

The Journal Of
ONE-NAME STUDIES



VOL.1 NO.6

SPRING 1983

The Guild of One-Name Studies

Member of the Federation of Family History Societies

Chairman: Derek A. Palgrave, MA. FSG.
210, Bawtry Road, Doncaster,
South Yorkshire, DN4 7BZ

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

Hon. Secretary: John K. Marfleet,
4, Robotham Close, Huncote,
Leicester, LE9 6BB

Hon. Treasurer: Sydney Brewin, FCA.
Hall Place Cottage, South Street,
Havant, Hants., PO9 1DA

Editor: Basil R. E. LaBouchardière,
1, Blackbridge Court,
Blackbridge Lane, Horsham,
West Sussex, RH12 1PE

Committee: Chris L. Barrett,
15, Limes Road,
Folkestone, Kent
Mrs I.J. Marker,
"Green Ridges", 25 Gladsdale Drive,
Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 2PP
David Rose,
6, Victoria Park, Herne Bay,
Kent, CT6 5BJ

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One-Name Studies should be sent to the Editor at
the address given above.

Members receive this Journal post free.
The Registrar has additional copies at 75p.

The Journal of One-Name Studies

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

Vol.1. No.6

Issued Quarterly

Spring 1983

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Editorial

The mailing of Vol.1.No.5. of the Journal was delayed due to electrical damage at our printer's caused by snowfalls around Folkestone in January. Only 100 copies had been printed when everything stopped.

Arhtur Tickner's and Derek Palgrave's alphabetical Lists of the names of marriage-related members, over 50 of them, should evoke responses from the lucky ones.

Computers and family history : David Hawgood's article on "Computers and Genealogy" and Graham Tuley's account of "GRO Indexes of the Tulcy Family" just published in "Computers in Genealogy" together with Michael Dalton's article in our Newsletter of October 1980 should provide much material for discussion in May.

Lastly, the growing number of publications, either family histories or newsletters, needs digesting. Michael Dalton's circular letter of 7th December has already brought him over 150 publications waiting to be reduced to "digests". No less than six of our members have already offered to help him. He will report on progress on this daunting task at our Leicester Conference in May.

A History and Analysis of the INCH Clan in
England and Wales from circa 1375 to 1981.

by Arthur Inch, member number 75, address
4 Garden Cottages, Bolnore, Isaacs Lane,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 4BU.

I suppose I began my search, like most people, by being curious as to who my forebears were and where they came from. This was about twenty years ago and up till then all I knew were the names of my Inch grandparents who had lived in Cornwall where my father had been born. So, one day, armed only with Grandpa Inch's name, much enthusiasm and curiosity, I set off for the legendary Somerset House (which then housed the records of the Registrar General) to start my quest. My first success was to find his death entry and from that small beginning, and over the next few years, I eventually traced eight generations of my ancestors back to 1667, to a parish in north east Cornwall called St. Columb Major, and I experienced that spine tingling thrill of seeing the original entry in the parish registers. However my search had come to an abrupt halt as the entry read "Thomas Inch, base son of Joan Inch, widow" and no further names. I then found out that she had been called Joan Baylye and had married Christopher Inch in 1657. They had had five children (two of whom had died young) and then Christopher died leaving Joan a widow with three children. She then had two illegitimate sons, Thomas (my ancestor) baptised 1667 and Inigo baptised 1673. So I suppose if my ancestress hadn't strayed then I wouldn't be penning this now.

During all this research into my forebears I collected many references to the name who were not immediately related to my "lot"! So, having come to a full stop on my own line, I had the idea of trying to research the Inch clan in general. I had discovered that the first mention of an Inch in England and Wales was in the ancient parish of "Lanowe" (now St. Kew) in the Hundred of Trigg Minor in north east Cornwall.

He was Richard Ynch noted in 1406 as holding Hale of the Prior and Convent of Plympton as of their Manor of Lancwseynt, and as presumably he was an adult then he must have been born circa 1375.

The only other Inch found in the 15th Century is a Sir Wm Inch who was a person in the Isle of Man in 1419, but as to whether they were related I've not been able to discover. The next mention of an Inch in St. Kew is of "William" of the ilk noted in the early 16th Century as possessing goods to the value of £20 and arms for one man.

From then on the Inches were very numerous in that parish in the 16th, 17th and 18th Century, but by the 19th Century they were beginning to thin out, and today not one of the clan remains in that original "hot bed".

