The Journal Of

ONE-NAME STUDIES

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Contents

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

First, I would like to thank Dr. James Hodsdon for all his hard work in compiling the index for the second volume of the Journal. Secondly, there appears to be some confusion as to where the surveys of surnames from telephone directories for Dr. Mascie-Taylor and Professor Lasker are to be sent. I have received several completed surveys which I have sent on. However, the full address is: The Department of Biological Anthropology, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.

In this issue rather more space has been given to two types of item than usual, namely administration and the report of the One-Day Conference at Portsmouth. The decision to do this has been because for many members details of administration of the Guild can only come to them through the Journal and the fact that the above Conference was over subscribed and some members and their friends were disappointed by failing to get a place. It was of particular interest and the subject of the First Fleet was such that it is not likely to be repeated at a future conference, as is sometimes the case.

Now to a subject that some may be inclined to relegate to the future. What will happen to the fruits of all your research after your death? Please think about this and when writing a Will make provision for what is to happen to documents, notebooks, publications etc. It may be that there is someone, who will be ready to take over the research where you have left off, but frequently family and/or executors simply do not know what to do with this material and it could end up in the rubbish bin or on a bonfire. How often one hears "I remember when we turned out ... we burnt ... I wish we had them now!" I can sympathise as I still remember the day at the beginning of the Second World War when the photographs of a large number of my ancestors went up in flames in the garden for fear that they might add to the conflagration if ever an incendiary bomb came into the attic. All I remembered was Selina because she had a "funny" name and very serious face. Recently I realised that she was my great-great-aunt, Selina Curtis, born in Rackenford, Devon over 150 years ago. The Guild is unable to take members bequests because of storage difficulties, but the Society of Genealogists, county and local record offices and local libraries will do so. Please give serious thought to this as much important work could so easily be lost.

In the past I have referred to the need to use original sources and not to rely on what others have written. However, equally important is to understand the historical background of the period one is researching, as this can give clues as to where to search as well as preventing erroneous judgments. For those unfamilar with the historical background in England, there are a number of books above the level of a school text book which will supply good background material and give a comprehensive bibliography if futher material is needed on a particular topic.

My own favourite is the Oxford History of England series, published by the Oxford University Press, but there are others and if needing information in a hurry the Encyclopedia Britannica may prove of use.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN **John Hebden**

Our offer made last Spring to all UK member societies to exchange our Register for "Members Interests" was only taken up by about a third, which after allowing for those who do not produce one, is still disappointing. We already produce a leaflet in the form of our Prospectus, which is reprinted every six months and contains an updated list of names being researched. This is included in the information packs sent out by the Federation of Family History Societies on request to libraries and record offices and by one large family history society with its welcome packs. The Guild will gladly supply any society which wishes to do this. Does your local record office know about the Guild and does it have copies of the Prospectus? If not, please let us know. If when researching at a record office you normally write "family history" or "genealogy" as the purpose of your visit, why not put "one-name study"?

It is perhaps worth mentioning that there is a steady acceleration in the rate of registrations received with which at present our voluntary officials are able to keep pace; it would do us no good to encourage an overwhelming surge.

Funds have been needed since the beginning of the year to finance the publication of two new books and the replenishment of stocks of badges and binders. Other major outgoings are also very possible during the current year.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

In the light of the increasing workload carried by all members of the Committee and to give some flexibility it has been thought wise to strengthen the Committee by the creation of the position of Vice-Chairman. Accordingly notice is given below of the necessary changes to the Constitution to be put before the Annual General Meeting in May. If approved the change will come into effect from the 1989 AGM. At present we still await a decision from the Charity Commissioners on our application for Charitable Status; any response from them will be reported to you as soon as possible.

NOTICE OF MOTION

. OFFICERS
In (a) insert after Chairman, "Vice-Chairman". In the second sentence substitute "six" for "five".

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
In (a) substitute "six" for "five".

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS **Keith B.G. Meredith**

The Guild has registered its 1000th member, celebrates its 10th anniversary in 1989 and with over 10% of its members residing overseas is now a truly international organisation.

Communication and contact for all members is mainly through the Journal and the Register together with the AGM and the Regional Meetings organised by members in their locality. There is much pleasure when overseas members visit the UK and are able to attend a meeting and/or visit individual members. The essence of the Guild is contact and cooperation so the Executive welcomes any opportunity for wider contacts with members. They were able to benefit from an exchange of news and views with the private visits of Chris Barrett and Derek Palgrave to the USA and by Keith Meredith to Australia and New Zealand. As a result of these exchanges the Executive considered the following recommendations.

1) That subject to satisfactory administration arrangements an overseas corresponding member be appointed to the Executive for those countries where the need or desire for one had been identified.

2) That category differences between UK and overseas members be eliminated.

3) All members to have the option to register a name restricted to one country, but not less than one country.

4) That overseas members be asked whether they could formulate and accept obligations particular to their country.

Chairman John Hebden wrote to the overseas members seeking their views and comments on the above. Replies were received from some 25% of those circulated; 60% of these commented generally to reinforce their vote. The results were as follows:

RECOMMENDATION	FOR	AGAINST	DO NOT KNOW
1) Overseas corresponding member.	95%	5%	0%
2) Eliminate category differences.	90%	5%	5%
3) One country option.	65%	25%	10%
4) Overseas country obligations.	90%	5%	5%

After careful consideration it was decided to:

1) Appoint Overseas Corresponding Members with terms of reference.

2) Eliminate category differences but retain 'D' for administrative purposes. Overseas members can register D, DA, DB, DC or DE.

3) Defer One Country Option until the view of all members are known. The Guild computer and input effort are serious limitations.

4) Implement overseas country obligations wherever possible.

5) Appoint Keith Meredith as the Overseas Liason Officer.

The Guild celebrated the Arrival of the First Fleet with a most enjoyable Regional Meeting in January at Portsmouth, the port of departure. (A full report appears elsewhere in this issue.) It is hoped that during Australia's Bicentennial Genealogical Conference in Sydney, October 1988, that Australian members may be able to arrange a Guild meeting during the Conference. It would therefore be helpful if members could let me know if they will be attending. My address is now "Hillside View", The Hollies, Nailsworth, Glos., GL6 0AW. Tel. 0453835404.

GUILD ONE-DAY CONFERENCES **A Message from the Registrar**

To some extent I realise that these are regional affairs but frequently people from outside the area choose to attend, combining the occasion with research or to hear a particular speaker, whom they have not been able to hear elsewhere.

In the future when these are being arranged, I wonder if the committee could please see if local people attending could perhaps meet somebody at a nearby British rail or coach station, providing them with bed and breakfast on either the Friday night and/or Saturday night as the case may be. As a guide for charges the rates could be the ones shown in the FFHS Accomodation Register. Not everybody has a car and not everybody wishes to drive a distance, particularly after dark on motorways. Several people mentioned this to me on the occasion of the conference held at Spofforth, which is rather a difficult place to reach and it was those conversations that sparked off my writing this. I foresee that Cavendish, Suffolk, would fall into the same category in the likelihood that a conference is held there.

I feel the above is worthy of consideration if we are to encourage people to attend One Day events, which generally appear to be quite popular with members and also, pleasing to non-members, if attendance figures are anything to go by!

I understand that the next Conference is at Bath so perhaps those energetic and enthusiastic people who are arranging it could bear the above in mind. The venue in Bath, however, is fairly central and is close to the rail and coach stations so some of the above rationale is not as applicable. Nevertheless the reduced expense of a friendly bed and breakfast arrangment is still appealing, especially with people of similar interests.

Mrs. I.J. Marker, Member No. 93 [*"Green Ridges" 25 Gladsdale Drive, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 2PP*]

AUSTRALIAN BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE - THE FIRST FLEET - PORTSMOUTH, 23 JANUARY 1988

Contributed by Lt Col Stanley Marker, FSG USAF(Ret)

Blustery Portsmouth, by the white-capped sea, was the site of this One Day Conference which had as its theme the epic voyage of the First Fleet to its Australian destination. It would have been difficult to envisage a more fitting venue than the one which was the embarkation point of the fleet carrying the convict settlers to a new life down under. Most of the credit for the selection of the venue and the smooth flowing pace of events must be given to our hard-working Treasurer, Sydney Brewin. Thank you, Sydney, for a job well done! A total of 70 one-namers were in attendance, with 24 of them staying at the Keppel's Head Hotel, site of the Conference, either one or two nights of 22 and 23 January. As Sydney stated at the outset, he was initially worried that there might be some difficulty in achieving the goal of at least 35 members in attendance and he was most pleased to double the initial expectation.

