

The Journal Of
ONE-NAME STUDIES



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THE GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

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THE JOURNAL OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

a continuation of the NEWSLETTER of the Guild of One-Name Studies

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From the acting Editor

On the 2nd October 1982 the Executive Committee of the Guild of One-Name Studies asked me if I would fill the vacancy caused by the sad death in July of our Editor, Frank Higgenbottam.

My name is Basil LaBouchardière. I have been living in Horsham, West Sussex for the last five years. I retired in 1979 and got busy writing our family history. As I am invariably asked if I am of Huguenot descent let me hasten to say that I am not; I am of French descent but my ancestors went East in 1757 as merchants from Chamonix in Haute Savoie in France to Pondicherry in south-eastern India. As you know, the French in India were ousted from India by 1793 - the French were busy at home with the French Revolution and had no time nor money nor ships nor men for their overseas colonies - there is no need to tell you the British version of the same story. The effect on the unfortunate French stranded in India was to take refuge in the adjoining native states as soldiers or administrators, where they were better off, better paid and more comfortable than they had been when in French territory. These French military adventurers have been of great interest to me for several years and I hope something will come of all my research in this field.

After the Indian Mutiny of 1857 the political climate in India had begun to change. Frenchmen were enabled to live in India and even to enter the service of the Indian Government as British citizens.

So it came about that I too served in India, in what was known as the Indian Police appointed by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, until the Partition of India in 1947. The British, including me, were required to quit. And so I followed the rest of my family to England where I have lived ever since.

In about 1950 I began collecting material for the history of our family, but I had not time to write till I gave up full-time work when I retired in 1979. The first edition of "LaBouchardière - A One-Name Study 1980" has been circulated privately amongst the family. It consists of 60 PP A4 half in typescript and half in my handwriting and has an 80 minute narrative on tape, which finds favour with many because the listener is not bogged down reading the numerous French and Indian names of people and places in the body of the story.

I am now writing the second edition.

I joined the Guild of One-Name Studies in 1980 out of curiosity, realising as I did that it could not help in research into a family with roots only outside Great Britain. However I attended the Annual Conferences at Leicester in 1981 and 1982 and there I met such friendly helpful people who brought copies of their family histories and gladly discussed the problems they had encountered and how they had overcome them.

It came as an unexpected surprise to me to find my tape-recording was so well received. I advocate the use of a tape-recorder and use one constantly in recording notes of every kind, which I transcribe later. I find that ultimately one must have the text written out in front of one's eyes to evaluate what it is all about.

I was both surprised and pleased to be asked to help in the production of the Guild's Journal when our Editor, Frank Higenbottam, died so sadly. I assure you I was taken aback at later being asked to edit it.

Well, I have agreed to do so for the time being till an Editor can be found. I feel someone younger than me - I am in my 70th year - would be better fitted to maintain continuity for the coming years.

Believe me I offer you this Autumn 1982 issue of the Journal with not a little trepidation. For any of you who may be new members I have repeated Derek A. Palgrave's excellent Notes on forming a One-Name Group and followed it up at once with Frederick N. Filby's specially written article called "Reminiscences 1979-1982" in order to provide for you a useful resumé of what the Guild of One-Name Studies is and what it does.

SOME NOTES ON FORMING A ONE-NAME GROUP by Derek A. Palgrave

In 1977 whilst I was representing the interests of One-Name Specialists as a member of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Family History Societies, I compiled a short monograph which set out some simple guidelines on the formation of a One-Name organisation. This was not a theoretical treatment but a summary of the various steps involved in establishing a formal society based on personal experience. It embraced the following:

1 Accumulating basic data

Few are likely to consider tackling such a project without preparing the ground in some way. This will require the evolution of a recording system for the many references to the surname so that new information can be integrated with ease. From then on it is a question of scanning as much source material as one can to build up the collection. Obviously one should visit the public libraries and scan all the directories from telephone to specialist professional works. One should not neglect indexes in general biographical works.

The fore-going will provide data relating to contemporary bearers of the name and this could be used to plot a distribution map so indicating where the greatest concentration occurs. From the numbers involved one can decide whether or not it would be practicable to consider the formation of a One-Name Group.

At the same time efforts should be made to build up a historical perspective of the surname. The Indexes at the General Register Office in St. Catherine's House, the printed indexes of P.C.C. Wills and the International Index prepared by the Mormon Church could be especially useful in this respect. The amplification of this corpus of data, by abstracting information from printed sources and manuscripts, can be pursued at the convenience of the searcher.

2 Making Contact with Bearers of the Surname

Using the results of the search of the directories one can write, telephone or visit to make contact. Writing is often very disappointing as the response is likely to be poor. Much depends on the nature of the written enquiry; if it is interpreted as prying then it will have been a failure. On the other hand it is essential that potential members of a One-Name Group are informed of the work that is going on and there is an individual responsible. Initial contact needs to be informative rather than inquisitive. This could be followed up by a telephone call with a view to arranging a visit.

