The Journal Of

ONE-NAME STUDIES

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The Journal of
ONE-NAME STUDIES

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FREDERICK N. FILBY 1915 - 1995

Fred Filby, who died in January, had been involved in genealogy since the 1960s. His interest in family history was first aroused by a letter from Ellsworth Filby of America enquiring about a possible relationship. Fred quickly became a dedicated family historian and is rightly regarded as one of the pioneers in the field of One-Name Studies.

He was born in Camden Town on the 15th of January 1915 but his parents later moved to Maldon in Essex, where he went to school. On leaving school, he secured employment with one of the leading firms in the field in those days - Cossor Radio and Television. Seeing the war was coming, on the 11th of March 1939, he married Elsie Barton at Maldon and they subsequently had two sons, Roger and David.

During the war, he served with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps returning to Cossor at the end of hostilities. He was involved in the sales and distribution side of the business and was retained after the takeover of the business by Phillips Electrical, finally retiring in 1980 at the age of 65.

Just before this, he went to the United States to visit Ellsworth and toured all over America by Greyhound bus ending up, naturally, in Salt Lake City. It was here that he saw, for the first time, the CFI (Computer File Index as the IGI was then known) and argued persuasively that we ought to have this in Britain. On being told that they could not possibly sell this to an individual, he persuaded them to sell one to him so that he could donate it to the Society of Genealogists, which he very generously did. This set a precedent and shortly afterwards, the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies and the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry were also allowed to purchase copies and these were the only three sources of the IGI for some years. He also provided an interest free loan to the Society of Genealogists so that they could purchase a reader-printer. It was always a source of amusement between us that his post code contained the letters IGI!

He attended the first ever two meetings of one-namers that I arranged, the first in Surrey at the home of a wheelchair-bound member and the second at my home. These kindled his interest in starting an organisation for One-Name Studies which eventually led to the founding of the Guild of One-Name Studies in 1979, of which he was the founder chairman, doubling up as registrar and editor. Although Fred and I differed very strongly in our views on the proposed categories, he still did me the honour of asking me to chair the inaugural meeting which was absolutely typical of him - I always found him to be scrupulously fair and tolerant of other's views.

His devotion to the cause was such that he used to produce the early numbers of the Guild's newsletter in his bedroom, which caused a certain amount of friction in the family due to the very strong smell of the inks he used!

Even after he retired as chairman, he continued as registrar and when he finally retired from the post in 1985, he was elected the Guild's first President, in recognition of his outstanding services. He had already been elected a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists in 1983.

Fred Filby made a great contribution to family history and the Guild of One-Name Studies will stand as his lasting memorial.

Iain Swinnerton

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Mary Rumsey

The Guild mourns the death of its first President, Fred Filby, who did so much to found it. His obituary appears on the first page of this Journal as is fitting.

Members have expressed their views on the twin topics of members' obligation regarding research and membership categories, often linking the two, no less than six letters on these topics appear in the "Letters" section. Also there are comments on Mrs. Goddard's article "One-Name Studies - An Alternative View". The question of standards of research is a difficult one, since it would seem it means different things to different people. I have been taken to task by a member for my January 1995 editorial when I expressed my personal view on this using the words that members "should consider whether they are providing an educational service when called upon, namely replying to enquiries based on accurately researched work". Primarily I think we should be honest and if we do not have the information tell the enquirer straight out. Also I think we should make it quite clear to enquirers when we have insufficient documentary evidence to be absolutely certain of the descent of a particular line, as often is the case when going back to the 17th and 18th centuries, when words such as "it appears that" could be used.

One aspect of our research which I have never seen addressed in the Journal is the possibility of one of the rare surnames dying out. Mr. Jaunay's letter (page 189) brought this to mind, since it is unlikely that one will receive information if few references to your name exist. It is said that it is very rare for a family to die out completely, as it will be carried on by female members, whose name has changed through marriage. However, the dying out of a surname through failure of the male line is quite possible. Also a surname in one of its variant forms can die out although in its most usual form it will survive. Then unless it is recognised as a variant, it will be assumed that a surname has died out completely.

In this issue is the first part of a two part article by Mike Spathaky on using the worldwide network CompuServe. This is only one of several worldwide computer networks and their use in one-name studies is one that needs discussion and consideration. Also Eric Banwell's report on the meetings of members in Somerset reveals that half the members coming to these are using computers.

Finally, I would be very happy to have some more volunteer reviewers. Recently, I have received many more newsletters, journals and a few books, including one hardback, for review. This is good, as it means members are beginning to publish in larger numbers. However, if the number of reviewers is not increased there will be a long wait before they see a review in the Journal. All volunteers receive "Guidelines for Reviewers" which is fairly self-explanatory, but also I am willing to advise either by letter or phone.

THE CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Peter Goodall

During the General Discussion Session at the January One Day Seminar, one of the questions asked was "Why is there such a growing interest in family history today, never seen since the gregarious period?"

Apart from having better access to the records and ever expanding hi-tech facilities for communicating, there must be some other enhanced human impetus which has awakened our awareness. Perhaps the enthusiasm we all show for

discovering our own ancestry or of someone else's is motivated by a desire to regain and consolidate the total family unit.

Genealogy in this country, until the Society of Genealogists became established, was primarily in the domain of the nobility and landed gentry. However, a number of yeoman families recorded their pedigrees in the "Family Bible", which was passed down from generation to generation, but due to the dispersal of family nuclei from rural to town life, many were lost. (By the time of the 1851 Census the population of England was evenly distributed between town and country.) In my own case one such bible is mentioned in the Will of Thomas Goodall of Rosliston in the County of Derby, dated 5th December 1848, bequeathing it to his nephew or niece "who may prove successful - (after casting lots) - in obtaining it". I am still seeking the beneficiary out of eighteen possible recipients.

A few years ago whilst delving into "Box 57" at the Derby Library of Local Studies, I found two sheets of scribbled Goodall pedigree notes accumulated in the 1830s, extending from the early 18th century; alas without reference to origin or who wrote them.

These are two examples of "lost" material. If only the executors of Thomas's Will had the name of the successful legatee recorded on the grant for probate and the scribbler had identified himself!

The energy and incalculable hours we put into our researches will be a total loss unless we straightaway, now, make provision for our records to be preserved. To ensure our wishes are carried out, expressed instructions should be included in all our Wills preferably lodging with the Guild details of these instructions and executory. This Journal carries a questionnaire which includes a section "Preservation of Your Records". If you are reluctant to complete the whole form please do consider this part and return it with your name and membership number.

The use of the Guild logo by members on their own correspondence is to be encouraged, providing it is applied without alteration. Size, of course, is at the discretion of members.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY **Jessica Freeman**

Guild Constitution A draft of a new version of the Guild's constitution has been circulated with the Register. The Executive Committee proposes that the following amendment be put to the Annual General Meeting:

5. Officers [b] The words "42 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting" will be substituted for the words "the 1st March"; and the words "to reach the Secretary in a sealed envelope seven days before the date of the Annual General Meeting" will be substituted for "and returned to the Secretary in a sealed envelope by 1st May".

REPORT FROM THE SOMERSET COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE **Eric Banwell**

County meetings were held December 1994 in Weston-super Mare and February 1995 in Taunton. The total attendance was twenty Guild members.

A variety of Guild issues and available local sources of information were discussed. Pooling thoughts on "Organising the detail" was useful. Over half

those present now have some or all of their records stored on computer. Three specific points that arose warrant mention:-

1. The article by Jim Tatchell in the October 1994 Journal was appreciated and members would find similar contributions helpful.
2. Any Journal reviews of computer programmes should be slanted towards the benefits they specifically offer a one-namer rather than a general family historian.
3. A feature article on the Guild's Marriage Index, publicising both how to provide data and to commission searches would be welcome.

Members were encouraged to personally contribute to the Journal.

A private Spring visit to a LDS Family History Centre is being arranged where records available for a one-name study will be highlighted.