The function officially got under way with Sydney's introduction of the first speaker of the day, Dr. James Thomas, School of Social and Historical Studies, Portsmouth Polytechnic. His topic was "Portsmouth in the 1780's - The background of the First Fleet's Departure" and it was most successful in its objective of providing an excellent insight as to conditions prevailing in the walled city of those early days. There was friction between the townspeople and the naval/military forces, with the latter generally loathed by the former! However, it was recognised that the prosperity of the City was dependant on the sea, the ships and the men that sailed thereon. A certain "fashionable elite" developed as a class and the High Street, Portsmouth, was recognised as one of the finest shopping districts in the south of England. The dockyards were a technical wonder and attracted many visitors from overseas. The unpaid bills, the illegitimacy and the other myriad problems associated with a transient population were more or less accepted as a way of life. All European diplomats entered and departed through Portsmouth, an indication of its importance as <u>the</u> premier English port. Against this background, in late 1786, provisions began for the assembly of the First Fleet. Its final destination was the subject of many

changes, including several that would have taken it to various parts of the African continent, until Botany Bay was selected as its port of call. Plans were made for a voyage lasting up to three years and 11 ships with a total displacement of 4000 tons were assembled to transport 1200 people the 15,000 miles. Thirty wagons were used, together with several small ships, to transport the 568 male and 191 female prisoners to the assembly area. The Fleet was finally gone by 12 May 1787, with Portsmouth exhibiting a rather blase attitude about the whole thing. They were used to convicts leaving by sea, a total of over 30,000 leaving through Portsmouth for their new lands overseas!

With tongue in cheek, Dr. Keith Meredith stated that due to the press of events, the scheduled speaker, Mr. Graham Bishop, from the City of Portsmouth Planning Department, would be unable to make the programme but we were most fortunate in obtaining the services of the Reverend William Johnson, Chaplain of the First Fleet! Mr. Bishop then did appear, dressed in the costume of the period and in full masquerade as the Reverend Johnson. His topic was "The First Fleet - as experienced by four of the 1200 people who were part of it". The convicts were in misery, some of them were forced to stay aboard the ships several months as destinations were argued about and the Fleet provisioned. They were allowed one hour a day in the light, then back down into the darkness. Commodore/Captain Arthur Philip was chosen to lead the expedition. He was ashore on half pay when selected for the post, one for which he had had experience having transported 400 convicts from Lisbon to Brazil. He was aged 48, a quiet man, small of stature, reliable, of dark complexion "due to his partial German ancestry" and solicitous of the miserable conditions allotted his convict passengers. He was to become Governor of Australia, promoted to Rear-Admiral in 1804 and following his death in 1814 he was buried in Southampton. The second of the four was James Scott, a Royal Marine sergeant. His wife accompanied him on the voyage and their daughter was born at sea. He returned in 1790, was discharged in 1792 and died in 1796. The third voyager to be traced was Mary Parker, born circa 1759 and was employed as a domestic servant when she was caught absconding with the family linen in 1785. She was among the 191 female prisoners and married in Australia in 1788. Seven children were born of this marriage. In 1824 she was found drowned and was buried in Rye, New South Wales. The last to be traced was Jonathan Small, who arrived in Portsmouth in 1786 and sailed with the Fleet as a Royal Marine. Immediately following his discharge from the service, he became a "low key highwayman" and at one stage was sentenced to death, a fate he managed to escape! He became a small farmer, married in 1788 and raised 7 children before dying in 1850 at the age of 88.

Following the morning's formal presentations, a double decker bus took us to the Square Tower where we were treated to an excellent exhibition entitled "The First Fleet Story". Artifacts pertainig to the period were well displayed together with full size diorama-like scenes of the voyage, which were accompanied by

lifelike sound tracks. On our return to the Hotel, we were treated to an excellent lunch.

The afternoon session began with a talk by Mrs. Sarah Quail, the City of Portsmouth Archivist. While the Public Record Office and the National Marine Museum are normally considered to be the prime repositories of records associated with naval and maritime events, Portsmouth is an excellent source of this same category of information. In 1194, Richard I assumed rights over the "Flagship of Maritime England" as he realised Portsmouth's port potential and the greater security that could be afforded naval activities in its strategic location. The Minute Books associated with the reign of Elizabeth I contain much information relating to port administration and justice, as well as data on cargoes and ships. The activities of "pirates" (legalised freebooters!) are well documented and contain a wealth of incidental information on the names of seamen and their misdemeanours. There is a repository of church records, containing both the usual information and incidental data associated with the port City. Family estate papers form an interesting portion of the collection as exemplified by those of the Hulbert Family. These give details of "prizes" brought to the harbour, where ships and cargoes were sold and the profits split. The Hulbert family did quite well from these proceedings with the family leaving the City for the quiet of the country, where the senior Hulbert proudly donned the title of "squire"! There are records of private enterprises, such as Chilcot and Williams, Corseteers. These are not to be laughed at, as corsets became an integral part of Royal Navy Uniform, particularly for those more elderly Officers and Gentlemen! A large pool of women were required to perform the sewing duties. There are Sailors' Rest records, dealing with refuges established to provide seafarers with a home away from home other than the many pubs associated with the water front. Among many other categories of records are those of the Royal Marines Orphans' School, the records of the Board of Guardians and the Royal Albert Yacht Club. The record office is well worth a visit if your family history research is in any way associated with the sea!

As time was pressing on to the sailing time of our catamaran to the Isle of Wight, our next speaker, Mr. Ian Lauder, Executive Director of the British Australian Heritage Society, was obliged to somewhat shorten his presentation, which centred on the Australian Genealogical Electronic Mail Instant Computer Search (AGEMICS). A computerised data recall system was set up at the end of the lecture. The facility was exercised to demonstrate the rapid response capability and the depth of the available data base. This was somewhat restricted by the physical dimensions of the displayed equipment, but mention was made of the literally 100,000's of names and data bits that integrated into the full system capability. Under the implications of the data protection laws, the supplier of information to the system must agree to its release. As a sidelight of the system capability, video displays of maps and three pictures of locations in an ancestor's home

area can be shown to an enquirer. It was with much regret that the session was terminated before all questions had been answered, but since Mr. Lauder was to be our tour conductor for the visit to the Society's display at St. Thomas' Church, Ryde, Isle of Wight, the opportunity was available to ask those questions at a later time. For those interested in researching their Australian ancestry and contributing to this worthwhile non-profit organisation, the contact address is: PO Box 5, AGEMICS Unit, The British Australian Heritage Society, St. Thomas Centre, St. Thomas Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

Next on the agenda was a rather bumpy trip to the Isle of Wight and the visit to St. Thomas' Church, where we were treated to another excellent display of First Fleet memorabilia and pictures. One of the society's objectives is the restoration and upkeep of the Church as it serves as their International World Centre. The original building dates from 1719 and was of course there during the formation and sailing of the First Fleet.

The catamaran return to Portsmouth was considerably smoother than the trip to the Island and the warm cups of tea awaiting the group at the Keppel's Head were most welcome. All in all, it was a splendid, fast moving weekend, with once again, many thanks to Sydney. Several of the Guild's members stayed the evening of the 23rd so that visits could be made to the fascinating ship displays adjacent to the Hotel, among them the "Mary Rose", the "Victory" and the "Warrior".