Not everyone has a telephone so it may be necessary to arrange a visit by post. To call "on the hop" may be embarrassing although this is not always the case. I have always found a warm welcome but this should be seen in the light of priorly established credentials as a result of purely informative letters.

3 Publishing One-Name Matter

From the points made so far it is clear that a means of passing on information must be devised. In the first instance individual letters are appropriate but in time more and more correspondence is generated and dealing with this may become a burden. At this point one might consider launching a regular bulletin or newsletter for circulation to one's contacts. This in itself should encourage passing on information about themselves and their families.

Such a publication need not be very elaborate or expensive to produce. Frank Higgenbottam's Guide (1) should be consulted before embarking on such a venture. All publications are subject to the Copyright Acts which require the deposit of one copy in the British Library Copyright Office, 2, Sheraton St., London W1V 4BH and, if required, additional copies to the five copyright libraries at Cambridge University, the Bodleian, the National Library of Scotland, the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth and Trinity College, Dublin. Apart from the Welsh Library, the copyright libraries have a joint agent, Mr A.T.Small, 100 Euston Street London NW1 2HQ. who will receive four copies and pass them on to the libraries concerned.

4. Organised Gatherings

Having made a number of contacts it should be possible to judge the point when it would be appropriate to arrange a gathering. It is as well to start with an informal affair at a venue chosen for its convenience to the most likely participants. The house of a co-operative relative would be ideal for a small group but Church Halls, Social Clubs and Schools should be considered where larger numbers are to be invited. A display of the information so far accumulated will provide talking points for those attending.

Some light refreshment should be available in keeping with what is essentially a social occasion. If hiring charges are substantial a retiring collection would be an acceptable way of defraying expenses.

5. Launching the Society

From the response to Newsletters and Gatherings one can reasonably assume that there is sufficient enthusiasm to launch a One-Name Society. Among the supporters of these projects there are usually a few who stand out as likely candidates to form a working party or steering committee for the proposed organisation. This nucleus can devise a simple constitution and set a date for an inaugural meeting.

If a Newsletter is already in circulation then details can be published in this. If not a circular should be prepared setting out the purpose of the new society and announcing date, time and place. Few people will be interested in attending a business meeting so it should be combined with a more informal gathering (see 4).

At least three officers should be elected, namely, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. As the Society grows then more officers may be required such as Editor, Librarian, etc.

6. General Administration

The officers should meet as a committee from time to time to plan the society's activities such as regular meetings, visits to places associated with bearers of that surname, visits to archive repositories where documents relating to the members' ancestors are kept, publishing projects including monographs devoted to a specific aspect of family history or more ambitious works depending on funds.

The question of funds is most important and every effort should be made to fix a realistic subscription so that the cost of stationery, postage and publications can be recovered.

7. Wider Issues

It is to be hoped that specialists in One-Name research regard themselves as part of the wider movement concerned with the development of family history studies. To this end it would be helpful if they were to register their interests with the Guild of One Name Studies which issues a quarterly publication(2) and maintains an index of all persons actively engaged in this branch of research. The contents of this index are published from time to time as the Register of One Name Studies. That current at the present time is the Third Edition, copies of which are available from the Guild at 15, Cavendish Gardens, Cranbrook Ilford Essex, IG1 3EA or the Federation of Family History Societies at 96, Beaumont Street, Milehouse, Plymouth, Devon, PL2 3AQ.

8. References

- (1) Running a Family History Bulletin on a Shoestring - Frank Higenbottam
- (2) The Journal of One-Name Studies

Registrar of the Guild of One-Name Studies

The date 1979 on our attractive new emblem reminds me that the Guild is only four years old and this is a rather immature age at which to have reminiscences. However as I, like Dr Who, operate on a different time scale altogether, and having enjoyed three years of retirement during which I had intended to develop my family history and that of all people who share my surname, instead I have spent almost all this "free time" helping a host of others with a similar objective.

It has all been very rewarding, and as I now have that "allotted span" on my horizon, I make no excuses for sharing my reminiscences with you.

I am in the unique position of having had an exchange of correspondence with every one of our 433 Guild members, comprising at least two hand-written letters; but this, of course, has been spread over a period of four years.

The extraordinary thing is that our numbers continue to grow at that same average rate of 100 per year or 2 per week. I realise that this rate of growth is far too slow for my friend, John Heygate-Brown, but I find the pace quite adequate, in that new members account for only one third of my Guild correspondents.

The 209 membership letters received so far this year are matched by 214 enquiries as to whether this or that surname has been registered; and a further 192 letters have been on other Guild matters, of which more anon.

If you add to these totals the 115 letters connected with the East of London Family history Society, of which I am a co-founder and chairman, plus the 135 letters from members of the Filby Association and other family history societies that I help from time to time, you will begin to see the pattern of my involvement with Family History.