Further Autumn 1995 meetings are planned for Portishead and Taunton.

Finally, articles, like the specimen copy given below, have been published in three family history society journals that cover Somerset. The combined print of over 3,000 copies has stimulated interest both in the county and the rest of the UK with two queries from overseas. Several new Guild members have been the result and similar free publicity through family history societies is commended to other county representatives.

[Specimen copy of article published in family history journals]

GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

Information has been received that the Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS) has established a network for local communications. Representatives have been appointed for over 20 counties and one of our members, Eric Banwell, has accepted the role of County Representative for Somerset. Eric has already held meetings in Taunton and Wells, and 20 of the 27 members, who were contacted were represented at one or the other. Those present were unanimous that in the future twice yearly meetings will be beneficial. It is intended that the local area should be that of "Historic Somerset". However, a computer operator in the South East, who supplied the list of Guild members in the area, cannot readily identify those with "Avon" or "no county" in the address. If anyone reading this has been missed, please get in touch with Eric.

For those members who have little or no knowledge of the GOONS, Eric has kindly given a short description of the Guild and its objectives.

****

After a short history and explanation of the Guild the article ends:

If any Society member would like more information about the Guild and its national and local activities, please contact Eric Banwell, Brinton Lodge, 37 Milton Lane, Wells, Somerset BA5 2OS.

For "Out of County" or overseas members, I should be able to put you in touch with the appropriate county or overseas representative.

Finally, it is recommended that researchers check the current Register of One-Name Studies for names of interest to them. The "Help Wanted" columns, Member's Interests lists and similar features in many journals. regularly reveal a lack of knowledge of the extensive data already available to enquirers for the cost of a Stamped Addressed Envelope.

REPORT FROM THE ESSEX COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

I published and sent out around 35 newsletterS in response to those members who had replied in the positive to my initial questionnaire. I originally sent out around 65 questionnaires and have therefore assumed that those not replying are not interested in local representation.

The Guild's Essex membership held their first meeting at John Dowding's house on Monday 10th October. There were 19 people in attendance, which was far more than expected. Comment was made that the idea of getting together locally was the first real contact that some members had had with the Guild and they were grateful for it.

I had published post codes of interested members, which seems to have gone down well with arranging lifts. Several people are not happy about travelling at night alone.

Discussion was soon in full swing as to how the group cOULD function. It was agreed that a questionnaire should be circulated to discover what name interests we all have, where our names originate, what their derivation is, what record office visits are planned, future meetings, venue possibilities, who knows what about what particular research avenues, what other FHS memberships individuals have, lifts wanted, advice wanted on particular subjects, etc. In addition we are to compile a list, from individual members' knowledge, of available sources in local record holdings, opening times of record offices, odd sources known locally, etc.

We discussed the idea of cross referencing slips for mutual help and several references to name interests were offered during the evening. All in all, I felt that the evening went very well, with plenty to achieve at future meetings. A newsletter will be published by me on a six monthly basis.

REPORT ON THE ONE-NAME SOCIETIES' CONFERENCE AT NORTH FINCHLEY

Bob Cobbing

Another One-Name Societies' Conference was held on Saturday, January 28th, this time at the Thomas More Centre in East Finchley, London N12. Over sixty people attended, but only seven were representatives of societies, the rest being B and C members in almost equal proportions.

After an introduction by the Guild's Chairman, Richard Moore led the first session on finding source material. He, himself, had a wealth of information to offer and, in the discussion which followed, those present came up with many other useful sources.

At very short notice, and arriving just two minutes before his session was due to begin (navigational problems), Alan Linfield gave an extremely lucid account of the use of the computer in genealogy. Very few of those attending were computer experts and many were obviously sceptical about using computers, but Alan made the subject seem so simple and fascinating that I am sure some at least will think again.

The computer session chaired by John Witheridge, generated so much interest that it spilled over into the afternoon. It was followed by a session on publishing one-name material. Derek Palgrave and myself talked briefly about our methods of publishing and many technical matters such as ISSNs, legal deposit, printing methods and the like were demystified.

The afternoon ended with an open discussion session chaired by Ernest Hamley. It is to be hoped that some of the valuable information imparted in these four

sessions will find its way into the pages of the Journal.

Mr. R. W. Cobbing, Cobbing Family History Society, Member No. 1669 [89A Petherton Road, London N5 2QT.]

CHRISTIAN NAMES

Jessica Freeman

Christian names, both those which are obsolete and those which survive, engage our attention because they are part of our culture and history and because their origins and meanings are matters of academic interest. For the genealogist, however, the serious study of Christian names can be much more than intellectual enquiry into meaning; there are several ways in which a fuller understanding of where and when particular names were in use can be of real help in the identification of individuals and families; Christian names can be an invaluable genealogical tool.

Dictionary Limitations

On the whole dictionaries of Christian names can be trusted where etymology is concerned, but few detailed regional surveys have been carried out, and dictionary observations on the history and frequency of even quite popular names can be much less reliable. GEORGE for example was said by Withycombe to be "rare" until the advent of the House of Hanover in 1714" but this ignores the much earlier popularity it enjoyed in northern countries. HAROLD which was said by the same writer "to have died out altogether" after the 13th century and revived only in the 1800s was actually in use in Nottinghamshire from the 1500s at least. These are not the only examples and it is clear that the family historian may need to rely more on his own observations at a regional level than on the generalizations in works of reference.

Accurate Identification

The way in which a Christian name is recorded by a clerk can be very different from the way it is used in everyday speech and it follows that a genealogist should be completely familiar with the latin forms of names. On the whole these pose no great problem, but Galfridus (Geoffrey), Egidius (Giles) and Jacobus (James) need to be learnt. Not all scribes were confident about these latin forms and Radulphus (Ralph) was sometimes confused with Ran(d)ulphus (Randal). A problem could also arise perhaps when Jacob began to be used in the 1500s, and here the names of siblings might be decisive. The sons of Michael Waterhouse named Isaac, Caleb and Abraham dispose us to think that Jacob was their brother's name, not James. Nor should we presume that spellings such as Peter, Reginald or Nigel reflect the way in which a name was pronounced. Pers, Renald and Niel are much nearer the spoken versions and there is no doubt that such differences could hinder a person's perception as to the "correct" form of a name. For example, Percy was clearly for Pers in some cases, and Annes (for Agnes) lead to some confusion with Ann. In fact some names were commonly confused in the 16th and 17th centuries, as were Beatrice and Betty (Elizabeth).

There are other ways in which identification can be a problem. For much of our history only a handful of Christian names were in popular use and pet-forms and diminutives were commonplace. Tom, Dick and Harry may be obvious pet-forms, but Jud, Han and Pog have less obvious associations and some others have never been satisfactorily explained. The etymologies of common surnames such as Dawson and Nelson are in my view much more complicated than has been thought and I believe that it is most unlikely that "Daw", used over a long

period, ever meant David in the North of England. On a different level altogether is the habit of substituting a pet-form for a Christian name as part of an establish surname. Forms such as Richardson alias Dickinson illustrate the problem in such cases.

Gender Expectation

We have a perception today of which names can be given to boys and which to girls, and also of which names, subject to a spelling convention, may be given to either sex. This can lead us into error, for in some regions and at some times quite different customs could prevail. Valery Darcy (1581) was a man, as were Florence Musgrave (1563) and Shirley Lindley (1773), whereas Sidney Constable (1641) and Douglas Brittaine (1756) were girls. In cases such as Philip, Benedict, Julian and Nicholas, the sex of the person concerned might only be clear if the latin form was given and it is clear that the problem goes far beyond the few examples quoted.

Siblings with the Same Name

It was not at all uncommon in the past, particularly in the 16th and 17th centuries, for brothers to have the same Christian name. This may simply reflect a concern that the name should continue should one son die at an early age, or it may be that where a man remarried he chose his favourite name again. It is a topic which has already been discussed at some length by Cox for example, in "Parish Registers of England", but there is no doubt it can still cause confusion. The use of "senior" and "junior" or "elder" and "younger" in such cases was no doubt intended to aid identification, but these words might also imply a father/son relationship and their use can be ambiguous.