The Inch Clan (ctd).

There were Inches either owning or farming in fifteen named places in that area!

In that period circa 1375 - 1837, 34 male Inches and 34 female Inches were married in the church so it turned out to be the most prolific parish in Cornwall, followed closely by St. Teath, a neighbouring parish. The family was ascribed a Coat of Arms by "gilbert" (History of Cornwall) blazoned as "argent, three Torteaux in bend, between two cotises, sable", but the College of Arms say No! However, as there are many ancient Cornish Coats of Arms which are not recorded by that august body, who is to say who is right ?

The events I've discovered in this period 1375-1837 in England and Wales are as follows :

Inch births baptisms	1375-1837	1170
Inch marriages	1375-1837	803
Inch deaths burials	1375-1837	805

The majority of these events occur in Cornwall and Devon, and most of them in Cornwall occur in St. Kew and its neighbours St. Teath, St. Tudy, St. Endellion and St. Minver, so there is little doubt that the name is a west country one in general and Cornish in particular.

I also eventually extracted all the Inch births, marriages and deaths from the Registrar General's Indexes, which took me about three years to do, with the then limited time at my disposal. I have already analysed the figures and the table on the following page illustrates how the clan is distributed over England and Wales.

(Here read the text of the Analysis, and then read on).

Male Inch deaths	1837-1981	791		
Female Inch deaths	1837-1981	809	Total	1600
Inch deaths per annum		1600	144	11.1

Inch births occurred in 46 of the 57 counties of England and Wales
Inch marriages occurred in 49 of the 57 counties
Inch deaths occurred in 46 of the 57 counties.

A graph shows that the greatest number of Inch births (32) occurred in 1846 and the least number (3) occurred in 1932.

AN ANALYSIS OF "INCH" BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES 1837 - 1981 (144 YRS)

COUNTY	B	M	D	COUNTY	B	M	D
Cornwall	534	303	403	Cambridgeshire	8	4	6
Devonshire	400	289	314	Cumberland	8	6	3
London	275	220	205	Shropshire	7	3	2
Suffolk	91	67	61	Somersetshire	5	5	4
Yorkshire	91	65	46	Sussex	5	10	12
Lancashire	72	59	74	Wiltshire	6	5	2
Essex	53	50	62	Caernarvonshire	5	2	1
Gloucestershire	50	34	44	Northamptonshire	4	1	1
Durham	49	42	31	Oxfordshire	4	1	3
Lincolnshire	46	47	34	Bedfordshire	3	1	3
Staffordshire	40	33	23	Dorsetshire	3	-	3
Hampshire	37	43	23	Huntingdonshire	3	1	2
Derbyshire	34	20	31	Leicestershire	3	4	4
Glamorganshire	31	21	18	Soke-of-Peterborough	3	2	2
Kent	29	26	28	Rutlandshire	3	1	-
Norfolk	29	12	6	Flintshire	3	4	5
Surrey	29	30	33	Worcestershire	2	4	3
Middlesex	28	21	17	Nottinghamshire	2	4	5
Hertfordshire	16	14	16	Herefordshire	1	-	1
Northumberland	16	11	15	Denbighshire	1	1	-
Cheshire	14	11	16	Brecknockshire	1	-	-
Monmouthshire	11	9	2	Radnorshire	1	-	-
Buckinghamshire	10	13	10	Anglesey	-	1	1
Warwickshire	10	9	10	Isle of Wight	-	1	-
Berkshire	8	15	9	TOTALS	2091	1538	1600

Male Inch births 1837 - 1981 = 1082) Total 2091
 Female Inch births 1837 - 1981 = 1009)
 Inch births per annum = $2091 \div 144 = 14.5$
 Male Inch marriages 1837 - 1981 = 780) Total = 1538
 Female Inch marriages 1837 - 1981 = 758)
 Inch marriages per annum = $1538 \div 144 = 10.6$

The Inch Clan (ctd).

To try and estimate how many male Inches are still extant by the end of 1981 I took the following figures -

(1) Male Inch births during the last 100 years	623
(2) Male Inch deaths during the last 100 years	246
(3) Male Inches of whom there is no further record after their birth	31
(4) Male Inches under 18 years of age by the end of 1981	87

Therefore theoretically, there should be 623 Inch births minus 246 Inch deaths, which leaves us with 377. From this figure deduct the 31 Inches of whom there is no further record, which leaves 346. To find the number of extant male Inches by the end of 1981 deduct the 87 under-18 year olds, which leaves the figure of 259 adult Inches still alive. This is not many, spread over the fifty odd millions of England and Wales, but hopefully the 87 potential Inch fathers will keep our small clan's "head" above water, and we shall proceed "inch by Inch" into the future.