How I managed to organize a Day Conference for the Society of Genealogists last year, I now find it difficult to understand, but it does help to explain why I resigned from their Executive Committee and the Lectures Committee. I am always telling people that the enjoyment and satisfaction they will derive from their search for family history is directly proportional to the effort that is put into the project.

Well, it seems that I have had a very generous share of the fun so far. I will expand on the various sources of this involvement so that you can perhaps decide if you too, would like a larger slice of the enjoyment that is on offer, and, if so, which piece.

The detail of our advance in membership and registration was set out in full measure by means of Register Supplement number 5 dated August 1982, which went as far as member number 417. Since then the following surnames have been added to the 500 plus that are listed on the Prospectus and in the third edition of the Register, which is already being re-printed. They are :-

BRACKPOOL, COWL(E)ARD, GAWEN, HAMBROOK, LEG(G)GET(T), MAYNARD, MOULDEN, PERRIN(G), PROUDFOOT, RAVENSDALE, SCOPES, TRELE(A)VEN, WILLERTON, WYNN(E).

This excludes variants and in case you should wonder why I have listed only 14 surnames, having mentioned an additional 16 new members, it is because our reputation is still attracting new members who are not yet quite ready to register, but meanwhile wish to benefit from your experience, via this Journal. Please don't disappoint them. Send a contribution to our acting Editor for publication.

As we are reminded elsewhere, the 500 plus surnames that represent all our efforts, form but a small proportion of the total task. Let me rephrase that. Although well over one thousand surnames and variants have now been registered, it still means that I could still be doomed to disappoint many of those 214 enquirers this year, who have followed the advice given in "Beginning Your Family History", "Debrett's Guide to tracing Your Ancestry", or even Angus Baxter's book now circulating in Canada, by writing to the Guild of One-Name Studies at Ilford, to find out if this or that surname has been the subject of intensive research. A few are fortunate in being given the address of a Guild member. All the others now receive a copy of the Prospectus with its list of 512 surnames and, in addition to an apology for what is not included, they most likely receive also a summary of what is to be found of interest among the 70,000 references in my three well thumbed volumes of the National Genealogical Directory.

The Genealogist's Guide by Marshall, and Bardsley's Dictionary of English and Welsh surnames also make a contribution to enhancing the reputation of this Guild at Ilford.

A few have been encouraged to start a one-name study of their own, and I hope will one day be Guild members themselves.

A smaller number have written to say "thank you", but this did not include the gentleman in the USA who had searched for years for the origin of his surname, which, with the aid of the Compact Dictionary of National Biography, that you provided for me, I was able to direct him to a manor in Kent. Perhaps he was disappointed at the anti-climax of having his search terminated!

One enquiry from a lady living on the Essex coast sought the help of the Guild in respect of her husband's very rare surname of FLAUNTY. This intrigued me as it was not in my Dictionary of Surnames and I developed what I thought was a very clever theory as to its origin. Later on, with the aid of a print-out from the CFI I was able to shoot my fine theory to pieces and produce proof of how one unusual surname came into being; but this is worthy of a separate article at some other time.

Earlier on I referred to those 192 letters dealing with other Guild matters and among these I include the correspondence which I generate myself when a Guild member resigns his membership for whatever reason. I regard it as a prime duty of the Registrar to ascertain details about the future of his one-name study as recorded in the Register, where he is entitled to have it remain for as long as the obligation to enquirers can, and will be met. I am pleased to say that in the small number of cases that have arisen, a satisfactory solution to the problem has been found, although unfortunately those concerned tend to lose touch with Guild events, as they no longer receive our publications. Those who do not keep up with their subscriptions also fall into this category. This too is a matter for concern to the Registrar. I am pleased to say that the efforts of our Treasurer keep such cases to a minimum.

Of greater concern to me has been those few cases where a member has died and I have the double task of trying to ensure that the widow or widower is not troubled with a continuing flow of enquiries, something quite difficult to stop, whilst at the same time I feel that we have a duty to the readers of our Register and to the memory of our deceased member, by trying through help or advice to ensure the preservation of years of research. This is a problem requiring the thought of each and every one of us. We have discussed it briefly through the pages of our Newsletters and Journal but the onus to plan a solution in advance, rests on each of us individually.

With the example of Frank Higginbottam fresh in our minds, I make no apology for mentioning this depressing subject among my reminiscences. I am pleased to say that we have examples among our members, where the collected data and membership has been passed from father to son, or to a relative, or nominated successor.

I am currently in correspondence with the widow of our member number 265, the late Mr A. Bradley. A solution to this problem has not yet been found, but I am pleased to say that his collection of data has been retained. Any help or advice about its future will be welcomed by his family.