Lt. Col. Stanley Marker, FSG, USAF(Ret) [*"Green Ridges", 25 Gladsdale Drive, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 2PP.*]

Editorial Note: *Those members interested in "Transportation" are directed to D.T. Hawkins excellent book, "Bound for Australia" published by Phillimore, Chichester. This details the enormous amount of material mentioning convicts in Britain and Australia that has been discovered in the Public Record Office.*

HICKLING - Origins of the Surname

Malcolm John Larkworthy Hickling

I suppose I am more fortunate than many one-namers in being able to trace the origins of my family name to well before the Norman Conquest, to another invasion of Britain at the end of the 5th century. The patriarch of the family was Ickel, the Angle.

The origin of the name is actually recorded in the Anglo-Saxon text of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, when for the year 626, the genealogy for King Penda is given.

"...Penda waes Pybbing . Pybba Creoding . Creoda Cynewalding . Cynewald Cnebbing . Cnebba Iceling . Icel Eomaering . Eomaer Angelpeowing . Angelpeow Offing . Offa Waermunding . Waermund

Wihtlaeging . Wihlaeg Wodening."

Translation: "Penda was the son of Pybba, Pybba son of Cryda, Cryda son of Cynwald, Cynwald son of Cnebba, Cnebba son of Icel, Icel son of Eomaer, Eomaer son of Angeltheow, Angeltheow son of Offa, Offa son of Waermund, Waermund son of Wihtaeg, Wigtaeg son of Woden."

"It is very probable that the first of the Angles to reach Britain was Offa's great-grandson Icel, who in the eighth century seems to have been regarded as the founder of the Mercian royal family. There is no reason to doubt that an historical basis underlies this genealogy. In its oldest form it is derived from a text written before the end of the seventh century, and it agrees with all the meagre materials by which it can be tested." (H.M. Chadwick: The Origin of the English Nation, pp. 15-16)

Referring to the genealogy of Penda (Iceling) given above, Professor F.M. Stenton in his Anglo-Saxon England wrote:
"The eminence of the family is unique. It is the one dynasty which spans the gulf between the English people of historic times and their continental ancestors. Icel was descended from Woden through Offa, King of Angel (Angeln in Schleswig) - one of the chief heroes of Germanic legend, in which he was long remembered as 'the best of all mankind between the seas."

Although descended from Icel, the Mercian royal family had no need to use a family surname and bearers of the surname HICKLING or HICKLIN today are almost certainly descended from Icel's kinsmen and followers, whom he led ashore via East Anglia and the Wash around the year AD 499.

People who came with Icel were known as Icelings (Icel's people) and perhaps by the indigenous Iceni population, as "Those Icelings"!

Incidentally, it would appear that the surname Hickling settles the old controversy about whether the Latin "c" was pronounced soft or hard; for example, if Icel was pronounced Ickel, then Iceni was pronounced Ikeni.

In England there survive to this day place-names derived from our patriarch:

Hickling in both Norfolk and South Nottinghamshire - "Icel' people"

Ickleton (Cambridgeshire) Variation: Icelingtun, Icelintone, Yclinton - "The Tun of Icel's people" (Tun - homestead, village)

Hickleton (Yorkshire) Variation: Icheltone, Hikelton, Hikalton - "Hikel's Tun"

Ickleford (Hertfordshire) Variation: Ikelineford, Ikelesforde, Hiclingford, Ikelingford; OE Icelesford, Ickel's ford, Ickelinga-ford. "Icel's Ford".

Icklesham (Sussex) Variation: Ikelesham, Iccleshamme,

Ichelesham, Yclesham - "Icel's Hamm" (Hamm -a meadow, piece of enclosed land)

Icklingham (Suffolk) Variation: Ecclingham, Etchlingaham, Echelincgham, Ikelingeham - "The hamm of Icel's people"

St. Guthlac 673 - 714 AD, who was a teenage tear-away but reformed when he was twenty-four and eventually founded Crowland Abbey, was also a Hickling.

700 years after Icel the seal of Hickling Priory, Norfolk, reads: SIGIU ECCE STE MARIE DE HIKEL (Behold the seal of St. Mary of Hikel). From 1408 to 1424 the Prior of Hickling was John Hickling and from 1503 to 1534 another John Hickling was a Canon at the Priory.

I am sure that Hicklings in the USA, Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand will be interested in this article. As a one-namer I would be very interested to hear from any of my emigrant cousins and to learn about their genealogy in the "new worlds". The only information I have at the moment is of those who have emigrated or who were deported with no information about their families. Some left this country some 200 years ago (seven generations back): please write to me and let me know what information you have.

Mr. M.J.L. Hickling, Member No. 845 [*38 Kingsley Road, Northampton, NN2 7BL.*]

THE MIDDLESSEX DEEDS REGISTRY

Brian W. Christmas

The records of the Middlesex Deeds Registry, which first opened its Registers to the public on 29th September 1709, pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in 1708, is held at the Greater London Record Office, 40 Northampton Road, London, EC1 0AB.

The Act, 7 Anne C.20 was passed to prevent the secret and fraudulent freehold conveyance of honors, manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments (realty) in the ancient county of Middlesex, with the exception of any chambers in Serjeant's Inn, the Inns of Court or Inns of Chancery, but excludes copyhold estates or leasehold property let at a rack rent or for a period of less than twenty-one years. It also encompassed the registration of Wills affecting the transfer of any like property in the County. Any deed, conveyance or will not registered within a stated time after its execution or the death of the testator was to be adjudged fradulent and void, thereby preventing fraud and ensuring that the Register was resorted to.

The records take basically two forms, Registers or Indexes and Memorials. The Indexes run from 1709 to 1938 with the series up to 1919 being entered in large bound volumes in chronological

order, which gives the name of the vendor or first party, then the other party or parties, the parish where the land was situated and then the reference number to the Memorial. From 1920 a single alphabetical card index of vendors or first parties was kept. Not only are transfers of land by individuals registered, but also corporate bodies, such as church vestries and charitable bodies. Unfortunately, as with many legal records, the index is only of the first party, so if you are interested in someone who was a buyer it means looking through all the indexes in hope of finding the entry. Another problem is that the surnames from 1709 to 1827 are only entered under each letter of the alphabet, so that all entries for a particular letter have to be checked. The problem is compounded by the handwriting which varies from good to bad and very indifferent.

The Memorials are the most interesting part of these records, as they are abstracts of the original deeds that were being registered and usually give the date of the transaction, the names of the parties and a description of the property concerned. In some cases marginal plans of the property in question are given. The original Memorials to 1836 survive, but those from 1837 were destroyed in 1940, copies, however, still exist. From 1892 a separate series of plan tracings were made and bound into volumes.

The Registers or Indexes from 1709 to 1919 are on microfilms, which are on open access, but the rest of the records have to be ordered, for which see the leaflet "Aids to Researches, No. 8" at the Record Office.

In spite of all the problems associated with researching these records I have found to date 106 entries for my surname over the period 1709 to 1881, without looking for buyers' names and feel that it is a very worthwhile exercise. I now have the task of ordering the Memorials and taking down details.

Members may like to know that a booklet on all Deeds Registries in the British Isles, including those for the Bedford Level at the Cambridgeshire Record Office and the three Ridings of Yorkshire is in preparation and will be published by the FFHS.

Brian Christmas, Member No. 570 [*74 Oakwood Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8AL*]

JUST WHAT IS THE OBJECT OF YOUR FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Dennis J. Musk

I was interested in the letters written by Douglas Hamley and John Woodger in the Spring issue of the Journal. It may not have been their intention, but both writers gave me the impression that having successfully traced back their paternal lines, they were then seized with doubts as to whether this was really the

best thing to have done. One of them feels "that to be fair", he should have followed his maternal line to an equal extent and muses upon the relative contribution of ancestors to our physical make-up. The other has the same doubts in a different way, saying that to follow the maternal descent will lead to "an almost certain blood line" and then wonders whether paternal descent is not more based upon the notion of "clan" than the findings of genetics.

I think the writers did well to raise these questions and they remind me that I have seen and heard many expositions on the techniques of conducting genealogical research, but very little as to its purpose or the nature and signification of the end result. It would be beyond me to settle these doubts off-hand in a few words. In fact, the topic would be an interesting subject for wider discussion and to start it I make a few comments as they occur to me.