To try and sort out these Inches into some sort of order I started making out family trees of the male Inches using a page of lined A4 paper for each "tree", and filed in ring binders. Each page is headed by the relevant male Inch, his wife and issue with all their relevant details. Also noted is the father of the head of that particular tree. For example, one might read thus :

"William, baptised 25.12.1784, son of Richard baptised 1.1.1740." This enables me to look up Richard's family tree (where William would appear as one of the issue) and possibly give the details of Richard's father etc. Up to now I've managed to compile 719 such family trees and they have been of great assistance when trying to search for the ancestors of Inch enquirers. One lucky lady in New Zealand got a twelve generation pedigree for the cost of a stamp, and naturally was not displeased!

Perhaps some will say that this is mere head counting, but I find that any event that I collect is like a piece of jigsaw, filed away and waiting to be slotted into its rightful place in due course. One very satisfactory and heart warming result was to re-unite two Inch brothers after sixty years apart, so one can say that our common hobby is often of great practical use. There is also a fairly large contingent of the Inch clan in Scotland, but I have not researched them as thoroughly as those in England and Wales, and therefore haven't got the amount of data as yet to do an analysis.

I have of course, extracted the Inch telephone subscribers in the U.K. and the results are as follows :

The Inch Clan (ctd).

England	159
Scotland	62
Wales	8
Channei Isles	2
N.Ireland	1
Total	<u>232</u>

So the figure for England and Wales of 167 out of the estimated Inch population left alive at the end of 1981 is, I should imagine, a fair proportion, i.e. over 50 per cent.

I would like to thank so many kind people, both of the clan and outside it, who have taken the time, trouble and expense of sending me so much invaluable Inch data and often "out of the blue", and I am most grateful to them, and as a New Zealand namesake says "Here's to Upwards and Backwards".

.....

David Hall (263) sends this note :-

South West Regional Conference, Taunton, Saturday 26th March 1983.

About half the members of the Guild in the south west attended. Speakers included Colin Chapman FFHS Chairman, Michael Walcott, David Pulvertaft, Derek Palgrave and Iain Swinnerton. The Conference was arranged by David Hall, Michael Walcott and Vi Brannon. Without their hard work such success would not have been possible.

Colin Chapman described the progress of the Public Record Amendment Bill, and also the workings of St. Catherine's House. He anticipated that following pressures for new accomodation for Register Indices and copies of certificates in or around Central London, there would be a charge of £10.00 per day rather than charges for each certificate as at present.

Michael Walcot's subject was "Who has been here before me?". He included a wide range of published and unpublished sources. Turning to his own family, he described the difficulties he had experienced in locating copies of an printed family history and in arranging a reprint of a limited number of copies. For those with an interest in Devon families, Michael suggested a visit to Barnstable Athenium.

To illustrate his method in organising his material, David Pulvertaft showed some interesting slides. He maintains a "library file!" This is split into about a dozen sub-files. He uses index cards

8"x5" to analyse his data. He employs various formats. He finds the "Generation Grid" to be a very useful reference. He sends his brother in Australia a copy of his data as an "insurance".

Derek Palgrave and Iain Swinnerton then faced members' question-time - not without some trepidation!

In response to questions about requests for a popular national magazine for family historians, the team said they thought that publishers would seek guarantees of a high production run and would point out the need for a high level of commercial advertising.

Leicester as a venue for the Guild's Annual Conference, was criticised because of travelling problems for members from the south west. The high hotel charges set out in the 1983 Conference leaflet caused concern.

Members hoped that the South West Conference would become an annual fixture in future. They suggest Taunton as the venue for the 1985 Conference - it will be the tercentary of the Battle of Sedgemoor. The programme could include a visit to the battlefield.

Finally Iain Swinnerton thanked the ladies who had arranged the catering, and all the members who had brought and exhibited their work, and lastly the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society for providing bookshop facilities.

.....

Derek Palgrave (103) sends this contribution :-

INDEX OF NAME VARIANTS

Some years ago I started a card index of surname variants.