There is another facet to this story that I would like you to know. In 1980 when Alan Bradley joined the Guild, he told me he was about to retire in two years when he would be able "to devote more time to re-search". He explained that his one-name study of the KEMPS of Lincolnshire arose because KEMP had been the maiden name of his mother, who was then 104, and that she had lost her father when only one year old. He had died at sea, presumably in 1877. I touched on this in my letter to Mrs Bradley and she tells me that Alan's mother, now 106 is still living with her daughter in Merseyside.

A further interesting point that Alan Bradley mentioned to me was that a book had been published in 1902 by Fred Hitchen Kemp entitled "Kemp and Kempe Families of Great Britain and the Colonies" to which his uncle Shadrach Kemp had been a contributor.

The Guild may be only four years old, but one-name studies it seems, have been going on for much longer!

That must be enough of my reminiscences for one issue.

Do you, who read this, have some for our next issue ?

One-Name Study of a "Common" Name

Mrs J.M. ROSS (Member No. 400) of 10 Penlee Road, Stoke, Plymouth, PL3 1All writes :-

Would you be interested in the enclosed for the Journal of One-Name Studies ?

Having just enjoyed reading all your Newsletters and two editions of the new journal I would like to make the following suggestion as a new member.

There have been a few references to the hope that there will eventually be a One-Name Study of every surname. Who will undertake such a task for a common name ? Probably only someone who already has experience of running a like study of an uncommon name. It took me two whole weeks in London to take down references to the name I am studying from St. Catherine's etc. Whereas I would love to tackle the name of ROBSON the thought of the preparations fill me with horror.

Would it not be possible for all members to assist in these tasks where the searcher is already registered for another name ? If each time a member visiting London was to copy down, say, a year of births, leaving the bulk of the work to the proper person, would this not help ? Many of us live away from London and have to use our annual leave for our hobby. Could a system be devised for letting members know of proposed tasks involving common names ?

Our Registrar, Fred Filby replied as follows :

Over last week-end I had passed to me some of the Guild papers taken from the study of Frank Higgenbottam, who died of a stroke during July and I have come across your letter dated 9th August with an article for the Journal. I thank you very much for the trouble you have taken and confirm that it will be passed on for consideration to our new Acting Editor.

Having read your article, which is relevant to every single Guild member, I would like to make some comments myself which you may find helpful.

Collection of the C.R.O. Index references is a problem for everyone and yet they all need it sooner or later. With those who live away from London, it has to be later in most cases, unless they can obtain help which can sometimes come after registration from someone who shares an interest in the same surname.

We have examples of this among our members.

Another member I know, employs the student mentioned in one of our Newsletters and he tells me that she does more in an hour than he can and a whole day costs him less than the return fare to London from the Kent coast.

I hope to publish shortly some correspondence that I had with a lady in California who obtains her index information during holiday visits to Salt Lake City on print-outs off microfilm. This film can, I believe, also be seen or hired from the Mormon sources in this country.

Certainly member No.68 (Mr J.Heygate-Browne) has collected all references for the popular name BROWNE which he publishes quarterly and he hopes to have it complete by 1995 having started in 1978. I believe that he uses a portable tape recorder, since he speaks of an hour's recording taking 7 hours to transcribe.

Others, I know, get by with print-outs from the IGI for every county, on the basis that for any enquirer it is just a matter of routine, and one or two certificates, to get back to 1837 from where help could be forthcoming.

Well, as you can see, it takes all sorts ! and a certain amount of ingenuity. That is what the Guild is for.

.....

May I, Basil, your Acting Editor, supply you with this young lady's name and address and her ever-so-down-to-earth letter ?

member No. 418

Miss Pamela M. Doust/writes from 38 Lacon Road, London SE22 :

Dear Mr Higginbottom,

I realize that the first part of this letter, especially if it were published, could well be considered advertising. If there is a charge, please let me know how much it is. Thank you. (No charge, Ed.)

Two years ago my mother, Mrs Sabina Doust, wrote to this magazine offering my services to do searches at St. Catherine's House for expenses, during the vacation, since at that time I was a student. Although I have now sat my finals I am at the moment unemployed, and thus willing to undertake any work in this line that might be available; I would also be willing to search any of the London-based records (I have a PRO Reader's ticket), either on a blanket-search basis or for a specific item. I now have to charge for labour as well as expenses, but as I am living much closer to Central London the most expensive part of the expenses, the fares, have more than halved. Those clients who share a day's work will also share the travel expenses.

A Brides' Index 1837-1911

I also hope to use my enforced leisure to begin another project no doubt dear to the heart of many one-namers. How many of us have looked at a marriage entry for the years 1837-1911, and wondered who the other partner was ? I am hoping to create an index by which it would be possible to find those people with the same references as the other. At the moment the index is very small, and far from operational. To get the index to this stage I need assistance. All contributors, voluntary or involuntary would naturally receive news of all their matches, but it is these contributions that I need. If anyone has a list of marriages (the longer the better) that they would like included, I would be happy to receive them, especially as I hope to spend most of the time I spend on this project indexing rather than collecting information. If anyone thinks this is a good idea, please remember - without YOU this index can not get off the ground! I would like to say thank you to anyone who feels able to help me.