Perhaps the objective is the easiest to deal with first. A child does not have to be so very old to realise that he comes from his parents and only a little older to realise that they too have their respective parents and that these are his grandparents. There are few children who fail to ask repeatedly, "and before them?", until the parents fall back on the Creation motif of Adam and Eve. The child may realise too that he shares his own particular descent with his brothers and sisters, but not with the kids next door, or indeed any other door, so he begins to sense his individuality. This interest usually survives infancy and even now, weddings and funerals often provide family occasions for verbal genealogy. My grandparents managed four generations more or less. This is nothing new; Genesis 5 recites generations from Adam onwards and Matthew 1 does the same from Abraham. I forget why these two genealogies seem so different. Some interest in one's descent, apart from establishing a right to inherit, seems to me to be perfectly normal and natural and those that go to such efforts to search out their pedigrees from the registers and records simply manifest a higher than usual degree of interest.

We look now to see what passes from parents to child in all these chains of descent. This too is natural, as the child eventually and quite normally recognises that the children he meets resemble more their own parents than they do one another, particularly if they have marked physical difference, such as tallness, swarthiness, dark or light hair, etc. He may notice too that they also differ in behaviour; a less tangible distinction. The matter of physical differences leads us easily to the difficult subject of genetics.

As I understand it, inherited physical characteristics are conveyed from the parents to the child by packets of genes within the chromosomes. Each of the parents has a set of 46 chromosomes, with the respective genes and it is from the two parental sets that the child obtains his own set of 46, roughly

23 from each parent. The sharing is not systematic, but more akin to shuffling and cutting two packs of cards, with the result that the exact proportions from each parent depend on chance. Apart from identical twins, the number of possible combinations is so large, about 70 million of millions, that no two children are quite the same, nor, for the same reason, are they likely to be fantastically different.

Taken over a large number of families, a child receives half his genes from each parent. Since the average parent receives half from each of his or her parents, the child receives a quarter from each grandparent. Hence for successive generations the contributions form the series: 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32 and so on. However, there is a catch, because the genes are in one-chromosome packets, of which 23 come from each parent. Therefore, on the average, the grandparents contribute either 11 or 12, the great-grandparents contribute 5 or 6, the fourth generation 2 or 3 and the fifth 1 or 2, but the sixth is down to 0 or 1 and the chances of any at all after the seventh generation are very small and are practically zero after the ninth generation. From 1987, at 30 years per generation, takes us back to 1717, so that any ancestors before that date have not left any trace of their physical characterisitics in us. It is curious that old Canon Law should have prohibited marriages down to the seventh degree of consanguinity, the practical limit of inherited genetic characteristics.

Blood relationship or consanguinity is an old and natural criterion to distinguish the members of one family from those closely associated with it, but another descent altogether. It persists today in the Law of Succession, where, in the absence of parents, inheritance goes first to brothers and sisters of the whole blood and then, in their absence to the brothers and sisters of the half-blood. In reality, the blood type of the child may differ from that of his mother or father according to the way in which his parents' genes are shared. In fact, if Rhesus factors are involved, a transfusion from the mother to the child may be fatal. Hence, from this point of view, following the "blood line" through the maternal line will not be any more or less rewarding than following it through the paternal line.

Now let us look at behavioural differences. Behaviour is not inherited as is, say, eye or hair colour, but is acquired by the child as it learns from those around it. In the past, the parents usually provided a model on which the young children based their ways. As they grew older, probably the mother tended to exercise the greater influence on the girls and the father on the boys, the more so if the latter worked together, say, on a smallholding or at a trade.

Supposing this to be largely true and noting that because the daughters of the family left home on marriage to live with their husbands and lost close contact with their parents, the boys tended to have more or less uninterrupted associations with their

fathers and grandfathers. It follows therefore, that in those times the male line was more likely to have the greater degree of continuity in its ways and traditions. Today when couples set up home away from their respective parents, this is no longer the case. The degree of association can be roughly quantified, since if, on the average, the son marries at 30 and the father lives to 70, then the overlapping is 4/7 of a lifetime (57%) for his generation, 32% for the second and even the eighth generation would have contributed about 1%.

This father to son tradition sharing was a particular consequence of the patriarchal system under which our ancestors used to live. In early times it would have been seriously weakened if the family was broken up for any reason, such as the early death of the father. In later times the dispersion of families to seek work in distant industrial regions, rendered accessible by the new railways, brought it to an end for most families. More recent changes in life and work styles, as well as marriage conventions, make it the exception rather than the rule. In modern times the practice, in the event of divorce, of assigning the children mostly to the mother's care may even be tending to reverse things by setting up a mother to child tradition sharing.

Mr. D.J. Musk, Member No. 778 [*8 Bristol Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 2DL.*]

A REPORT ON THE RAVENSDALE GATHERING **Kathleen Benny**

Saturday the 14th of June 1986 saw an unusual gathering at Ravensdale Junior School, Mickleover, Derbyshire. During the morning there gradually came together more than 50 people, who can trace their connection to a certain family living in Cauldon, a small village in the Staffordshire Moorlands, in the 18th century. Their ages ranged from 5 to 86 and they had all agreed to the gathering which was the idea of Mrs. Kathleen Benny. Why did she have this idea? "When I started looking into the history of my father's family about 4 years ago, I wrote letters to any Ravensdales I found in the telephone directories. I found the married names of some Ravensdale girls too and wrote to them. Since then I have gone on writing to these people, trying to give them some idea of how the searching for ancestors is progressing. So it seemed a good idea to try to meet all these people at once and to let them meet each other, so hence the gathering."

Like many of us, Mrs. Benny had had a vague idea of tracing her family's history for quite a while, but it all really took off when she saw Jack Ravensdale on TV, in the Cambridgeshire edition of BBC's "History on Your Doorstep". She thought that she had a cousin Jack, who had visited her parents, Arthur and Florence Ravensdale, in their Western Road, Mickleover home when she was a little girl. So she wrote to the programme's producer, including a letter for Jack Ravensdale and in no time at all had a letter

back from her first cousin, Jack! His sister, Kath, had put together the beginning of a family tree, so Mrs. Benny contacted her too and so the project began to grow.

Living in Surrey, she looked in her local telephone directory and found just one Ravensdale. How lucky she was, as Mr. Earle Ravensdale's father had employed a professional genealogist to look into his ancestry and so he was able to tell her about it. Through this information she contacted three of Earle's aunts, all of whom came to the June gathering, though two of them are well into their eighties.

What are the highlights of Mrs. Benny's searches? The first was her discovery that all Ravensdales whom she had found still living can be traced back to the village of Cauldon, in two lines starting in the 18th century. The family had been there centuries before that and it is clear that these two lines are linked, but she is not quite sure at what stage yet. Her first link with the Moorlands district is Adam (very appropriately!) de Ravenesdale, who was one of the members of an Inquisition concerning land at Ilam in 1292. In a 1332 taxation list for Cauldon, she found "Rob'to de Ravensdale" and so the line has gone on.

One of her earliest finds, through a cousin having a newspaper cutting, was that a 'cello was displayed in Derby in 1926 and praised very highly, which had been made by her great-great-grandfather, John Ravensdale of Clifton. One of his sons, Thomas, who painted inn signs and carved gravestones, is reputed to be the artist who decorated the four walls of a room in Ashbourne with hunting scenes, stately homes and gentry in 18th century dress. This painting featured in local newspapers in 1914 and then was rediscovered in 1966, when an article appeared in a local journal.

Ravensdales of this family can be found in many parts of the world today. Mrs. Benny has made contacts in Australia, Italy, France, Canada, America and Africa. From Canada she found that Arthur Ravensdale, who left Lancashire with his parents during the first World War, was a hurdler for Canada in the 1932 Olympics.

Has Ravensdale School anything to do with the family or is it just a coincidence that the gathering met in Mickleover? It was no coincidence. Mrs. Benny was born in Mickleover and her parents had various connections in the area. Her father was a member of the Parish Council for many years and was Chairman when this new school was suggested. When it was opened he was honoured by having it named after him, so it seemed a natural choice of place to meet before people went off on the coach tour of the Staffordshire Moorlands.