As a result of an appeal I made in the Guild's Newsletter, forerunner to this Journal, sixteen members of the Guild have provided data for this index. This is a very small proportion of the membership and the spread of information is insufficient for any general conclusions to have emerged.

It has occurred to me that many variants can be explained in terms of regional differences in pronunciation and a survey of several surnames could be used to illustrate this. It might help members to predict potential variants in specific areas.

It would greatly facilitate this project if members of the Guild could provide separate 5" x 3" slips for each known variant of

their surnames (giving also the current preferred version in brackets) showing the place and archival source in which it was discovered. An indication of the frequency of each variant would be appreciated; a qualitative expression of frequency will suffice such as, very often, often, rarely, very rarely etc. If the frequency occurs over a wide geographical area, then this should be noted with some reference to boundaries.

Changes are known to occur over a period of time, so it would be helpful if the above information could be dated; the single odd spelling is likely to relate to a unique date, but a more common variant may span a century or more.

Any member wishing to amplify his or her details with sketch-maps is to be commended, but this is not essential at this juncture.

Please send your completed slips to Derek A. Palgrave, 210 Bawtry Road, Doncaster, DN4 7BZ.

.....

Arthur Inch (75) writes from Haywards Heath :-

What a good idea from Miss Pamela Doust (Vol.1.No.4.p.63), to start an "Index" from the names of other partners. I think it would be better to call it "A Spouses' Index 1837-1911", so as to cover all partners.

During the period mentioned I have 406 male Inch marriages requiring the brides' names, and, to date, I've only managed to get 141 of them.

I did write to the Registrar to see if I could get these names without getting all those certificates, but had a negative reply. I couldn't possibly afford to buy another 265 certificates for £1219 !

So, I think all members and anyone else interested should support Miss Doust's idea; and who knows, if it takes off nationwide, we may need a computer to deal with all that data.

I've managed to collect 211 spouses' names for that period, and I'm sure with the response of many more of us, she will not be short of data to index and pass on to interested parties and I could supply them with the details of the names if required.

.....

Mrs Ruth Flowerdew (155) writes from Basingstoke :-

I was very interested in the suggestion for a Marriage Index. I wonder whether it might not be possible to co-ordinate this with the Brides' Index suggested by the new magazine, Surnames. It seems to me that two indexes should be compiled together - one giving the bridegroom first (in effect indexing bridegrooms) and the other with the bride's name first. Where the name of a partner is not known, although the date and place of marriage is known, then possibly it would be helpful to leave a blank space. This would be particularly helpful with marriages taken from the St. Catherine's Registers.

.....

Mrs Barbara Balch (287) writes from London, Ontario, Canada :-

In 1980 I published a book A DADSWELL FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY c 1560-1980 which was the result of 7½ years of research and contains over 1400 descendants connected.

The name DADSWELL (DODSWELL) derives from the Manor or Village of DOWDESWELL in the Cotswolds, Gloucestershire. The earliest instance of the name that can be found is c781 in Anglo-Saxon Charters when Hedda, Abbot of Worcester Monastery, included in a grant of land, DOGODESWELLYN. The place is also mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

According to those who have made a study of names and place-names, the general meaning given of the name is "at Dogod's well" as Dogod was a personage in early times. Another origin cited is the legend Odo and Dodo were two monks who each dug a well and called the places after themselves : Odo's Well (Owdeswell) and Dodo's Well (Dowdeswell).

There are many early references to the name (variant spellings) but the earliest the Dadswell Family can go back to is c1560.

.....

Wilf Hodgkinson (71) writes from St. Neots Cambs. :-

The highlight of the year 1982 was the unexpected week-end visit of two Swedish ladies, now living in Paris, descendents of the Outram Hodgkinson's of Notts, and making a ten-day tour of England, visiting places associated with the Hodgkinsons. They produced bags full of photographs, documents and letters, extending over 200 years and said there was more in Paris! There is now a young Parisienne with the unusual Christian name of Anne-Outram!

But the real gem of the year was a letter I received from Samuel Hodgkinson, tailor, of 43 Threadneedle Street, in the City of London, dated 1837. No, it had not been misplaced by the GPO! Hardly a letter, it is a fascinating 10,000-word account to his fiancée of his Family and Social History. It also explained the origins of my Swedish visitors. But there was bad news as well as good news, for I realised that Samuel, who I have long believed to be my great great grandfather, was NOT! Samuel, born in 1814, married twice, and had at least eleven children. His last surviving son died in 1955, an interval of 141 years. Much of Samuel's knowledge of the Family History had been learned from his grandmother and she was born in 1738!