.....

Your acting Editor's comments :

May I hope to be inundated with your letters, for example, describing,
Your experience at St. Catherine's House or the CRO, Kew
Help from members - omitting their names
Your system of recording data - do you write it in longhand,
do you use a tape-recorder ?
How do you approach unknown relatives for information ?
What do you think of an index of marriages, brides' and
grooms' names indexed separately and cross-referenced ?
What is your experience in writing up the family story ?
How do you make transcripts and copies and distribute them ?
Would you care to comment on any booklets or notes you may
have read on the subject of family research ?
And costs ? I hope to have some details of costs. They fright-
en me as a rule. What about you ?

.....

Here is an account of such experience. Mrs June Ross writes from

68815 Ortega Road
Palm Springs, Ca 92264

The Mormon Library Index

Perhaps I should describe what we had to do to get the entries of "Trevithick".

By photocopying pages from microfilm at the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City, I have already acquired the indices for the name "Trevithick" at St. Catherine's House - for christenings and marriages and some burials. The film only goes to 1903 but I have a good start on the essentials. May I ask when my One-Name will appear, to be read by the members ?

The copies are on sheets 11"x11" (not a convenient size but they can be cut to 8½"x11"). Each copy cost 10¢ U.S. and it takes 2 sheets to include a whole page of the index.

The Library will not do the photocopying for you. First one must chart the years by calendar quarter, and using their guide to the Films, chart the film number for each quarter to the particular surname, for many books took 2 or 3 rolls of film; while the later years have several quarters on one film.

Then after finding the rolls of film in the stacks, one must use a Reader to find the name wanted; remove the film from that machine and walk to a machine that copies; find your place again (for, while waiting for the Copier, the exact spot is often lost) then make your copy. It is not permitted to search and copy on the same machine as there are only a few copy machines.

My husband and I worked out a system whereby one person searched and the other copied. However with having to wait for machines, return films and get a new group (which often involved walking up or down the staircase) and the difficulty of getting a readable copy of the required sheet/s, and so very important - labeling each copy with quarter number, it was a prodigious chore. We found we couldn't do it for more than 2½ hours each day, and did only a little more than half of our project in our 2 weeks in Salt Lake City. Another time, another trip - we'll complete it.

One's visit to the Library, in order to accomplish such a project as this, must take place during a period when there are fewer people using the facility - certainly not in Spring, Summer or Autumn. It is really a labor of self-interest, and a professional genealogist - if he agreed to do it - would be well-deserving of a high fee for the effort.

If I sound discouraging, it is because a person must be greatly motivated to do it; however, it can be accomplished, as we are proving. If I have left a question unanswered, do write again if you have further questions.

This letter was written to Mr F.R.Filby, in his capacity as Registrar.

.....

Mr Jack Callow, Member No. 255, writes from "Honeywood"
Coombe Hill, Rake, LISS, Hants GU33 7JQ

to Mr Filby :-

Thank you for your letter and for your offer to put my ideas forward. I enclose a slightly expanded statement of my earlier suggestions, and I shall be glad if they can be considered in any way you see fit... If you think there is something useful in putting the matter to the Guild members in the next Journal that is all right by me - and it can go out over my name if you wish, provided that the sense is not altered. I would not want to approve any tidying up, leave that to the Editor. In other words they are just suggestions, because I feel that the move to concentrate the collection of data on each surname is important and that the development of the societies is too slow to achieve the objects - too many will fail on the way as the costs rise. Do what you think best with the suggestions, you must be better informed than I am.

"Future of the Guild"

We have a Guild of One-Name Societies but I see little prospect of a society for people of my name CALLOW as, despite many notices for the past three years, no Callow has come forward to seek or offer co-operation. The size of the task of collecting all data for my name is beyond one person, and there must be many of us similarly placed, despite the recent increase in interest in Family History. However I shall continue to collect any data that I can and to hope that the collection will sooner or later be shared so that we can each be responsible for a part of the collection. In this country to-day there are probably 5000 of us - perhaps 7000 if the obvious spelling variants are included.

There must be others who would like to see their names adopted for One-Name Societies - those with less-frequently occurring names are fortunate in being able to have a suitable gathering at intervals. For all of us I see a possible and practical approach to the one-name problem.

We can each act as a collecting-point for our names and in return offer to provide information to others. With the information about each surname concentrated in the hands of one historian (or a selected number of historians) then surely the effort in the country will be more economically used and thereby the information made more readily available.