Mrs. Benny is sure there are others who have Ravensdale ancestors whom she has not yet been able to trace. So if anyone reading

this is one of the lost relatives or knows anything about the family, Mrs. Benny would be very pleased to hear from them, at 19 Mary Vale, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1SW.

HOLDITCH BYEWAYS **Jim Holdich**

For the last year or so I have been reasonably sure that the hamlet of Holditch in Dorset (4 miles N.E. of Axminster) was the original source of my surname and its variants. The large number of Holditches in Devon during the 16th and 17th centuries as listed in the IGI reinforced this theory; though I did wonder at the grouping of Holditches living in a handful of parishes near Peterborough at the same period. One of the families was that of John and Johane, who farmed in Wadenhoe and died in 1591 and 1610 respectively. They were my direct ancestors.

On account of the relatively small number of persons alive at any one time bearing any variant of this surname, I have been collecting data on them countrywide and in any century. The IGI has yielded a good harvest and I have been plotting this information by county and century on a roll of lining paper.

Having read John Virgoe's article, "How to Put Your Name on the Map" in "Family Tree", February 1987, I thought it would be interesting to compare the IGI distribution with todays, using the current telephone directories.

After several back breaking hours - our local library has only low soft chairs and no tables - I wound up with the following totals: Holdich 62, Holditch 20 and Hollidge 113, which I shall plot one day on outline maps of the UK.

However, some much more interesting items came to light in the Stoke-on-Trent telephone directory, namely the "Holditch Colliery", the "Holditch Service Station" and the "Holditch Miners Welfare Club". Either a prominent member of the clan had lived near Newcastle-under-Lyme or there must have been another place called Holditch or a variant.

Newcastle has a large reference section in its central library. In it I found indexed volumes of the Fine Rolls and Inquisitions applying to Staffordshire extracted from the originals.

The first reference I found was to an Adam de Holedych in 1255, then Robert, son of Robert de Holedich in 1256 and in 1318 Richard de Holedich sold eight bovates of land to Sir James de Andby of Stretton. Later references abounded to various people, especially the Baddeley family living in Holdich, which appears to have been more or less on the present site of the colliery.

The Gazeteer only lists one site, but it seems there were at least two, although I doubt that travel from Stoke to

Peterborough would be different or easier than from Axminster. E. Eckwall says Holditch means "a ravine, or deep ditch" in Old English, so it is possible that there were other places with this name. Therefore I propose visiting Birmingham Central Library to study the Rolls identified by Mrs. Vera Purslow in the Spring 1987 edition of the Journal.

I do intend to proceed with the distribution studies, but for the present it must take a back seat to this new and interesting byeway.

Mr. J. Holdich [*Wheelwrights Cottage, Great Hales Street, Market Drayton, Shropshire, FF9 1JW.*]

FAMILY INSIGHT **Ann Chiswell**

At the end of September I was on a study tour of historic houses in Suffolk and Essex. The house which appealed to me most, of course, was one at Layer Marney which had two rooms in the gatehouse tower full of pedigree and heraldry. I remarked to my husband that I must send a note of the Copplestone in the Arundel pedigree to Murial Reason (112) and he commented that the walls were swarming with Tyrells (830). Another person previously unknown to us but in our party said that she wondered if Tyrell connected with her own surname research on the Tearle family (Barbara, 139). As we wound our way down the steps the lady behind her remarked that her Aunt Daisy had married a Tearle and we quickly discovered that Aunt Daisy was Barbara's grandmother! There was no separating those two first cousins once removed after that and we all thanked Insight Tours of Birmingham for unexpectedly reuniting two separated family branches.

Member No. 28 [*96 Beaumont Street, Milehouse, Plymouth, PL2 3AQ*]

THREE EVENTS STRANGER THAN FICTION **Lyn McCulloch**

One does not often come across the name Huntingford. I know of several John Huntingfords and a few David Huntingfords and even the odd Archie and Edgar Huntingford, but the following story told to me by Stephen Minay really amazed me.

Apparently his uncle, Cedric Huntingford, once took part in a shooting competition. When the name of the winner was announced he was delighted to find that he had won. However, another gentleman stepped forward too. The organisers said that the winner was Mr. C. Huntingfordand both gentlemen went to receive the prize. Perplexed, the announcer explained that the winner was Mr. Cedric Huntingford. Yes, you have guessed, both were called Cedric Huntingford.

One elderly lady, with whom I corresponded, was told that she was the last surviving member of her family. One day I noticed in the personal column an appeal for relatives of an old lady who had died, leaving a small amount of money. I wrote to my correspondent, feeling very cheeky and asked if this could be her sister. It was! (Moral: Never take anyone's word for anything.) She had not heard from her sister for 34 years and had presumed that she was dead. After my letter, she received a small bequest from her sister's estate.

A few years ago my husband's grandfather died, aged nearly 103. My own grandfather died about seventy years ago aged about 47. (My mother was only about 5 when he died.) Quite recently a friend looked at the old school records for Kilmacolm, Renfrew. There we found my grandfather and my husband's grandmother in the same class at the village school. It was a very strange feeling to think that they knew each other. If only I had known sooner I could have asked Grandma what he was like or would she have just remembered a nasty little boy who pulled her hair and teased her?

Mrs. Lyn McCulloch, Member No. 795 [*"Barrymore", Marbury Road, Comerbach, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 6AU.*]

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

Recent correspondence on the topic of circulation of the Register coincided with a review of our voluminous correspondence files. Since I founded this one-name study in 1984, we have corresponded with over 600 persons world wide.

To place our study in context our Civil Registration Indexes for births and deaths, which we hope to complete from 1837 to date by the end of 1988, are likely to contain in excess of 30,000 individuals in England and Wales. Our county material pre-1837 contains at least 5,000 individuals already card or computer indexed and probably represents in excess of over 10,000. We have quite some way to go before this processing will be complete! Thus, we have a relatively large population in this country to study. In addition we are aware of populations of German Mantels, French and Italian regional families and Scottish and Irish families which merit future research.

We know five correspondents who located our address from the Register. Of these the contact arose because one LDS branch library had routinely mentioned its copy of the Register to all newcomers, accounting for three out of the five above. The others came through the library staff at the SOG and IHGS at Canterbury!

Like many other correspondents I am not dissatisfied with my membership of the Guild. The volume of work involved isolates and precludes me from a great deal of activity or participation. I have received good co-operation from many other Guild members and hope in future to offer much more data to them. Our priorities at present prevent searching widely for names, but our computer data base will gradually enable this to happen.

Our two sources of correspondence which have significantly benefitted us are:-

1) The LDS Family Registry. This costs nothing and is widely used throughout the world. We routinely enter every individual line of research and have found that this medium accounts for over a third of all our initial contacts. This leads me to conclude that the Guild should seriously consider much closer links with and supply members studies to all LDS branch libraries.

2) The Genealogical Research Directory. Our advertising in this medium has been well worth while and cost-effective. This is the largest source of our contacts, but nearly all of them live overseas. This leads me to suggest that this is seldom used by family historians on a routine basis in this country and that it does not feature prominently in record offices and libraries.

We have found the hard slog of contacting telephone directory entrants to be financially prohibitive, although rewarding. Our preferred route is letter writing or advertising in local papers, especially free newspapers in a close geographical area. This has been found to be of great benefit to overseas correspondents in search of a missing ancestor and an effective means of publicising not only our own name study but the Guild as a whole, especially when journalists write a feature article.

Our more bizarre contacts have come to us courtesy of the armed forces, the Post Office and British Telecom! A wildly enthusiastic officer on a nuclear submarine featured in our lives for a while, calling us mysteriously from the oceans of the world by radio telephone, eventually to be united happily with his forebears. Then there was an elderly lady, who spoke impeccable English, phoning from Abu-Dhabi, at least that is what she said! I am grateful for the people who ring off peak from America and Australia in the sheer excitement of having found someone with an interest in their surname. However, perhaps my persistance in pursuing our local Telecom manager for directory entries was not a good idea. I have a suspicious feeling that our phone number is now widely given when people query missing relatives!