.....

Dennis Ivory (76) writes from Whitchurch, Bristol :-

I was reading the Autumn 1982 edition of the Journal of One-Name Studies and could hardly believe my eyes to note that your family had a connection with Pondicherry.

Several years ago I decided to build up a family tree for my wife whose family surname was GROLLET. It was not too difficult to follow the line from England to Malaya where her grandfather married in 1903. His name was Benjamin Alfonso Grollet, son of Emile Grollet. I have drawn a blank in my search for information about them. I have tried the India Office Library in London, the National Archives in Singapore, the Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, Nantes and Affaires Culturelles, Paris.

The Pondicherry records seem to be held at Nantes (marriages) because I wrote to 27 Rue Oudinot, Paris, and received a reply from Nantes.

I wish you luck in your search and thank you for your suggestions.

.....

Fred Filby (49) writes from Ilford :-

Mrs Joan FLAUNTY of Essex sought my help as to the origin and meaning of her name, having failed to find it in any reference book. Bardsley's Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames said "flawner i.e. the seller of egg-custard became a common surname in the 13th century and settled down to FLANNER". The IGI for Kent showed five Flauntys baptised at Woolwich where Mrs Flaunty's husband's grandfather and great grandfather had worked at Woolwich Arsenal. The baptisms from 1818 onwards on the microfiche were transcribed under the surname FLANTY or FLARTY.

In the end it transpires that the first FLAUNTY was not a seller of egg-custard in the 13th century, but in the 18th century was a saddler and maker of horse-collars at Woolwich.

.....

Marriage-Related Names

Arthur Tickner, member number 132, writes from Guildford, Surrey :

From my records of Tickner data I have recently compiled an alphabetical index of Marriage Partners. As a result I have found connections with the following Guild members' names :-

Barfoot, Barrett, Brett, Briggs, Browne, Carman, Chambers, Chandler, Edwards, Faithful, Hanford, Herrington, Hook, Hough, Kempe, Knight, Martyn, Newman, Percy Piercey, Rose, Russell, Woodger and Worsfold.

If any of the above members care to write to me I will give them details. Address : 4 Pound Place Close, Shalford, Guildford GU4 8HL.

.....

Derek Palgrave, member number 103, writes from Doncaster, S.Yorks:

Having just completed the final stages of a family history entitled "The History and Lineage of the Palgraves" I cross-checked the index against the names in the Register of One-Name Studies.

I am delighted to report that 35 names were common to both. I list them below so that members requiring additional details can contact me at their convenience:

Barrett	Crew	Gunn	Neale	Russell
Beach	Dowers	I'Anson	Newman	Spilling
Broom	Drew	L'Estrange	Quin	Waller
Brown	Edwards	Martin	Riley	Jedlell
Carey	Fairfax	Merton	Rix	Wilson
Carmen	Flaxman	Muncaster	Rose	Woodhouse
Cave	Freeman	Murray	Rowse	Woodward

I would emphasise that these are not all related by marriage to the Palgraves so even if the Guild's Marriage Index is established several of these names would not have been submitted.
Address : 210, Bawtry Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks. DN4 7BZ.

J.R.Horth, member number 286, 70 Ashgrove Road, Goodmayes,
Essex IG3 9XD
has sent in a folder A4 size held between card covers a hand-
written index of 453 names in alphabetical order, called :

"An Index of Marriage-Related Names from the Horth Family Archive"
Part I gives 174 names from the 35 parishes of Norwich and Part II
gives 279 names from the Registers of the Registrar General 1837-
1979.

.....

(These three contributions alone provide over 500 such names. Ed.)

.....

Surnames

John Heygate-Browne, member number 68, writes from Ormonde House,
51 Amersham Hill, High Wycombe HP12 6PG :-

Colonel Swinnerton, as is his wont, has touched upon a very con-
troversial subject, "The Spelling of Surnames" (Vol.1 No.3 p42-43)
if we re-frame his assertion

"Spelling varies for many different reasons, whim of the owner,
past illiteracy, or the official wrote down the name as he heard
it , or regional accents accentuated the problem .."

and ask ourselves the simple question : "How important is spell-
ing when applied to surnames ," we are forced to admit, spelling
is only fairly important.. There is a great deal of evidence to
suggest the difference between Browne-Brownee-Nutbrowne-Broome-
Brun-Brown-Bone-Bourne etc. is non-existent. However in this day
and age it has some value and we need to do considerable research
into its history.