The Reformation

The break with Rome in 1534 and the dissemination of the English bible caused something of a revolution in name-giving. Those families which clung to the past might continue with traditional names, but they would be in a minority. The non-scriptural saints speedily fell into disgrace and their names were often confined to a single gentry family in one region. In Emley the Allotts persevered with Brice and in Kirkburton the Storths or Storrs used Gervase, but only their kin or close tenants copied their example. The avant-garde names were drawn from the Old Testament, and minsters, together with their gentry patrons, were quick to embrace the new fashion. Christian names in both these categories were unusual enough for a time to provide useful evidence for the genealogist.

Puritan Names

The extreme reaction of some Puritans to traditional naming habits gave rise to such unusual forms as Praise-god and Sin-deny. It is true as Withycombe says that these were "most rife from about 1580 to 1640", but not all of them fell immediately out of use. In Almondbury, and the immediate neighbourhood, "What-god-will" or "Quod-vult-deus" was in use from circa 1620 to the end of the 18th century, used by the Croslands, Berrys, Hirsts and Blackburns. Towards the end of this period it may have been just "goodwill".

The less obvious Puritan names are also useful, for a sequence of baptisms can help to establish a distinctive pattern in one branch of a family, where the surname in itself would not be adequate identification. For example

Richard Hall of Sowerby named his four daughters, Prudence, Fortune, Grace and Mercy.

The Gentry

The one class which had the power to break with tradition was the gentry and several new fashions were created. Perhaps the most obvious of these was the use of surnames as Christian names, mostly but not exclusively for boys: Langley Pickles for example was the grand-daughter of Richard Langley of Rawthorpe, and Holcroft or Howcroft was a woman's name in Lancashire. In some cases a boy's name of this kind could become prolific in a relatively tight-knit area and a notable case was the Christian name Tempest, used almost exclusively in the Bradford/Calverley region where the Tempest family held land. No doubt the way in which such a name became popular owed much to the god-parents' influence and there are good examples to show this could eventually ensure the popular use of a name.

It is almost certain that the gentry also helped to change naming habits by choosing names they were familiar with in classical sources, for example Ulysses and Aeneas, or in medieval romances for example Troilus and Lancelot, but less obviously they may have chosen some unusual names from their own ancestral history. It is not always easy to tell whether the use of such names maintained an unbroken tradition or was a deliberate revival designed to imply or emphasise long-standing gentry status. Many examples could be quoted but Mauger (Vavasour), Cerell (Arthington) and Anker (Frecheville) illustrate the point. Regional surveys may well establish if this habit played any part in the more popular use of the regionally significant Ottiwell and Thurston.

If the gentry and ministers played a leading role in the break with tradition in the 1500s, the new naming habits soon touched other groups and the introduction of "new" names into the parish cannot always be satisfactorily explained. Malin was particularly popular with the Stacys in Sheffield for the 1500s, Squire in and around Birstall from the 1600s and Tedbar with the Tinkers of Holmfrith from the 1700s. The family historian is uniquely placed to identify and comment on such usages whatever their causes. The popularity of Hilda in Whitby and the use of Alkelda and Oswald in the Yorkshire Dales clearly owe something to local church dedications; whereas Cornelius might be just a New Testament choice or, as in the Thorne area, a Low Countries influence. The popularity or incidence of Low Countries' names persisted and was not just influenced by sectaries.

In concluding this paper it can be said that Christian name research cannot fail to help the family historian. Traditionally such research has concentrated on etymology and on the influence of Christian names on surname origins. Now there must be systematic and detailed analysis of Christian name usage, both chronologically and regionally, leading to reference works which will tell us just when and where particular names occurred.

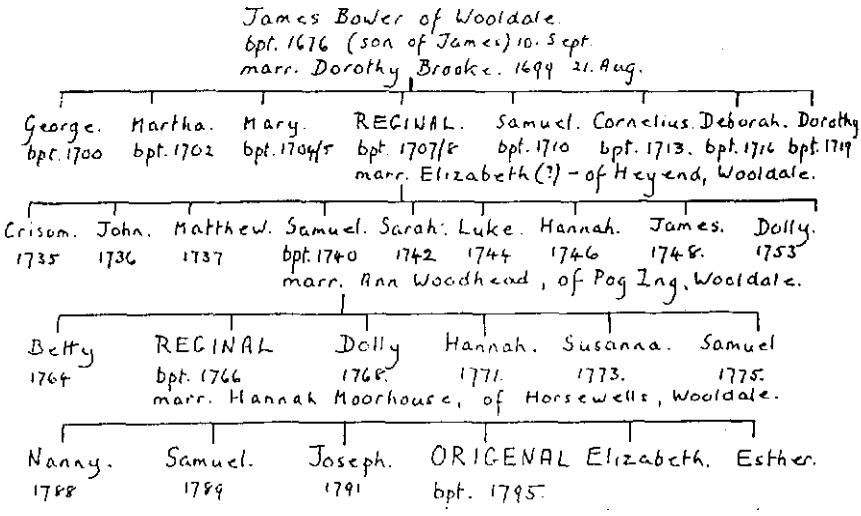
Illustrative Material

"REGINALD BOWER of Wooldale

The evidence in Kirkburton Parish Registers suggests that the surname Bower finally settled in Holmfrith in the early 1600s. Before then references are sporadic but point to a link with the Bower family of Derbyshire and South Yorkshire, rather than with the Bowers of Bradford. The first of the name was

"Reginald" Bower and his uncommon Christian name developed in a way that raises interesting questions about its pronunciation:

1633	Regnald Bower married Frances Brodhead, Parish Register.	} of Wooldale
1641	Renald Bower, Protestation Return.	} in Holmfrith
1650	Reginaldus Bower married Mary Hanson, Alm Parish Register.	} possibly
1672	Reynold Bower, Hearth Tax.	} a Quaker
1689	Reignald Bower, burial Parish Register.	}



G. REDMONDS: Christian Names

Note: Hunter in his "South Yorkshire" noted that the Babingtons of Rampton. Nottinghamshire, used the Christian name Originall as did Originall Bellamy of Markham, Nottinghamshire, and Stainton, South Yorkshire:

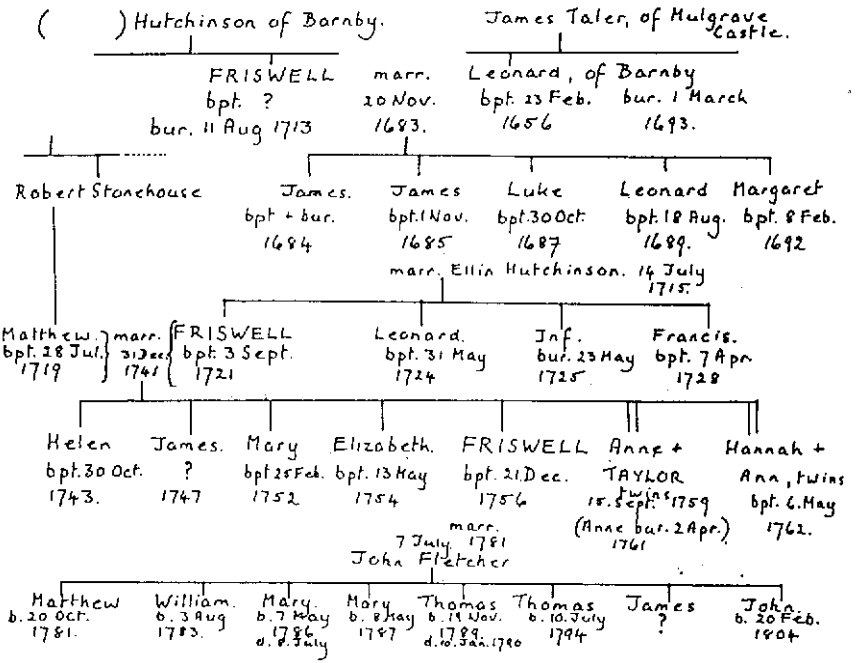
1570	Originall Walshe, baptism, Parish Register.	}
1618	Originall Midgeley, baptism, Parish Register.	} Braithwell
1628	Orginall Bellamie, Parish Register.	}

FRISWELL Hutchinson, Taylor, Stonehouse, Fletcher.