There are names more common than Callow and these could be treated in one of two ways - a single person to contact, but the enquiry or information then passed on to a specialist for that name in one area - or a specialist for an area could be named by the Guild. The former is easier for the Guild, the latter is quicker for the person giving or requiring information. But I go too fast. The idea must first be adopted and the persons selected for each surname recorded.

It would be nice to designate each person as a Registrar but this could confuse as the Guild has a Registrar. So I will call them Recorders, although the terms SMITH Registrar and JONES registrar could be adopted and the Guild Registrar could be so identified.

If this idea of mine should become a general policy then it will be costly for the Recorders to provide information, and a charge would be necessary to compensate for the preparation of the data in a form suitable for photocopy and for the photocopy itself. At the same time it would be fair to help the input to the Recorders, who would be amateurs and might be reluctant to sell their wares, although willing to supply them at cost if there was a prospect of a return in the form of information to build up their own collections. I therefore suggest that the Guild considers an expansion of its members (or member societies) so that :-

Each surname for which a Recorder can be found should be registered, and there might be an additional charge for each spelling variant not expressed with brackets e.g. CAL(L)OW.

Each Recorder should arrange his information as he wishes - but its content must be clear and the arrangement reasonably economic for photocopy. He should notify the Guild at intervals of the number of pages and of the content of his collection to date.

Where the data in a surname exceeds 20 pages the Recorder should classify the data by area or spelling variant.

The Guild would from time to time indicate the amount of data held on each surname.

On receipt of SAE of suitable size and 10 p per page (15 p from non-members of the Guild) the Recorder would supply a copy of the required data, within 10 days if possible.

For input in return for his willingness to supply information, each Recorder should be entitled to three lines of type in the Guild booklet asking for particular types of contribution.

The county societies should be invited to provide some advertisement of the Guild and its objects, without charge as it would become a service to its members.

.....

Mrs Elizabeth Roberts Member No.113 writes :-
7 Harrow Close, West Hagley,
Stourbridge, West Midlands
DY9 0PP

"The Diamond Ring"

A story that proved to be true.

In a letter written by my greatgrandmother, Pauline Mary Ballyn, to her favourite grandson, she refers to a gift she is sending him, as the diamond ring, begging him to be careful and not lose it, as he had been careless about other gifts she had sent him.

On reading this, I remembered a story told to me many years previously by my old aunt, Catherine Ballyn, about her father as a young bachelor, living in London. He had many friends, and on one occasion he had gone to a race meeting with a friend, and had met Mr Langtry, husband of the "Jersey Lily". At some point Mr Langtry was short of money and asked my grandfather to lend him some, offering a diamond ring as a surety. Evidently the horse on which he had wished to place a bet had not won the race, so the ring remained with my grandfather. He must at some time have given it to his mother.

Some time later, in 1980, my cousin, Leslie Ballyn, came over to see me and I asked him about the ring. He knew all about the story of the race meeting and the ring. Some years previously he had been asked to sell it so that some of the money could be given to his sister, Pauline, who was in need of help.

He had taken the ring to a jeweller in Birmingham who examined it very carefully and enquired where it had been bought. He refused to buy it, probably thinking it had been stolen. So it had been sold elsewhere, and some of the money was given to Pauline.

.....

Note by Fred Filby : "In submitting this article Mrs Roberts says that it is the connection with the Langtrys which is interesting and adds : I always felt very sorry for Mr Langtry, and, of course, his in-laws in Jersey were ashamed of Lily".

.....

I do share a chromosome with my remote ancestors

by Tony Edwards

As a new member of the "Single Name Fraternity" having recently returned from the (hopeless) task of tracing my ancestors on all lines I agree with the sentiments of A.R.Inch's article, "What's in a Name" (Spring 1982). After all a name is a thing shared by very few of one's ancestors. My surname was assumed in about 1500, and since then only 16 of my direct ancestors have used it. Nevertheless I feel I must correct two significant errors in that article. One biological and one statistical.

Taking the statistical one first. The present day "Norman Smith", the 29th generation since the hypothetical Norman Smith of 1066 can claim to have 536,870,452 Norman ancestors (if we assume double the number of ancestors in each generation). There were not that many people in the whole world at that time so we are wrong somewhere. I have two parents, four grandparents, eight greatgrandparents, but only 12 greatgreatgrandparents (due to inter-marriage). Going back in time as my theoretical number of ancestors increases and the total population decreases the statistical probability of intermarriage between remote branches increases. In practice most ancestral lines draw on the chromosome pool of a very small number of individuals in some isolated locality with the occasional addition of chromosomes from an outsider who marries into the pool and (if enough children are produced of the marriage) adds some of his chromosomes to the common pool.

It is only in the last few 100 years that the population has been mixed up by travel and out-marriages. Consequently it is not improbable that the two "Norman Smiths" share a chromosome, but no more probable than that the modern day one shares a chromosome with any other particular individual alive in 1066, King or commoner.