.....

Michael J. Egerton, member number 43, writes from
4 Odlehill Grove, Abbotskerswell, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 5NJ.

Having read issue No.4 of our Journal, I read with interest your
notes on "A New Initiative in Surname Research" following a cir-
cular letter from John Heygate-Browne.

For your information I enclose a copy of my reply.

"Egerton and Variations"

I started my interest in genealogy 25 years ago (my age is 45). After some 7 years of research on my own family, I had compiled many records of other Egertons. Living in London and Birmingham at the time gave me access to plenty of deposited records.

Having been stuck with my own family tree (around 1770) I embarked upon blanket searches in areas the family was most likely to be recorded. I am also fortunate in having one of the less common names and this has made my task easier.

I wrote to all the Egertons in the GB telephone directory - a major task which produced about 55 per cent replies, with about 30 per cent giving their own family trees for at least 3 to 4 generations - a priceless asset to the researcher in years to come.

Regretfully I am the only Egerton who is currently progressing my name, and have found only about 4 persons sharing my interest to the same degree. More support has come from abroad - from Egertons requiring help with their own research. This was one of the spin-offs I gained by joining the One-Name Society.

To date I have recorded some 2,500 names, 1,000 of which are now card-indexed complete with all relevant details. I will continue to card-index and carry out further research as time permits. However I feel that the computer file index is slowly catching up with me and in a few years will have covered much of my work.

I am a member of the Society of Genealogists, the One-Name Society and Devon and Cornwall Society.

.....

John Ash, member number 4 , writes from : Cedar Lodge, 39 Church Road, Newick, East Sussex BN8 4JX :

Having received several sheets of bump from Mr John Heygate-Browne inviting me to subscribe to his new monthly periodical, I feel I must write and comment on your piece in the Autumn 1982 issue of the Journal.

You suggest that Mr Heygate-Browne's initiative should be welcomed and that everybody should be encouraged to do their own thing. I am afraid that I cannot agree if it means doing what Mr H-B is proposing to do i.e. establishing a rival newsletter and a National Surname Library independent of the Guild of One-Name Studies. Looking at the bump he sent me, I am suspicious that he is trying to make a name for himself and wanting to run things entirely his own way, as he appeared to be doing in the Guild's earlier newsletters. Why else should I be treated to a photograph of his residence to show where the archives are kept.

If Mr H-B is really sincere in his wishes to improve things for one-name researchers, he should put his efforts into cooperating with the Guild and helping to build up the Guild's archives and Journal, instead of dissipating energy. What is needed is coordination and rationalisation of research and record keeping and dissemination of information to members and others. I would also like to see a larger and more frequent Journal, but this requires a lot of time and effort by a few. I challenge Mr H-B to offer his services to the Guild, to work constructively and patiently with the Committee and the Editor, to achieve a worthwhile evolution in one-name research, not destructive and wasteful revolution. Doing your own thing smacks of the latter and of someone who cannot get all their own way. I will certainly not subscribe to the H-B newsletter.

.....

Clifford Bratt, member number 16, writes from The Woodlands, 65 Moreton Road, Upton, Merseyside L49 4NR :

I am all in favour of "A New Dictionary of Surnames" especially for those who wish to trace the origin of their surname . However what is more important is to produce a book listing the many books and various articles devoted to a particular family. These should be listed giving details of where they can be borrowed, purchased or procured, together their respective Dewey number. There must be a wealth of such material hidden away in storage sections of public libraries. The Dewey number would enable persons to borrow through the Student's Library.

It would be interesting to know the origin of my surname BRATT.

I have traced my ancestry almost complete from c1520, together with most of the collateral lines to date, all in Cheshire. From 1520 until 1664 the surname was Brett and upon the marriage of John BRETT of Bickley Malpas and Hannah Williams of Tarporeley, the surname became BRATT. Why ? There are BRETT's and BRATT's of similar date in the contiguous county of Staffordshire and also in Warwickshire, but no success has been obtained in tying these up with those in Cheshire. There are BRATT's in Holland, Germany and in the Scandinavian countries: there is even a BRATT shipping line in Sweden and, not far from my home, a family of Van Bratt, who state they trace their beginnings from the Scandinavian kings. BRETT is also the family name of Lord Esher. Apparently there were John and Hamo le Bret who came over with William the Conqueror. All very interesting and worthy of study : but after over sixty years of research I am not much further on.