In our experience the Guild need to do better for its growing membership in publicising the Register much more widely. Since we are a growing body, the Guild need to formulate a policy on this issue to take account of the continuing expansion and the

need for the best publicity for its existence and members' interests. Surely the time has come for a Publicity Officer to work closely with other organisations. Members have made many suggestions on this question, but to date remain ignorant of any steps to be taken.

Henry J. Mantell, Member No. 695 [*Mantle Surname Organisation, 131 Isabella Drive, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent, BR6 7UF.*]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

With all the correspondence there has been in recent Guild Journals regarding access to and the availability of accurate records I should like to comment on some of the issues raised.

I am at present a category "E" searcher because until recently, I had not searched any of the St. Catherine's House indexes in London. This state of affairs will soon be rectified, I hope, as these indexes are now available on microfilm 1837 - 1912 at the Central Library, Birmingham and after completing the extraction of Trahere and variant surnames I shall wish to apply for category "C" status.

As a consequence of the availability of these indexes I am helping a fellow searcher, who lives in Cairns, Queensland, Australia, not only with his Trahern relationship but also with three of his other related surnames, as he is unable to obtain St. Catherine's House information easily in Australia. I have also searched the National Index of Wills on his behalf in the Birmingham Library and make no charge for any of this research, but in return he has sent me Traherre/Traherne information from Australia. He has agreed to pay me for all copies of Somerset House Wills and St. Catherine's House certificates, which I send to him by airmail. It would seem to me, to endorse Mrs. M.A. Hardy's remarks that this form of co-operation from members should be more forthcoming.

With regard to the use of the IGI and Mrs. McCulloch's statement that it should only be used as a "finding guide" and "all references thoroughly checked against the original", this does not take into account the errors in the original records which are numerous and parish registers and census returns are not all reliable. How does one explain to an enquirer why their ancestor Alfred Ernest is recorded in the parish register of baptism as Albert Ernest, or that the John on the IGI should actually be James? A contributory factor to these errors is the illegible handwriting and the poor quality of the filmed records one has to use now that registers in many areas are no longer allowed to be "handled.

My last comment concerns the distribution to non-members (free of charge) of the Register. Unless sufficient publicity is given to all searchers of the whereabouts of the Register, this wider

distribution would be of no more use than providing the Register to members only.

Mrs. Vera Purslow, Member No. 310 [*"Centuries" 10 St. Michael's Road, Claverdon, Warwick, CV35 8NT.*]

From the Editor: *Following the Chairman's Message on page 35 of this Journal, correspondence on the subject of the distribution of the Register is now closed.*

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

The statement attributed to Dr. Sturgess in Vol. 2 No. 12, page 316, is not acceptable as it stands and must not go unchallenged.

If the word "some" had been inserted at the start of the article I would have no argument, but to generalise to such a vast degree is very naughty.

Surnames have been under constant threat from mere phonetics ever since they arrived on the scene. They are changed by whim and for inheritance and it is not at all unusual in this area to find men taking their wives' surnames as part of a deal to get her land on the death of her father.

The devolvement of names through the "alias syndrome" as a result of illegitimacy is well known to every genuine historian and we must also take into consideration name changes brought on by a wish for anonymity (criminals) or acceptance (some gypsy families). Also we should consider the large numbers of foreigners, who when deciding on official name changes went for middle-of-the-road surnames as found on local shops etc. Taking these facts into consideration I would doubt that the other statement "the problem can be tackled on a statistical basis" has any reality either, except in the field of fun and games.

After twenty-five years of detailed research into West Country families it has become quite clear that our idea of a surname was our ancestors idea of a label, to be renewed or altered when and if circumstances indicated. This would also shoot holes in most of the alleged "derivations of surnames" which I am personally convinced are no more than guesswork in most cases.

The modern explosion of genealogical interest and perhaps in particular the detailed studies of the Guild may make it possible to come up with some very strongly founded ideas on the derivation - flow of some surnames, but I am beginning to get edgy about the number of people who forget that this subject is one of the humanities not a fixed science and thereby liable to startling inconsistencies.

Brian Austin, Member No. 656 [*11 Alma Street, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS23 1RB.*]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

Last October's hurricane in the south and south-east brought to my attention the disaster in November 1703, when it is estimated 8,000 people died and I wonder which areas were most affected by this storm. Also, I believe that between 1650 and 1703 there were two serious plagues, but I have never been able to ascertain the estimated number of deaths in each instance or the areas most affected. I am wonder if any readers of the Journal know the answers to these questions and if so if they could kindly let me know.

Many researchers find it difficult to get back earlier than 1700, a problem made worse where patronymic practices existed, as in Wales. Thus there is a need for historical and social matters to be considered in great depth by genealogical groups, which at times tend to be parochial and introverted.

My own experience suggests that in the 17th century relations, sometimes with different surnames drifted, partly "en bloc" and partly in ones and twos into new areas. A similar trend can be detected with the modern building of new towns and work incentives. At the moment there is no current method in use by family history societies which would show such population drifts.

The 17th century in England was not only a time of civil war and plague, but also religious persecution and emigration which was associated with it. These events have tended to leave huge gaps in records and although much is being done to remedy this, the number of small booklets is liable to become unwieldy.

Mr. J.D. Crawford, Member No. 534 [*368 Abergele Road, Old Colwyn, Clwyd, LL29 9LV*]

[Editorial Note: *For those members interested in sources for the mid 17th century, G.E. Aylmer and J.S. Morrill's "Sources for the English Civil War and Interregnum" is excellent. This solved for me the problem of the Walker Papers, which I had been unable to locate in spite of enquiries at the HMC.*]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

Help! Does anyone own an Amstrad Computer with a telephone modem and 3" disc drive?

I have approximately 2,000 pre-1835 marriages of Pat(t)ricks which I would like the Guild to have access to on the Marriage Index. As my collection is stored on a BBC Computer and has

already been typed in, transferring it to an Amstrad 3" disc would save an enormous amount of man hours.

Please write or phone me if you can help. Also, I would appreciate any pre-1835 Pat(t)rick references, especially a Pattrick/Horner marriage link.

Colin Pattrick, Member No. 521 [*"Hickory Farm", 136 Hamlet Court Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.*]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

I am writing to you to say how much I enjoy reading the Journal of One-Name Studies. I have two young children to look after so I find it difficult finding any time for research and meeting other members at a conference would be quite impossible. I should like to ask members about two fairly basic subjects.

First, it is obvious that the problems of a one-name study depend greatly on how common or how unusual a surname is. Do members have a simple way of comparing surnames? I would suggest perhaps using the number of entries in the U.K. telephone directories (which in my own case is nearly 300). I would find it interesting when reading about members' research in the Journal, to know how the scale of their research compares with my own.

Also, has anyone calculated the factor for multiplying this number by to obtain a rough estimate of the number of people with a certain surname living in the U.K.?

Secondly, I presume that other members try to contact people with the surname that they are researching by writing to addresses obtained from telephone directories. I have tried this and have found the response rate is disappointing. When I tried including a reply form the response was even worse, although I enclose an s.a.e.

Are experienced members able to suggest the format of a simple letter of enquiry, which provokes interest and brings a good number of helpful replies? I should add that, from those who have replied to my enquiries, I have made some good friends, some of whom have already carried out research into their family history and who greatly appreciate the newsletter which I send out at irregular intervals.

Celia J. Dodd (nee Godson), Member No. 670 [*19 Godmans Lane, Mark Tey, Colchester, Essex, CO6 1LU.*]

REVIEWS

Centuries of Traherne Families: Book Seven, Cornwall and Devon. By Vera E. Purslow. 1987, 19pp.

This delightful little book traces the history and various spellings of the surname Traherne in Cornwall and Devon. Out of the couple of hundred names in the book, I was surprised to find only two references to the surname Traherne, the most common variant included being Trehane and Trehearne. Nevertheless, this book is well researched, nicely presented and a joy to read.

K.E.W.

The Perrett Society: family notes. Vol. 4 (Summer 1987) ISSN 0266 8572. Quarterly, A5, 28pp.

This is an obviously well-established one-name society and my main complaint is that, as a librarian, I would find it extremely difficult to file this journal title alphabetically! More seriously, the lack of a contents page makes it very hard to consult.