St. Frideswide is said to have been a daughter of a King of Mercia and to have founded a convent in Oxford on the 8th century. There are remains of a shrine to her in the cathedral there. Her name continued in use after the Reformation and was used in Yorkshire by the Saviles. According to Withycombe it frequently suffered corruption and one variant, found in the North Riding, was Friswell.

The parish registers of Lythe survive only from 1619 and Friswell was then in

relatively frequent use, being particularly popular with a family called Hutchinson. At least four girls were given the name between 1632 and 1664 and one of them later married Leonard Taylor.



The following table demonstrates the frequency of Christian names in four different areas of West Yorkshire at the time of the Hearth Tax of 1672. Twenty-one additional names, occurring once or twice only in total, include Stephen, Roger, Charles.....

Stephen, Roger, Charles ...

G. REDMONDS: Christian Names

	1672	DENT INGLETON THORNTON	HOLMFRITH	BRADFIELD	HEPTONSTALL STANSFIELD ERRINGDEN	TOTAL
1	JOHN	76	55	58	87	276
2	THOMAS	39	22	38	16	115
3	WILLIAM	25	18	26	28	97
4	RICHARD	21	19	20	17	77
5	JAMES	27	23	3	13	66
6	ROBERT	22	14	14	13	63
7	GEORGE	13	20	27	2	62
8	EDWARD}	13	4	17	2	
	EDMOND}	5	4	2	4	51

9	HENRY	4	15	12	18	49
10	ABRAHAM	1	15	4	24	44
11	JOS:	1	17	6	7	31
12	CHRISTOPHER	15	6	6	3	30
13	GODFREY	1	22	2	-	25
14	RALPH	1	4	13	-	18
15	NICHOLAS	4	1	10	1	16
16	JONAS	-	1	-	11	12
17	PAUL	-	-	-	11	11
18	SIMON }	-	-	-	6	
	SIMEON}	-	-	-	5	11
19	MICHAEL	1	3	-	7	11
20	JONATHAN	-	1	6	4	11
21	ROWLAND	5	-	5	-	10
22	ANTHONY	4	3	2	1	10
23	FRANCIS	2	2	6	-	10
24	REYNOLD	1	1	6	-	8
25	MATTHEW	2	3	1	2	8
26	GILBERT	3	2	1	1	7
27	DAVID	-	2	-	5	7
28	ADAM	-	4	2	-	6
29	JEREMIAH	2	2	-	2	6
30	DANIEL	-	2	1	3	6
31	LUKE	-	1	1	4	6
32	LEONARD	6	-	-	-	6
33	SAMUEL	-	1	-	4	5
34	ALEXANDER	4	-	-	-	4
35	MILES	4	-	-	-	4
36	HUMPHREY	-	4	-	-	4
37	MARMADUKE	4	-	-	-	4
38	GILES	3	-	1	-	4
39	ISAAC	-	2	-	2	4
40	LAWRENCE	2	1	-	1	4
41	ELLIS	2	-	-	2	4
42	NATHANIEL	-	-	-	4	4
43	BRIAN	3	-	-	-	3
44	ARTHUR	-	2	1	-	3
45	GEOFFREY	3	-	-	-	3
46	CALEB	-	2	-	1	3
47	MARTIN	-	-	2	1	3
48	ANDREW	-	-	1	2	3
49	AMBROSE	-	-	1	2	3
50	HUGH	-	1	-	2	3

Ms. Jessica Freeman, Member No. 51 [76 Highlever Road, London w10 6PN.]

HOW TO MAKE FACTS SUIT THE SITUATION (OR DO THEY) **Ron Duckett**

Having two dates for one event is not uncommon in genealogy, but when there are three different people who are convinced that theirs is the correct one, you have to try and sort it out if only to get peace of mind. It all started when an Australian lady wrote saying that her husband was descended from the 1851 marriage at WEXHAM, Warwickshire, of Susannah Duckett and Charles Wain. My own records showed this to have taken place at EXHALL, Warwickshire, on 23rd July 1862.

When writing to explain this to her, I asked where she got her details from, her reply stated, from an original copy of a certificate. Also that my date could not possibly relate to their family, as the couple already had five children when setting up home in the Dalby district of Queensland in 1863.

Having already checked my St. Catherine's House Births and found a Susannah registered at Foleshill, Warwickshire in the third quarter of 1862, I returned to the full indexes and cross-referenced it with Wain. I then discovered a Charles in the same quarter with the same volume and page number. So can it be that there were two families with the same name?

Other research kept me occupied, but the discrepancy was still there and I longed to find the time to get further into it. Then a year or so on a letter arrived from a second Australian lady claiming to be a descendant of Susannah and Charles Wain, who married at HEXHAM, Warwickshire, in 1845! This time I wrote to both ladies asking for a copy of the documents they had taken the dates from. This produced copies of two death certificates showing that one had calculated the date from Susannah's and the other from Charles's.

These Australian death certificates are packed with official looking information, but past experience has shown that it is only as reliable as the mind of the person who gave it. There was, however, other information that set me wondering. The date they arrived in Australia was the 1st of November 1862; Susannah was the daughter of a travelling boatman while Charles's profession in Australia was that of solicitor.

You may now be asking yourself what connection do these have? Well around that time I was reading an article on emigration. It explained that it was easy for an able-bodied young man to get an assisted passage, but he had to produce a marriage certificate to take a family with him.

Now before you all jump to the obvious, consider the other information. With Susannah's family travelling around, they could have met and married in any of the four neighbouring counties before setting up home and having children baptised at Bosworth, Leicestershire, which is on a canal. Times were hard and emigration, perhaps with others they knew, looked good. To comply with the timetable of events it would not be passed a budding solicitor's mind to arrange a second marriage for a quicker or cheaper way of replacing a lost document.

Which ever way it was I think the above, although not proven means that it can now be put to one side until the next piece of the jigsaw falls through the post.

Mr. Ron Duckett, Member No. 1333 [Outwood Hills Farm, Lower Outwoods Road, Burton upon Trent, DE13 0QX.]

NOTES FROM A NOVICE **Richard Kefford**

I have just joined the Guild and I would like to report my experiences so far in family history research and set out my objectives so that I may perhaps look back over these jottings in several years time to see if the result is anything like the objective!

I started looking into my own family history a few years ago after realising that I could answer very few of my children's questions about their ancestors. I followed the usual route of St. Catherine's House indexes and certificates and quickly constructed a simple names and dates family tree. This seemed unsatisfactory and incomplete and so I started to flesh it out with

occupations, movements and anything else that would add to the interest. This became overwhelming as the amount of information increased so I decided to concentrate on the Kefford side of the family. I had already accumulated quite a bit of information on unrelated Keffords so I then started indexing the GRO and IGI. I then found that by entering this information on to a computer database, it was a simple matter to start reconstructing families.

By this time I had started writing to Keffords in the telephone directories and was finding difficulty in storing the information in a recoverable form, so I obtained a Shareware copy of Brothers Keeper. This proved to be exactly what I wanted and so I quickly sent off to the author, John Steed, for the latest version (5.2) and the full handbook. This has since been followed by a print utility program which allows production of wall charts or three generation charts from Gedcom files, produced either from Brothers Keeper or sent by other researchers. I also made contact with several other people who were researching associated surnames. This was mostly done by looking at "Family History Knowledge UK" produced by the Family History Club of Mountain Ash.