The biological error is more significant. Our 1066 Norman Smith and his spouse both had 46 chromosomes, but the wife had two X chromosomes and Norman had an X and a Y (otherwise he would have been called Norma!!). All Norman's sons had an X and a Y as did their sons, grandsons and male descendants to the present day. No female has a Y chromosome to add to the mix so the modern Norman Smith and his remote male line ancestor Norman Smith both carry the same Y chromosome.

It is interesting to note that my remotest male ancestor and I share a common chromosome and the characteristics of the genes it carries (one forty-sixth of my make-up in fact). However over a 1000 years' mutations will have occurred and some of the genes on that common chromosome will have changed, so perhaps I have only a little in common with that ancestor alive at the turn of the millenium, one Tudor Walensis (Tudor the Welshman) as I believe he was called. Still I thank him for the gift of that Y chromosome which he received from our common even more remote ancestors. I carry it in every single cell of my body and have passed it on to my son for safe keeping. A quarter of my cousins and an eighth of my second cousins have it too.

Contributor's address : 23 Foxfield Close, Northwood, Middx. HA6 3NU.

A NEW INITIATIVE IN SURNAME RESEARCH

Many members of the Guild will have received a circular from Mr John Heygate-Browne advising them of his intention to found a new monthly periodical devoted to Surname Research. The Guild has received a number of enquiries asking about this new venture, so it seems appropriate to provide some background.

As regular readers of this Journal and its predecessor, the Newsletter, will know, Mr Heygate-Browne holds very strong views on Surname research. Those views have been published by the Guild and this has attracted subsequent comment from the membership. In fact there has been a regular exchange of views over a number of years.

Mr Heygate-Browne feels that the inevitable three-month delay between issues is detrimental to continuity of discussion. To provide a medium for a more frequent dissemination of views, queries, etc. he is sponsoring the publication of this new magazine and in time he hopes to establish a National Surname Library.

He states that "..... while there is no direct link of this magazine with any established genealogical organization, every encouragement will be given to increase the membership of such bodies."

Among the objectives of the Guild are: producing a journal or newsletter, holding periodic meetings and exchanging information on sources and research techniques helpful to "One-Name" activity. Thus Mr Heygate-Browne's intentions are very much in accord with those of the Guild. However he does take issue with the Guild's present stance which he feels is not devoted entirely to the welfare of those involved in surname research.

A characteristic of most "One-Namers" is their extreme individuality. Most members of the Guild appreciate this attribute and will surely welcome Mr Heygate-Browne's new initiative. Everyone should be encouraged to "do their own thing" because in the end everyone benefits from the overall progress achieved.

OUR THANKS TO THE INSTITUTE OF HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL STUDIES

The Guild has much cause to be grateful to the Institute for the help it has received over the last year or so. The Director kindly provided a portion of the Institute's Library for our collection of One-Name Journals where, until his death in July, they were catalogued and maintained by Frank Higenbottam.

When the Guild introduced its new Journal its text was prepared on the Institute's word-processor by Mrs Humphery-Smith, from drafts submitted by Frank Higenbottam. In all, three issues of the Journal were produced in this way and the Guild wishes to express its thanks for the help received. There is little doubt that the new format owed much to the expertise of officers of the Institute and the facilities placed at the Guild's disposal.

It had been the Guild's intention to hold the first of its Regional gatherings at the Institute but owing to the delay in circulating the Summer issue of the Journal, most of the calling notices were not sent out. The Guild apologises for any inconvenience caused by the cancellation.

A ONE-NAME MAGAZINE IN 1892 ?

In January, 1892, Francis P. Rathbone founded the Rathbone Family Historian, surely one of the earliest, if not the first, regular magazine devoted to a single surname. It was a 16-page approximately A4 publication produced by mimeograph from wax paper plates.

Francis Rathbone had been born in 1861, eldest son of John Quincy Rathbone of the State of Illinois. The family moved to Kansas and it was at Oberlin where he produced his first issue. Its content was based on information, handed down to him by his father and grandfather both of whom were interested in their family history, and also on data sent to him as a result of a circular which he had mailed to bearers of the surname throughout the U.S.A.

The project was very ambitious but the response was quite good and Francis was able to issue the magazine every month. As time went on he improved the printing technique by purchasing a case of type which he could set up at home. Later on he persuaded other bearers of the surname to become involved and by January 1893 a new cover with shields and scrolls was designed by Franklin R Rathbun, who was a professional artist and draughtsman in Auburn, New York State. He introduced a smaller neater typeface to permit the incorporation of more information within the same basic format. The subscription was raised from \$1 to \$2 per annum to finance the additional printing costs.

Francis made the point that his magazine was not designed to make a profit but to place on record some of the history of the family. However he did appeal for subscribers and in the first year he recorded 151 subscriptions paid. Nevertheless he sent out many hundreds of sample copies in an attempt to increase the paid circulation and the feed-back of material relating to the family. A print run in the region of a thousand copies seems to have been envisaged.