It is nice to see a society making efforts to cater for their overseas membership and the globe on the cover indicated that, although I was looking at the summer issue for the northern hemisphere, it was winter for antipodean members.

One or two points of genealogical misinformation occur; no county record offices "approve" researchers; all their lists state specifically that inclusion therein is no implied recommendation. Also there was an implication that one would find marriages in "dissenting" records, without an explanation that between 1754-1837, marriages were only legal when performed in a parish church, a Quaker meeting house or a Jewish synagogue.

This journal packs in a report on the AGM, detailed articles, members' news and queries and extracts from records, providing a useful well balanced publication for anyone researching this multi-variant surname .

P.M.P.

Warry's Down Under: Vol. 1, No. 3, June 1987 ISSN 0815-7804. A5, 63pp.

Although several pages of this journal were illegible, I think, they can be forgiven, because overall this is a good effort from down under. The imaginative use of large headings and various paste ups is good. The editor states that with increased membership he hopes to improve the quality of the printing. The many different kinds of articles included in this issue should be plenty to keep people happy. One excellent article deals with

the origin of the name Warry, in which several facts on Anglo-Saxon spellings of surnames are given, indeed this has given me new insight into my own Anglo Saxon origins.

K.E.W.

Merritt's International Newsletter. Vol. 1, No. 1, (October 1987) ISSN 0952 0813. Bi-annual, A5, 40pp.

Although this is a first issue, the editor has clearly planned well in advance and has managed to avoid many pitfalls inherent in starting a new one-name journal. The layout is clear, with a contents page and short articles from a good variety of sources and areas.

Mr. Merritt has the advantage of 165 subscribers from the start, which is probably why 50% of the text is devoted to their queries, brief descriptions of Merr(i)(o)tt ancestry and extracts from records. This creates some imbalance, but as a strategy for recruiting more contributors and subscribers, it is probably a good tactical move!

The editor ends with a plea for more material and on this showing deserves plenty of support from his readership.

P.M.P.

Reviewer's Note: *Not all one-name groups have the benefit of a large number of potential subscribers: some relate to very rare surnames and others have only a few people researching the name. Two first issues of this type of group are reviewed below.*

Apthorp(e) Society Newsletter. No. 1 (July 1987) Bi-annual, quarto, 12pp.

The Apthorp(e) Society Newsletter starts out with the minutes of the inaugural meeting of the society and of the first committee meeting. Perhaps not the material for every issue, but of interest to founder members. It then records the research interests and biographical details of the newly elected committee members: a useful introduction which should encourage other members to contribute.

Layout and reproduction are attractive, but it is difficult to assess potential at this stage, although the desire of the society to communicate democratically with its membership promises well for the future.

Golden Grove: the Newsletter of the Isgrove Family History Group No. 1 (June 1987) ISSN 0951-760X. Bi-annual, A4, 6pp.

An entirely different first issue: clearly the work of a keen one-namer reporting to his correspondents on progress of research.

The layout is uncluttered and the editor has made good use of an italic typeface for extracts from letters, although this correspondence section would be easier to follow with clearer divisions between topics.

As always, any development will depend on support from subscribers and their willingness to contribute a variety of material for future numbers. There is sufficient potential in this first issue to stimulate their interest.

P.M.P.

NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Miss Eunice Wilson has contributed the following sources likely to be of help to members.

First, if you are researching a person who was at the Battle of the Somme in World War I, a must on your book list is the work on the Battle by Lyn Macdonald, one time BBC Radio 4 producer and now an authorative historian on the First World War. Published by Michael Joseph in 1983, it has a magnificent list of names of all the people involved who were contacted for their first hand experiences. Names and regiments such as these are difficult for the family researcher to come by, so it is no mean help.

Miss Macdonald's other works, may also be of help and especially useful for her bibliographies.

Secondly, Miss Wilson suggests that members write to the British Library, Reference Division, for the No. 9 Named Collection in the Department of Printed Books by Alison Gould 1981. Also that it is worth while trying to obtain a British Library Reader's Ticket, since the Library is open after the Museum closes on weekday evenings. A browse through the open shelves may reveal something about the counties in which members are interested or even names. The catalogue and subject indexes are gold mines.

There are special collections in the British Library for which a reader's ticket is necessary and some proof that the research is of a serious nature and the books needed are not available elsewhere. Some of the books in the special collections are of genealogical or local interest. It is not possible to obtain most of them elsewhere as they were donated to the Library. They are not usually in the General Catalogue, so members may not easily discover them. Some examples are given below:-

> The John Bell collection of material related to the History of Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1733-1855, in 20 volumes. LR26461 b 1.

Scottish Genealogy - John Malcolm Bullock. Newspaper cuttings and periodicals 38pt 1898-1937. 9915 pp 23.

Articles on the Gordon Family, newspaper cuttings etc, 40pt 09915 t 2.

Portraits and biographical details of some officers in the South African War. 6 volumes. 1900 LR271 d 1. Both the above by J.M. Bullock.

Births, marriages and deaths from American newspapers, 1832-1850 by Samuel G. Drake. 10881 dd 12.

Prospectuses of public companies made by Thomas Glover of Manchester 1830-1845? 1890 e 1.

Hanover Military Library - library of the General Staff College at Hanover, mostly 19th and 20th century books on military topics, acquired by the Museum at the end of World War II. ML.

Collection for the history and topography of the parish of St. Pancras formed by Richard Percival 2 volumes 1729-1830 Crach 1 Tab 4 b 3.

Also by Percival - prints and drawings etc. for the history and topography of Surrey, 1847. Crach 1 Tab 1 b 1.

Books, pamphlets, cuttings etc. relating to the church of St. Saviour, Southwark. 2 volumes 1750-1860 William Taylor C 45 h 13.

Handbills, playbills, reports on Yarmouth and Norwich Railways Co., charitable societies, etc. 1830-1892 relating to Great Yarmouth. formed by Dawson Turner 9 volumes 1889 d 14.

(Miss Wilson, 143 Harbord Steet, London, SW6 6PN, would very much like to hear from any member, who has made related finds.)

The Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry have produced a new Burial Index for the Greater Birmingham area. It contains almost 100,000 burials during the period 1813-37 covering all Birmingham and adjoining parishes. The once arduous task of locating a missing burial in the City is now made easy. For a list of parishes included or extractions from the Index, please write to the administrator: David Pullar, 1 Kemble Close, Trent Park, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV12 4DQ.

A new member Mrs. Ann Laver has had printed a booklet of 148pp. in A5 format entitled "John Thompstone of Gadsworth Mill. A History of the Thompstone Family". John Thompstone had 12 children, 51 grandchildren, 91 great-grandchildren and a total progeny of 436 Thompstones by 1954. 85% of all Thompstones in the St. Catherine's House Indexes relate to this one man. He lived from 1742 to 1808, but the booklet has earlier research going back to William Thompstone of Newton, Prestbury living in 1690.

Gawsworth is in Cheshire and by 1881 the Thompstones were only in three counties, namely Cheshire, Lancashire and Staffordshire, but today they are scattered throughout the British Isles and John's descendants are now in Jersey, the U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

There are copies of the booklet in the NCFHS, M&LFS, SOG and Macclesfield libraries. It is now in its 2nd edition and those interested in purchasing should contact Mrs. Laver at "High Elms", Ripley Lane, West Horsley, Surrey, KT24 6JJ. Tel: East Horsley 3304.

Mrs. Uffindell (Member No. 552) and her husband have transcribed and indexed the 1674 Hearth Tax Assessment for Cambridgeshire (E/179/244/23) and below is a list of names occurring in the Assessment which are being researched by Guild members. The Cambridgeshire Family History Society are running a postal search service of the Assessment for a fee of £1 per surname and its variants (50p. for members of the Cambridgeshire FHS) or 2 IRCs plus an s.a.e. for which all entries for a given surname and its variants will be sent. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to the Cambs FHS and sent to 21 Gaveston Drive, Berkhamsted, Herts., HP4 1JF.