Perhaps a step in the right direction would be to devote space in the Journal enlisting the help and advice of other members in trying to solve such problems.

Now in my mid-seventies, with sixty years of research to my credit including the transcription of many parish registers and monumental inscriptions, many on film. Unfortunately, I have an invalid wife whom I cannot leave and so regret that I shall be unable to attend the meetings and Conference in Leicester. However, I look forward with interest to reading about them.

.....

Mr J.E.Fairfax, member number 283, writes from 9, The Ball, Bratton, Wiltshire BA13 4SB :

May I be permitted to add to Lt Col Swinnerton's comments ? There are many factors to be taken into consideration, illiteracy, pronunciations, dialect, locality.

My name is written as : FAIERFAX,FAJFOX, FERFIXE, FARNFAX, FEARFOXIS, FIREFAX,FURFAS.

I very much doubt if the accepted standard version FAIRFAX is correct. The test I apply is : Does an individual have any other entry relating to an already accepted form of FAIRFAX ? And this generally fixes the matter.

Variant spellings have led me to conclude that it is purely interpretation of dialect. In fact given any variation, I can pin that individual's activity down to a particular locality. I actually use the variation as a means of identification.

However I would add that the Fairfax family in these isles are peculiar in two ways :-

- 1 That all bearers of the name can be traced back to a common progenitor (circa Henry I - York)
- 2 That they have always been fluid in their abodes (great travellers).

I consider that these attributes accentuate my findings.

.....

(An ingenious A-Z Generation Grid from 1st Jan 1379 to 31 Dec 2159 divided into 30-year sub-periods is omitted because of its length. Would any interested Fairfax write direct to Mr J.E.Fairfax at his address in Bratton, Wilts.-Ed.)

Computers for One-Name Studies David Hawgood (Member 193)

I am writing both as a member of the Guild, and as editor of the Society of Genealogists' newsletter "Computers in Genealogy". The Society has just surveyed readers of the newsletter on their interests, expertise, needs for help, and computer systems in use. Of the 263 respondents, no less than 47 per cent were interested in Single Surname Studies, 24 per cent Record Transcription, 11 per cent Area Studies. Overall 50 per cent own a microcomputer, and 41 per cent are considering purchase.

Further information: "Computers in Genealogy" is published quarterly, 3 per annum from the Society of Genealogists at 37 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JX and has about 800 subscribers. The American periodical "Genealogical Computing" is published bimonthly by Data Transfer Associates Inc, 5102 Pommeroy Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032: subscription 14 p.a. in USA, 19 p.a. overseas. Both give lists of articles in other genealogical and computing journals: a recent one of interest is "The Human Roll Call" by Rachel Wrege in "Popular Computing" (McGraw Hill) December 1982 p48-55. This describes the computing plans of the Mormons - both the IGI and the new "Ancestral File".

Meetings: The Society of Genealogists Computer Interest Group has held 7 meetings in London, will plan evening and week-end meetings in London to suit the stated preferences of our questionnaire respondents, and will co-operate with any other group planning a computer meeting. For example, I am giving a talk on "How the Computer can help the Genealogist" for Oxfordshire FHS on 25th April. In the USA the NGS has a Computer Interest Group: Chairman, Esther Anderson, at 1921 Sunderland Place NW, Washington DC 20036.

Examples of genealogical files on micro-computers: Dafydd Hayes, Clwd FHS, has over 72,000 Clwd marriages on file and can extract single-surname and similar-surname lists. Mr Harrison in Norwich has over 30,000 entries from a variety of sources, filed by a type of Soundex code (in which vowels are ignored and similar-sounding consonants like T and D are given the same code). Mr Pence in the USA has a 7000-entry file for his surname. I reckon the equipment in use by these three would cost several thousand pounds.

Coming down the price scale, Don Francis here has a file of about 200 Francis names in one deanery of Suffolk, on equipment costing about £250.

All of these can do searches in various different ways - for example Don Francis can search by forename, parish, occupation, 30-year generation, and by other attributes.

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.

THE JOURNAL OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

ISSN 0262-4842

The official publication of the Guild of One-Name Studies