Throughout the second year of publication there were continual appeals for contributions both financial and literary but co-operation was not forthcoming so it became necessary in January 1894 to reduce the size of the magazine to something rather less than A5 to minimise costs. Two months later Francis Rathbone lost his job and asked, through the columns of his publication, if any reader could help him find another. In June the Rathbone Family Historian ceased publication. Clearly its dependence on its founder's personal circumstances was demonstrated. One can perhaps speculate that a number of One-Name Journals being published today are similarly vulnerable.

The outcome of Rathbone's enterprise was not a total failure because a complete set of his magazines was deposited with the U.S. Library of Congress and several remain in the hands of descendants of the original recipients. Some of the latter have banded together to form a Rathbun Family Association and in January last year they launched THE RATHBUN, RATHBONE, RATHBURN FAMILY HISTORIAN with over 150 Charter subscribers.

No doubt this new magazine will continue the fine tradition of its nineteenth century precursor by continuing to place on record the history and lineage of the Rathbones and variants. The Guild of One-Name Studies wishes it well.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

A Regional Meeting has been arranged for members of the Guild living in the West Country, on Saturday 26th March, 1983. A local Steering Committee has been formed having had its first meeting at The Old Vicarage Taunton by kind permission of Mr and Mrs D.L. Hall. Applications to attend should be sent to Mr M. Walcott at Holway House, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9PW, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

GUILD COLLECTION OF ONE-NAME PUBLICATIONS

The Registrar and other members of the Guild Executive Committee often receive magazines devoted to One-Name matters. These are deposited in the Guild's growing collection of such publications. Hitherto this has been housed at the Library of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies in Canterbury and this was very convenient because of Frank Higenbottam's association with the Institute as its Honorary Librarian.

In the future it may be necessary to find an alternative more conveniently located establishment where the collection is accessible to the Guild's membership. The Executive Committee will be making enquiries with a view to resolving this matter. When a permanent arrangement has been achieved it is hoped that the premises concerned will become the FRANK HIGENBOTTAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY and any donations to the Guild's Memorial Fund will be applied to this project.

Any members of the Guild who have not contributed but would like to do so should send their donations to the Treasurer at Hall Place Cottage, South Street, Havant, Hants., PO9 1DA

Publication

Pulvertaft Papers Vol.1 No.2 June 1982 8 PP A5 Letterpress
from Member No.110 Captain D.M. Pulvertaft RN (retired) who says :

"Delighted with the review which you included in Vol.1 No.1 of the new Journal and I must say how much I like the new style of the Journal.

Your comments on Pulvertaft Papers are understood and are perhaps worthy of an answer; not for publication but for your own information. Having got some printing materials together in a second-hand lot, the size of the typeface which I used was dictated by which size had enough letters to be able to print a full double page! Were I to then "reduce" as you suggest, I would have much greater expenses than with my straight letterpress printing.

As for the cost of subscription, I haven't mentioned it because I don't charge and my circulation is small enough to allow this - the family, a few interested historians, a handful of libraries and societies etc.

I enclose Issue 2 which I just managed to get out in the month of June as predicted!

.....

The Guild of One Name Studies was formed in September, 1979 to encourage the exchange of ideas and co-operative liaison between the growing number of family historians who concentrate their research on all references to a single surname including proven variants.

In the majority of cases this activity is carried on by an individual working alone and not as a member of a One-Name Society, although many such societies have been established and admitted to the Federation of Family History Societies as formally constituted organisations.

The Aims and Objectives of the GUILD are:

- (a) To bring together those individuals and groups of people who are engaged in the collection of family data relative to all references, branches and occurrences of a single surname.
- (b) To produce a Journal and hold periodic meetings for the exchange of information on sources and research techniques helpful to One-Name activity.
- (c) To maintain and publish a REGISTER of the surnames being researched and, through close association with the Federation of Family History Societies, to secure the widest possible awareness of One-Name research.
- (d) To encourage and ensure by a written undertaking, that members will deal with all reply-paid enquiries relative to their registered surname.

So far around 400 names have been registered and the number is increasing continuously. An up-to-date copy of the Register is available from the Registrar or the Federation Sales Department, 96, Beaumont Street, Milehouse, Plymouth, Devon, PL2 3AQ price £1-00 which includes postage.

Regular Supplements to the Register are issued to members of the Guild free of charge and a regular update on the names registered appears in each issue of Family History News and Digest.

New applicants for membership of the Guild should send a stamped addressed envelope to the Registrar, requesting a Registration form. Overseas applicants may send International Reply Coupons.

The Registration Fee is £2-00 and the Annual Subscription, payable 1st January, is £4-00. The subscription covers four issues of this Journal and two issues of Family History News and Digest.

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