Now I am in the position of having all the Births and Marriages of "my" name from the GRO and IGI and Deaths from the GRO on a database that can be sorted for NAME, PLACE, PARENTS or YEAR to give possible family groupings. Also I have many trees and documents such as wills, deeds, etc.

I have so far used this information for:
1. Exchanging information with people who contact me.
2. Investigating changes in infant mortality over a period of time.
3. Investigating changes in life expectancy.
4. Investigating how family size changes with infant mortality.
5. Trying to determine the place of origin of the name Kefford.
6. Following the name around the country.
7. Pursuing emigrants overseas and tracing their descendants.

It is at this stage that I have joined the Guild, as I feel that now I have carried out enough research to qualify.

My main interest and objective now is to continue to collect information on "my" name so that I may eventually write a history of the name from about 1500 to the present. I would like to merge family history with a general history of England. For example, I find it intriguing to be able to say that John Kefforde, yeoman of Barley, Hertfordshire, was increasing the size of his farm by one and a half roods by buying the copyhold from James Porter for forty-six shillings and eight pence and three bushels of wheat in 1563 - five years after the coronation of Elizabeth I and twenty-five years before the Armada. I wonder if Francis Drake was ever in Barley?

I would be interested in hearing from more experienced Guild members about their experiences that brought them to joining the Guild and what objectives apart from just carrying out research and accumulating information, fascinating though that is in its own right. Also I would appreciate their advice on possible areas of research, bearing in mind that there has been only 1,424 Kefford births registered between 1837 and 1982.

It seems that the work of recording, storing and communicating data will increasingly be carried out by computer and Gedcom files. What are members' views on the way forward for computers in family history and in particular, one-name studies? Will perhaps the increasing use of multimedia allow faces and life stories to be linked with names on CD ROM discs, following on from

John Purser's ideas on the use of tape and video recording in the January 1994 issue of the Journal?

Finally, there are two reasons why I particularly enjoy this rewarding and addictive hobby - first is that this is probably the only field in which I am able to carry out original research - the second is the pleasure in corresponding with people with a similar interest from different parts of the world.

Mr. Richard Kefford, Member No. 2347 [10 Mayfair Avenue, Nailsea, Avon BS19 2LR.

COMPUSERVE FOR ONE-NAME STUDIES - PART 1 **Mike Spathaky**

About four time a week I switch on my personal computer and make three key-presses on the keyboard. I listen while the PC dials a phone number (my computer is plugged into a British Telecom socket). When the connection is made I am in touch with a worldwide network called CompuServe. The CompuServe host computer checks my mailbox to see if there is any electronic mail (e-mail) for me and downloads it to my PC. My PC sends off any mail that I may have stored in its own outbox. The PC then tells CompuServe to connect me to its Genealogy Forum. Here it downloads the subject titles of all the new messages on my chosen topic sections - new that is since my last visit. It also visits a couple more Forums in the same way before disconnecting and showing me how long I was connected for - usually about 50 to 70 seconds, which is less than one BT cost unit (5 pence long distance) during cheap rate time.

All this has happened automatically. I have done nothing since the initial key presses except watch the screen to see that it is all going smoothly, which it almost always does.

When my PC has rung off, I call up the e-mail on the screen and compose replies. With the Forum messages I just have the list of subject headings at this stage, so I bring up the list and choose which messages I want to see, marking them for downloading as I go along.

CompuServe Libraries

Occasionally I may decide I want to download a file from one of CompuServe's many libraries. This may be an article about the top 50 surnames in Victorian Britain, a GEDCOM format file of someone's family history, a User's Guide to the Genealogy Forum or a piece of genealogy software. So I mark the files for download in the Library Catalogue.

I may decide to type a message to put on the Forum. This can be addressed to an individual or simply to "All". In either case it will be there for all to see (unlike e-mail for which privacy is guaranteed by CompuServe). After all this is done I press a key to initiate a "second pass". Connection is made again, the Forum messages and Library files that I marked are downloaded on to my hard disc storage, my e-mail replies and Forum messages are sent to CompuServe - all within one, occasionally two, BT time units, and all on-line activity is automatic.

When I first joined CompuServe I already had a modem linking my PC to the phone line. So all I had to do was buy CompuServe's introductory package, install the software included and sign on. Straight away I decided to join the Genealogy forum. This was simple and I had the opportunity to state my interests. I just entered the name CREE, my one-name study. I then checked

other members' interests to see if Cree was shown there. There was just one, so I straight away sent an e-mail. He replied "I'm just starting this research and don't have very much so far but here is what I do have". It does not connect with any other Crees that I know of yet, but we are keeping in touch as something is sure to come up one day.

Connecting other members by e-mail

I also did a search of the 2.4 million membership directory of CompuServe to see if there were any Crees on the list. Luckily the CompuServe host computer took the drudgery out of the job and it took just a minute or so. There were ten Cree subscribers in the United States and two in Canada (none in the UK). One I recognised was Charles Cree, a Texas member of the Cree FHS. CompuServe's mailing speed and low cost have since enabled Charles and myself to discuss recruiting US members to the Cree FHS and he has now agreed to be our USA representative. He receives subscriptions in US dollars and funds are transferred in aggregate from time to time to minimise exchange costs.

I also e-mailed the other eleven Cree members of CompuServe. I had four replies which I reckon a good hit-rate, and much correspondence has ensued on Cree family history. Elayne Cree's messages are typical of e-mail's informal style.

Mike: Sure, I'd like to know more. Keep me on your list... One caveat: don't try to sell a genealogy; I've gotten those pitches in the past. Not much info for the money.
Look forward to hearing from you again.
EC

Mike: Thanks for your reply. I guess I should first tell you that I live in Connecticut, U.S.A. I can assume by the way you spell certain words that you're in the U.K. (Isn't CompuServe great!) Continue to send me info as you have it. Now for what I know about my family roots.

My father was born George Scott Cree (he's now deceased) in New York State to George Gault Cree and Ethel Taylor Cree around 1916. My grandfather was an engineer with General Electric and travelled the globe for the company (mostly Australia and the Far East) before settling in Schenectady, New York. I never knew my grandfather as he was killed in a boating accident when my father was 16 years of age. I do, however, carry his middle name as my own. My only sister, Sharman Cree, carries my father's middle name (which is what he went by). My only sister, she lives in Boston, Massachusetts.

I believe my grandfather was originally from Glasgow. My grandmother from London... Look forward to hearing from you soon.
EC

This meant Elayne's father was second cousin to Cree FHS members in Scotland and New Zealand, and first cousin to an elderly lady living in Glasgow. I sent all the info back to her including the origin of her and her sisters middle names, and she replied:

Mike: Boy that's great stuff! Sure, I'll join as soon as I find out about currency conversions, etc. from the bank.

I'm sending a copy of your last message to my mother and sister. Sharman will probably flip!

You know, my husband's been after me to go to New Zealand

for a couple of years. Maybe now I've got an excuse to go, with relatives there...

Thanks again. I'll be in touch.

EC

Listings of surname interests

Early on I downloaded a file from the Genealogy Library Newcomers' Section which gave a general run-down of the possible uses of CompuServe for genealogists. This pointed me to another Library file which contained a large listing of surname interests of genealogists using the Internet, another worldwide computer network. Here I found two more people who had listed the name Cree. Dave Dollard in Missouri can trace back to a Cree family we know from Pennsylvania in the 1750s, with tentative connections to Fife, Scotland. Elayne and Dave have now both joined the Cree FHS through Charles Cree in Texas.

I posted a general message in the Genealogy Forum under the subject "Cree surnames worldwide" and addressed it simply to "All". As this forum is very busy, the messages scroll off the board in a few days, so I generally re-post this one every Friday. It is very short, just telling people that we exist as a one-name group and pointing them to three files that they can download from the Library if they want more information. These files give, firstly a brief history of the main Cree lines that we know of (back to 1570s in Scotland, 1643 in Derbyshire, circa 1700 in Ireland), secondly some details of the Cree FHS, while the third file is a sample issue of Cree News. Dixie Hansen in Minnesota was one who spotted my messages.