ABRAM ALLEN ALLIN AMEY ANSELL AP(E)THORPE ASH ASHBY ASHTON AVES AVIS BALL BALLARD BANHAM BANWELL BAREFOOTE BARLOWE BARRETT BASSET BEDFORD BELCHAMBER BENTON BENWELL BERRESFORD BLACK BLEAKE BLISSE BONNETT BOYCE BOYNTON BRETT BRICHENOE BRIGGS BRINKLOW BROWNE BRYANT BURDITT BURGIN BURGIS BURGON CAMPION CANDY CAVE CAWTHORNE CHADDOCK CHAMBERS CHANDLER CHANEY CHRIS(T)MAS CLAXTON CLIFFORD COLLIER COLLYER CORBETT COX COZENS CRABB CRISMAS DALTON DANES DAVISON DENTON DISSE DOBSON DOCKWRA DORRELL DOWCE DREWE EAGLE EAS(E)Y EDGERTON EDWARDS ELLAM ELLIS EMMERSON FABIAN FAIRCHILD FARNHAM FAUX FEARY FEAST FREE FREEMAN GARLAND GASKIN GATES GENT GILBERT GILES GILL GINE GOADE GODDARD GOFFE GOODALL GOODAY GOODBODY GOULD GREENEWOOD GUNTHORPE GYLES HAMLETT HAMLIN HANLEY HARDIMAN HARDWICK HARDYMAN HARMAN HARRINGTON HASTINGS HICKLYN HOBSON HOLCROFT HOPPER HORE HUNTER INGHAM INGRAM JACOB JARMAN JUDD JUDE KELSEY KIDMAN KINGSTON KNIGHT(S) LAMBERT LARKIN LAWE(S) LEGGETT LING LINTON LUPTON MAINE MAKEROV MALIN MANTELL MANTLE MARTIN MARTYN MASTERSON MAYE MAYNARD MEDCALFE MERRINGTON METCALF MOBB(S) MONEY MOTT MOULDER MURRELL MUST NEALE NEWMAN NICHOLAS PADGETT PALGRAVE PARRETT PATRICK PAYTON PEAK(E) PERKINS PREEST

PREIST PRIEST QUEENE QUINCE REILEY REMINGTON RICHMOND RICKETT RIX ROBERRY ROSE RUSSELL SAGARS SAGGER(S) SAWYER SCOTT SEARLE(S) SEDGWICK SKINNER SKYNNER SOWTER STADDARD STAGG STEBBIN STRANGE SWAINE SWAYNE(S) TARRANT TEBBALL(S) TEMPLER TENNISON TERRELL TODD TOOKES TUCK TURKIIN(G)TON TURNER TURNOR TWELVES UFFINDALL UFFINDELL VOYCE WADDILOW(E) WADMAN WALLER WATSHAM WAYTE(S) WEBB WEEDEN WEEDON WELLS WHITLOCK WITTMORE WILLERTON WILSON WINGRAVE WOODHOUSE WOOLLWARD WORTH WYNN YEOMANS

Douglas Vick has edited another volume of Hampshire Lay Subsidy Assessment. This new volume is entitled "West Hampshire Lay Subsidy Assessments, 1558 - 1603" It includes an explanation of the administration of the subsidies and Elizabethan taxation and a list of the Hampshire subsidy rolls at the Public Record Office. The bulk of the book is taken up with details of who paid and the amounts in the Hundreds of Andover (Inner and Outer), Thorngate, Kings Somborne, Wherwell, Barton Stacey, Overton, Kingsclere, Evingar, Pastrow, Chutely, Christchurch, Ringwood, Fordingbridge, New Forest and Redbridge and the Liberty of Bishop.

Mr. Vick can be contacted for details at 13 Badshot Lea Road, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 9JR.

Following Dr. Hodsdon's letter, page 27, in the last issue of the Journal showing that the era of spurious one-name histories had reached Australia, Miss Monica Carolan has sent an extract from the Australian publication "Choice". In the section "Shark Watch" it has given details of the NSW Supreme Court having issued an injunction against the publishers of such a book forbidding them to continue sending out misleading sales letters. However, although the injunction was issued 20 May 1986, so far it seems it has had little effect.

It was reported recently, that the Irish government is to hand over to Australia the microfilmed records of 40,000 Irish men and women, who were transported there in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Mr. Frank Mueller (who recently contributed an article to the Journal) of The Burdick Ancestry Library, 2317 Riverbluff Parkway. #249, Sarasota, FL 34321-5032 U.S.A. is trying to obtain the current address of every BURDICK in the world! He believes

there are only about 25 listed in the English telephone directories. If any members could help Mr. Mueller with these listings please write to him at the above address.

The following items are available from the Guild's Sales Officer, Mr. D.A. Attwood, 3 Banbury Road, Byfield, Nr. Daventry, Northants, NN11 6XJ. All prices include postage. Cheques should be made payable to: The Guild of One-Name Studies.

Surname Periodicals £3.25(UK) £3.50(Overseas Surface) £4.00(Overseas Air Mail)

Organising A One-Name Gathering £1.20(UK) £1.40(Overseas Surface) £1.80(Overseas Air Mail)

Notelets and matching envelopes both with Guild logo £1.00(UK)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Guild of One-Name Studies

The Guild of One-Name Studies will be holding a regional One Day Conference on Saturday, 1st. October 1988 at Abbey Church House, Hetling Court, Bath. Speakers will include Richard Sowter on "Resources of the Mormon Genealogical Library and the I.G.I", Michael Gandy on "Some Unusual Sources for the One-Namer" and a third speaker to be arranged. There will also be an Open Forum for questions and exchange of views and experience. Further details will be given in the next Journal.

Barrett International

The 1988 Barrett International Reunion will take place on Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22, 1988 from 12.30 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Friday and 8.30 a.m. to 9.15 a.m. on Saturday. The venue will be the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia. The 1989 Reunion will take place Friday, July 21 to Sunday, July 23, 1989 at Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A. For more information write to Dan E. Barrett, 194 Main Street, St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, L2N 4V8.

The Perrett Society

The Perrett Society, which incidentally covers all variations of the name - Parrott, Parrett, Perrott, Porrett, etc. - will be holding its 1988 A.G.M. at Narberth, Dyfed, over the weekend of 30th April/1st May. The meeting and exhibition of "P" material and data will be on Saturday and a coach trip visiting the

various Perrot castles in Pembrokeshire will take place on Sunday, May 1st. Any Guild member with a "P" connection is invited to come along and join us. Further details from the Secretary, P.S. Perrett, 36 Elim Court Gardens, Crowborough, E. Sussex, TN6 1BP. (with a sae. please).

The North Middlesex Family History Society

Below is a list of the PRO/North Middlesex lunchtime lectures for 1988. Any Guild members in town on these days are very welcome to attend. Normally those attending meet at 12.00 for 12.30 at the Chancery Lane gate.

14th April	Mr. C. Tucker	Jewish Genealogical Sources
9th June	Dr. A. Prochaska	Culinary Sources in the Public Records
11th August	Dr. N.A.M. Rodger	The Armada
13th October	Dr. H. Forde	Branching out into Local History
8th December	Mr. J. Walford	Commonwealth Archives

The International Molyneux Family Association

The first International Molyneux Family Association Reunion will take place July 7th to July 11th, 1988 at Loseley Park in Surrey, the ancestral home of the More-Molyneux family to host the first ever Molyneux "Clan" International Reunion. There will be a banquet at Croxeth Hall, ancestral home of the Earls of Sefton, 5 days of events through Surrey, Nottinghamshire and Lancashire. The Internatiional Molyneux Family Association has reached a worldwide membership of almost 300 in less than two years. For full details of the reunion and membership contact David L. Molyneux, 42 Keswick Road, Great Bookham, Surrey, KI23 4BH. Tel: Bookham (0372)54745, Please enclose an sae.

DEADLINES

The deadline for the Summer issue of the Journal is Monday, May 30th, 1988 and for the Autumn issue, Monday, August 29th, 1988.

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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.

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 £3.00 and the Annual Subscription, payable 1st January, is £5.00. The subscription covers four issues of this Journal and two issues of Family History News and Digest.

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