "I am fully aware of my limitations, not the least of which is my name is not I'Anson. My sole qualification in this respect is that my grandmother (father's mother) was Jane Isobel I'Anson, originally of Thirsk, Yorkshire".

All I'Anson's descend from the children of John or Jacques I'Anson who came over from France to fight for Henry Tudor at Bosworth and later settled at Hauxwell as a yeoman.

Perhaps the most romantic I'Anson story is that of Frances I'Anson, born in Layburn, baptised at Wensley in 1766 and the original heroine of the song "Lass of Richmond Hill."

Frances was the daughter of William I'Anson, a solicitor of Bedford Row, London and Hill House, Richmond, Yorkshire. Her mother's maiden name was Martha Hutchinson and Hill House, Richmond, was the original property of the Hutchinson family.

Frances met Leonard McNally, a brilliant Irish barrister in London. McNally was a man of letters, wrote for the stage and was editor of a periodical called The Public Ledger.

William I'Anson disapproved of the association between his daughter and McNally and sent Frances back to Yorkshire to stay at Hill House, Richmond. McNally wrote to her there and enclosed with the letter were the words of the future song.

Frances I'Anson finally eloped with McNally. It is suspected she was "expecting" anyway, and they married at St George's, Hanover Square, London in 1787. They lived in London and had two surviving children. Frances died in 1795 in Dublin, aged only 29. Her daughter returned to Richmond and married a banker named Simpson.

McNally must have passed the words of the song to James Hook (1746-1827), who was an associate and was the organist and musical directory of Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens in London. James Hook wrote the melody of "Sweet Lass" and the song was first sung in public in 1789 by Charles Incedon, a popular tenor vocalist of the day. He was subsequently to sing in the first performance of Haydn's Creation at Covent Garden under Lindley.

The words of the song were later published anonymously in a London newspaper. The British Library (British Museum) has an original copy of the first printed edition of the song, priced 1/-. The music is attributed to Hook but there is no mention of the authorship of the words.

Due to the affairs of the Prince Regent and his morganatic wife, Mrs Fitzherbert, the popular public fancy in London associated the song with them and Richmond in Surrey as the location. The words, "I'll crowns resign to call thee mine" lent credence to this belief.

Various contributors to the nineteenth century publication Notes and Queries debated the authorship of the piece, until a letter from William I'Anson, surgeon of Newcastle upon Tyne, who was a direct descendant of Frances I'Anson's family, plus a letter from an eighty-year old lady, Anne Bowman, who had personal knowledge of the family, silenced opposition. (Opposing views, however, have many heads and the authorship is still periodically brought into dispute up to the present day).

Anne Bowman's father published a book of local history at Richmond, Yorkshire, early in the nineteenth century. Amongst the list of subscribers was Thomas I'Anson and Elizabeth McNally (daughter of Frances). Anne Bowman was found, aged about 80, in the 1841 Ripon Census. She lived in Allhallowgate. The family of I'Anson was not far away in Stammergeate.

The words of the song were also attributed to McNally by Jonah Barrington in his memoirs Personal Sketches. This was certainly not done out of friendship, as McNally and Barrington fought a duel in 1791 in which McNally suffered a wound in the leg, leaving him with a permanent limp. McNally became a political informer after the death of his wife in 1795. He married again to Louisa, daughter of the Rev. Robert Edgeworth.

Further references to Frances occur in vol.1 no.4 of The I'Anson Times. There is a copy of a letter to a William I'Anson of Yorkshire, dated 18 September 1697, signed "Your unknown friend and Humble Servant, Bryan J'Anson". The same issue has a letter dated 20 May, 1974, from Leslie Ainsdale I'Anson, the great, great nephew of Frances.

Angus Goodfellow, a newspaper journalist, has collaborated with Tom Wolstencroft on occasions to produce articles on this same subject. As a result of the upsurge of interest, Angus and Ken Wadsworth produced a play, with music and lyrics by Brian Holdsworth, "Sweet Lass". The play had its world premiere on 6 June, 1979 at the restored Georgian Theatre, Richmond, North Yorkshire, during the Richmondshire Festival 1979. The event was billed as "I'Anson Night" and performed by the Festival Players with "Richmond's own lass" Mavis Dozey (a name in itself to conjure with!) as Frances I'Anson.

Prior to this the local press had interviewed Tom Wolstencroft upon his arrival in the district. One of the local building societies had a window display featuring "Sweet Lass". In addition to a reproduction of the first edition of the sheet music of "Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill" (obtained by Tom originally from the music library of the British Museum) and photographs of the forthcoming play, there was a life-size fashion dummy of Frances I'Anson, splendidly dressed in 18th century vogue. Excitement abounded!

The evening itself was a delight and the play a huge success. As the theatre has a capacity for only 40-50 people the atmosphere was very conducive to such a production. The Festival Organiser was there to welcome the rather special audience who were all entreated to sign the visitors' book as a record of the occasion.

After the performance a convivial party was held backstage where both audience and players were able to relax and be merry. This was particularly enjoyable for all those I'Ansons who had corresponded over the years but had never before come into contact with each other. Tom Wolstencroft described it as "a very remarkable evening in my life". Undoubtedly all those present would wholeheartedly agree with him.

It is quite remarkable and extremely gratifying that such a splendid achievement has transpired out of one man's interest in his family name. Surely "living proof" that the many hours of research with its attendant joys and woes can sometimes produce the most unexpected results.

It is to be hoped that "Sweet Lass" will be performed many more times.
(Edited by Pauline Saul from articles in The I'Anson Times).

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RUNNING A FAMILY HISTORY BULLETIN ON A SHOESTRING (continued from page 3)

Pedigrees from Monumental Inscriptions
On the Family Trail in Blankshire
Identification of the Family Entries in university
graduate lists
A series of articles for the genealogical beginner
The earliest known mention of the surname
Letters from readers
List of new members
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