"I am a Cree Descendant and saw your posting on CompuServe about the Cree Family History Society. I descend from the Robert Cree family of Pennsylvania, as follows..."

Then followed a complete descent from the early Pennsylvania Crees. In her next e-mail she wrote:

"It would be great if we could connect Robert Cree of Pennsylvania with your Robert Cree of Kingskettle Parish, County Fife. A 1720 birth date seems a bit early (when you consider the fact that he is supposed to have served in the militia in 1781) but it's not outside the realm of possibility. What else do you know about the family of Robert Cree of Kingskettle?"

I asked Dixie if she knew of someone I had heard of descended from the same line. She replied:

"I will see if I can locate him for you (I've got a friend who has most of the U.S. phone books on CD ROM so we might be able to root him out that way)."

In the next issue: How Compuserve helped us launch a USA mailshot project. Genealogy software from CompuServe and the implications of the genealogy superhighway for the Guild of One-Name Studies.

Mr. Mike Spathaky, Cree Family History Society, Member No. 1785 [9 Fairstone Hill, Oadby, Leicester LE2 5RL.]

COMMERCIAL FAMILY HISTORY PUBLICATIONS **John Witheridge**

At a recent Executive Committee Meeting, I was handed a letter by Mrs. Mary Rumsey, I read the contents and asked if I might be able to answer it and write an article on the subject. Both Mrs. Rumsey and the author of the letter agreed.

The letter from Mrs. B. Kent, Member No. 1062 mentioned that she had received an advert for a world book for her name Wagstaff. She pointed out that the publishers had not checked the names in the Guild's Register and had not contacted the person most likely to be of help with the name. She wondered whether the Guild could give a view on these books.

I have no doubt that almost every one of you will have either received a letter or know a friend who has received a letter from either Halbert's (in past years) or from Burke's (in recent years and months). Would you believe that I have not received one yet? Let me clarify this somewhat. I have not received any such letters from Halbert's/Burke's direct. I have received, however, many such letters from friends and colleagues, eleven in all. At this very moment I can look at my office wall and count every single one. Now aren't I the lucky fellow. Well, yes I am. I have been able to give two talks on the subject and also I was able to raise it as a topic at our Lichfield Conference.

The style of approach in the introductory letter differed little from letter to letter. I have one here addressed to a friend, Mr. L. Case, that gives the address of the sender as Don Case, c/o 120 126 Lavender Avenue, Mitcham, Surrey, and there is a photo of a glowing family pouring over the book in question. I am sure that Don Case and his wife and two children are really enjoying this treat.

Ah yes - here is another letter and photo posted to another friend, Derek Brake. This time from a Mr. James K. Brake and family c/o 120 126 Lavender Avenue, Mitcham, Surrey! But yes, he and his wife and two children are enjoying this same book and it is strange how alike these two families are - perhaps a coincidence.

Well let me pin up Mrs. Kent's letter. Well now this letter is better. There is no Mr. Wagstaff, the research name, just the address from where the letter came - Burke's Peerage, c/o 120 126 Lavender Avenue, Mitcham, Surrey - this is too much! However, Mr. Burke does have a family very similar in appearance to those of Mr. Case and Mr. Brake - how strange! Perhaps they are related. Nevertheless, they leave no doubt that they wish to separate you from £21.95 for the world book of Cases, Brakes and Wagstaffs. I wonder if these families all bought a book. Would they get a book each or would they have to share as Mr. Case, Mr. Brake and Mr. Wagstaff share their families.

Now let us get serious. The letter goes on to explain how the old and distinguished Case/Brake/Wagstaff families got their names and that each family can be traced in fifteen countries. Also how a unique coat of arms was granted to the early families of Case/Brake/Wagstaff which "is centuries old".

Enough, this is unbearable. If you compare each of these letters they all have identical wording for each item revealed. To read one is to read them all.

Let us now look at the book in question the World Book of Case/Brake/Wagstaff families.

Section One - The Great Migration of Man - early origins settlement and development - well I would not advise the purchase of the book for this as I believe, I could find better in any well stocked library.

Section Two - How Names Originated and What the Name Case/Brake/Wagstaff means. These three names are likened to a verse of poetry. "What is in a name? That which we call a rose; By another Name would smell so sweet" No pun intended William. Though I expect rose tinted spectacles would be an

asset to assist in reading this. In fact this section goes on to tell me about the name BELL! Who let him in? Something is not quite right here.

Section Three - Early Coats of Arms, ten pages of notes on the subject. In each book there is a coat of arms, so I can assume that one should believe that there is one for each name for which Halbert/Burke's publish a book. From their own statement there are over one million names in use throughout the world, but in another statement is given that there are 75,000 names associated with coats of arms - surely there is a contradiction here. However, the crowning statement is in the introductory letter, "PS Reserve your copy today and you will receive a free colour print of a Case/Brake/Wagstaff (which ever the case may be) coat of arms, granted to an early member of the Case/Brake/Wagstaff clan centuries ago". So this actually states that every name that has been contacted for the sale of this book has a coat of arms. Do I remember the word unique being used?

Section Four - How To Discover Your Ancestors - I suppose this section has about average information for a beginner. There is a list of addresses of research and archive offices, although that of the Federation's and the Guild's is omitted. So this is why Mrs. Kent has never been asked about the family that she researches.

Section Five - The Case/Brake/Wagstaff International Directory. It states that thousands of dollars and months of effort went into compiling this directory. Now if this section was marketed as a directory of names and addresses of present day members of each family name throughout the world and sold at a reasonable price, it would be a best seller. For the Case name which I consider to be a low density name there are sixty-two pages of information with an average of seventy-five items per page giving a total of over 4,650 references worldwide - this is good value. Nevertheless, the introductory letter falls short as Mr. Case did not find his name in the World Book of Cases, even though he has been advised that he will. It makes one wonder how they found his address!

Section Six - Appendix, a list of references to the name researched in relation to immigrants to North America - for Case fifty items. An example not given in the exact wording would be - Arrived in St. John, New Brunswick, Thomas Case, aged 28, year of arrival 1834. Page 77, New Brunswick Genealogical Study, 1987, 483p. So this section does have its uses, although again these references would not be hard for a serious researcher to obtain.

Basically I would rate this publication in its entirety as neither good nor bad. The first half I would discount, but the second half does warrant a look. However, in all probability Mr. and Mrs. Case/Brake/Wagstaff have not read their respective books, as they have been too busy working out whose children they have and if they are living with their correct partners. I thought of sending back their photographs, but I realised that it would only confuse the issue!

Mr. John Witheridge, The Witheridge Society, Member 1778 [6 Nore Close, Darland, Gillingham, Kent ME7 3DG.]

THE ORIGIN OF THE LERWILLS **Christopher J. Lerwill**

The spelling of the name that we are considering here became stabilised in the 1600s as Lerwill or (more rarely) Lerwell. Prior to about 1600, the written records give a variety of spellings resulting, to a large extent, from the effects of dialect and the problems of transcription from verbal statements.

It has been suggested [1] that the name derives from the village of Lerouvilles which is roughly 150 miles to the east of Paris, and that the first Lerwill in England was part of the second-wave Norman influx.

Within this article spellings are as given in the transcripts consulted. Variations are thus inevitable, but it is obvious that they relate to the same family or individuals as appropriate.

The earliest records in England seem to related to Vincent, who was in the Chittlehampton area of North Devon from about 1200 to 1249. In about 1200 Vincent de Luriwille acted as a witness for one Alicia de Staunton (of no known family connection). In 1218 Vincent Luriwell appropriated a freehold in Fileslee (Filleigh) from Nicholas de Fileslee [2]. Vincent de Luriewell occurs in the Devon Assize Roll of 1219. By 1228 Vincent had married Agnes and was involved in the transfer of land near Ilfracombe to Archibald de Fleming [3]. It is recorded that, in 1241, Vincent de Loliwell was a half-tenant in the farms of Newton and Weston at Chittlehampton [4]. In 1249 Vincent de Loriwell was involved in a legal transaction relating to land at Whetteston (Chittlehampton) [5] which seems, nevertheless, to have stayed within the family.

Vincent seems to have been succeeded by Bartholomew. It is recorded that Bartholemeus de Loryewell was renting land (Nyweton and Whitstone at Chittlehampton) from John Mohun in 1280. Similarly, in 1284, Bartholemeus de Loriewell held Wetteston and Newreton from John de Mohun [6], and in 1285, Bartholomew de Loriwell held Wetteston [7].

In 1331 Bartholomew de Lurewyll held Lurewyll Manor (Chittlehampton) from John de Mohun, and in 1332 Bartholomew de Lirewell held Lirewell from John de Mohun's wife Sibyl. The property referred to is now named Lerwell. Although it is not possible to provide conclusive evidence, it seems likely that this Bartholomew was the same as the one previously mentioned.

There are records of a William Loryawill/de Loriawell in the Chittlehampton area in 1332, 1334 and 1353 as a Commissioner of Subsidy. William was one of the twelve oath-takers at the formation of the Borough of Barnstaple [8], and appears in the Lay Subsidy Rolls for South Molton Hundred.

For the fifteenth century, very few records of the family seem to be available. In 1423 Baldwin de Lorewille held land at Newetone and Wettestone as a tenant of Anne Courtenay, and in 1428 John Lorywell/Lorywyll was named as one of the freeholders of Lerwell farm at Chittlehampton.

A major event seems to have occurred around 1500. About this time, William Lerywell's holding of Whitston was transferred to Bellew [9], and the farm of Lorywell was transferred from William to Bellew [10]. These are the last records of Lerwills in the Chittlehampton area. It seems that the descendants of the Lerwill clan then migrated north; four Lerwills appear in the Devon Lay Subsidy Rolls of 1524-27 - Richard Lerywell (Kentisbury), John Lerywell (Combe Martin), Thomas Lerywell (Combe Martin), and Robert Lerywell (Tawstock). John is of particular interest: in 1507 he was Deputy Reeve of the Borough [11], in 1531 he was a witness in a hearing recorded by the royal Commissioners when he was aged 83 [12] (he was therefore born about 1448).

The Devon Lay Subsidy Rolls of 1543-45 list: John Lerewill (Combe Martin), Richard Lerwill (Kentisbury), John Lerewill (Kentisbury), John Lerewill (Arlington), and Joan Lerewyll (Tawstock).

It seems likely that all present day Lerwills are descended from those mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Combe Martin and Kentisbury seem to be

the focal points for the Lerwill family.

It is interesting to note the variations in spelling:

The family name: de Luriwille, Luriwell, de Luriewell, de Loliwell, de Loriwell, de Loryewell, de Loriewill, de Lurewyll, de Lirewell, Loryawill, de Loriawell, de Lorewille, Lorywell, Lorywyll, Lerywell, Lerewill, Lerwill, Lerewyll.

Property names: Newton, Nyweton, Newreton, Newetone.
Weston, Whetteston, Whitstone, Wetteston, Whitston.
Lurewyll, lirewell, Lerwell, Lorywell.

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3. Devon Fine No.230, Transactions of the Devon Association (1935), extra volume, 436-7.
4. Devon and Cornwall Record Society (1912), 260, 516.
5. Testa de Nevill, 431, 179b, Devon and Cornwall Record Society (1912).
6. Feudal Aids !, 325, Devon and Cornwall Record Society (1912).
7. ibid.
8. Barnstaple Records. Reprint edited by Chanter and Wainwright, Vol. 1, p. 142.
9. Risdon's Survey of Devon.
10. Burke's Family Records.
11. Out of the World and into Combe Martin, (1989), Combe Martin Local History Group, p. 7.
12. ibid., p. 79.

Dr. C. J. Lerwill, Member No. 1701 [Holly Cottage, Wakes Colne, Colchester, Essex CO6 2AU.]

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

[**Editorial Note:** The following six letters were received on the subject of members' obligations and membership categories, in some instances the two being linked for comment. I have published these letters below, in full, as I think especially for overseas members and those who find it difficult to attend Guild meetings, the Journal is an excellent means for them to give their views.]

You invited replies to Mrs. Goddard's article in the January Journal. I welcome it: it blew through our pages like a breath of fresh air, and I congratulate you on printing it.

Of course family history is a hobby, and like all hobbies some will pursue it more vigorously than others. I see myself as a "serious" genealogist - Mrs. Goddard might see me as "obsessed", since I guess I spend far more time on my hobby than she does. But the joy of our hobby is that each of us can please him or herself.

I hope Mrs. Goddard's letter will provoke readers to write about why they research their family roots. My own reasons, as far as I can understand them, are more to do with the activity of research than with its results. I am pleased to know where my ancestors came from, and what sort of people they

were, but I am just as happy reconstructing other people's families as my own. I enjoy libraries and record offices and the sense of a vast, largely untapped resource waiting to yield up its data if only I can ask the right questions.

Mrs. Goddard's main point seems to be that thousands of members of family history societies are fairly casual about family history. I am sure she is right, and good luck to them. I don't think she is right that the rest of us "regard researching our family history as the primary reason for our existence" and I think she should think again about "taking genealogy far too seriously".

I would like to distinguish "serious" from "important"; unless we do it seriously - not in the sense of "solemnly", but "rigorously" - there is no point in doing it at all. However, it is not important in any scale of values by which we generally judge importance. It doesn't save lives or strengthen the economy, though it may enrich the lives of us aficionados by giving us a greater understanding of other ages. I have learnt more about the reality of life in the seventeenth century through reading Chancery cases that I ever learnt in the years I taught history from books.

May I, through your columns, use Mrs. Goddard's letter to ask other one-namers why they choose this, among the many approaches to family history, as their hobby - however casual!

Patricia Kelvin, Member No. 387 [Orchard House, 66 Ladder Hill, Wheatley, Oxford OX33 1HY.]

I read with interest Julie Goddard's contribution, "One-Name Studies - An Alternative View" and found myself nodding agreement with much, if not all, that she wrote. Much of what I have read recently in the Journal and elsewhere does suggest that we are in danger of taking ourselves too seriously.

I began my one-name study of the surname Royall and its variants after beginning to build up my own family history. There was more, I discovered, of interest than drawing up a family tree. The origin of the name and its variants, its links with particular place names and its distribution in this county intrigued me. As my study widened it blended happily and fruitfully with my interest in various aspects of local history. In this way my studies became an absorbing hobby/interest. I wrote a paper on the origin of the name and this, since amended on two occasions, seems to be of interest to others. My index grew and included many items from overseas.

I joined the Guild because I wished to be associated with others who share my interest, albeit focusing on different surnames. The experiences of such enthusiasts would I thought be both helpful and interesting. Had there been a Royall Family History Society I would gladly have joined and contributed what I could. However, no such group existed and at sixty-five I did not feel that I had the time or the resolution to found a Royall Society.

So what is my situation today. I have an index of some 8,400 Royalls, Ryalls, Rialls, etc. from all over the world. From time to time I am approached by others researching the name and I give them whatever help and information that I can. I have been instrumental in introducing long lost cousins to each other and have been able to assist those seeking information about the local history of parts of Norfolk and the East End of London. From time to time

I write articles of general nature on items that provide background information for family history.

I shall continue my research a little more slowly now than I did ten years ago. It still gives me pleasure to put leaves on the tree and to sketch in the background to particular Royalls whenever I can. Of course like all one-namers I thumb through telephone directories when I am away from home, but I have no intention of searching all of them. My study of the surname Royall and its variants is obviously incomplete, but as far as I know no one else has an index of the name comprising over 8,000 items. Should some competent and willing person be ready to take on the name and elevate it to Category A status, I would be willing to surrender my place in the Guild. However, in this instance I should without a doubt continue my research in hope that some folk out there who are interested in the Royalls will continue to consult me and afford me the pleasure of replying to their letters.

As Julie Goddard points out, family historians appear mad to those not interested in the subject, but that is due in part to the fact that most of us are slightly mad anyway.

Prebendary Arthur R. Royall, [Carmelite House, 10 Pit Lane Swaffam, Norfolk PE37 7DA.]

I was very interested in the letters expressing concern regarding Category A membership. I have no objection to swelling the ranks with more Category A members unless it is to the detriment of Category B and C members.

Like Mrs. Benny, I have detected a note of disparagement as a humble Category C member. I am a "one-man band", and I have to use my limited time and resources in the way I see most beneficial to meet the requirements as laid down in the 1993/4 Register. Obviously, my priorities will differ from other members; for example I have chosen to computerise my records as a way to share information rather than by way of a newsletter.

The possible condescension from other Guild members of a Category C study does not worry me, but the way my research is portrayed to others I find very irritating. Last year, a lady wrote to me after visiting the Guild display at a local Family History Society's Open Day. She was shown my entry in the Register, but was told that the study was "incomplete" and received the impression that I would have little information. Although a Category C study, I have the St. Catherine's House birth, marriage and death indexes transcribed from 1837 until 1910 together with Somerset House wills, other probate information, census returns, parish registers, IGI and a variety of other worldwide miscellaneous data. Therefore, the lady in question was surprised at the amount of information I could provide.

I wonder whether this impression has been gained by others as I have had few enquiries via the Register; in fact most of my correspondents have got in touch after I advertised in Family Tree Magazine and in genealogical directories.

On a lighter note, I did enjoy Julie Goddard's article. although not necessarily agreeing with some of her ideas, I found her light-hearted approach very refreshing. I thought your editorial suggested that if a one-name study should be an enjoyable hobby, then the quality of research somehow might be inferior.. My study is a time-consuming but enjoyable hobby and I

consider that all my research is carefully done, well-documented and the data given promptly and efficiently.

Mrs Vivienne Fitch, Member No. [21 Sinah Lane, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0HH.]

If there is one thing that comes over clearly in the material about membership categories in the January 1995 Journal it is that there is a wide diversity in the expectations and motivations of members which does not seem to be allowed for on the category classifications and the " principle (sic) requirements" for A and B membership.

Mrs. Kiellor-Edwards' letter exactly reflects my situation. I too do not meet all five requirements that the Guild stipulates for Category B - which was thrust on me when the categories last changed. I fit no more comfortably into Category C as to collection size and intentions than she does.

"It is not my intention, and never will be, to change the category system of the Guild" says Mr. Witheridge, who has been deputed to mediate in this matter. And no hint of sympathy do I see for us in your editorial; and your homily to back-sliding members on the quality of research data we provide for enquiries is ominous. Is there really no place in the Guild for any variety of approach - for one-namers whose research perhaps goes broader than simply striving towards a Category A, or whose standards may sometimes be a bit amateurish?

With a growing feeling that I am no longer welcome in the Guild, thankfully, over the hill comes Mrs. Goddard and her article. I do not need to reiterate her message - amusingly written, but I think with serious intent. The Guild is surely not only for "Roundheads" with their high aims and puritan standards. It must allow room for the diversity of members (a mainly silent majority I suspect), who do not exactly conform to our present very restrictive membership categories, if the Guild is not to become a very boring and tight little clique of Category A obsessives. Relax or even sweep away Categories B and C and make space for well-meaning "Cavaliers" who join with the romantic notion that they can make a contribution to one-name research.

Mr. David Gore, Member No.1014 [The Red House, Lower Basildon, Berkshire RG8 9NG]

I too read the letters, articles, etc. about Category A, but did not feel at all depressed by them. No two one-name groups are alike and some will be Category A and some won't. Unless the Guild decides to expel me for some reason I shall continue on my own way! I believed when I joined that the Guild catered for all types of one-name groups and I still believe it does. As with other correspondents I feel the Register and Journal are the main benefits, but I try to attend a conference now and again and am very grateful to those who organise the Register, Journal and conferences, though I could not find the time to do so myself. As an organiser of a one-name group, without support from members, my time is fully occupied. As with the ROSE organiser, if I had known how many WAGSTAFFs there were I should probably never have started and thereby missed a lot of pleasure! I wouldn't try writing to addresses from the telephone directories as I feel if people are interested enough they will find me.

When I am asked about the Guild either by my own members or others I usually say "there is only one rule apart from paying the subscription - you must answer all enquiries which have an sae". When I can't keep that rule I shall give up.

Mrs. Barbara Kent, The Wagstaff Society, Member No. 1062 [17 Red Hill, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 1NA.]

The theme of articles and letters in the last issue of the Journal caused me to take some time out to address my reasons for being a member of the Guild.

When I joined, I was under the misapprehension that here was a group of people pursuing their registered names on a global basis. Here was a group of people with skills to help their colleagues. But above all, here was a group of people that could be my scouts in my quest for records of my registered name. As an overseas member the last of these criteria was most important to me as most record repositories are a little remote! You can see that I was fairly naive.

While I, at my own expense, regularly send off to other members, any references I find to their name(s) without, I might add, ever receiving an acknowledgement, I have never had any member pay me the reverse compliment! Yet I would have thought that my unusual name would stand out like a beacon!

I have written to several members seeking information on other names in which I have an interest enclosing the usual IRCs plus all the information I hold on the particular name, etc. and I will probably go to my grave waiting for a reply! As I told the Secretary in October 1992, I get a better response from the GRD. Those that have bothered to reply, without exception, have made it quite clear to me that their studies are regional and so like the writer of the lead article in your last Journal are not subscribing to the requirements for membership.

I thought that I could contribute my ideas and knowledge to the Guild but was soon put in my place. In particular I refer to the debate through your pages in 1993 over the failure of members to undertake worldwide studies. A suggestion I made to the Chairman as a part of my concerns regarding failure of certain members to answer my correspondence, namely, that some form of regional qualification should be allowed based on the commonality of the name being studied. I, personally as an overseas member with huge postal costs, would feel quite comfortable with such a scheme as it would save me a whole lot of time and money. Clearly the more widespread the name the smaller the region one could elect to study. Thus a very common a name like Smith could be restricted to one county or its equivalent, while a common name like Sharp(e could be restricted to a country study. It was just considered another interesting point of view! It seems to me that such points of view need to be taken further into the debate forum of the Guild. Maybe then we could have an organisation in which the practice matches the philosophy rather than the unfortunate mismatch we seem to endure now.

Will I remain a member of the Guild and continue to pay for the disadvantages brought about by remoteness? Yes, I am forever an optimist - maybe, just maybe one day that letter will arrive from some kindred spirit which will allow my research to jump the next seemingly insurmountable barrier!

Mr. Graham Jaunay, Member No. 1955 [7 East Terrace, South Plympton 5038, South Australia.]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

I would like to reply to Adrienne Kiellor-Edwards' letter in the last issue of the Journal with regard to the value of surveys of telephone directories, since I have to say that I find them a very worthwhile tool for my one-name studies. This is for three main reasons.

First, they provide an indication of the distribution for that particular name. For example, my Strahorn study has only three entries in the UK (all in north-west Scotland) whilst in the New South Wales telephone directories there are about twenty, which is the product of one Strahorn immigrant in the 1830s.

Secondly, they provide an indication of the date of migration, since a name often "fossilises" in a new area in the form in which it appeared in the home area, whereas it changes in its place of origin. This is illustrated by my Billyard studies, for although the name Billyard is today to be found mainly in the Nottingham area (where it originated), the variant Billyeald is more frequently found in Derbyshire. This represents the earlier spelling of the name - Billyeld or Billyett - in Nottinghamshire, and would indicate that the ancestors of these particular families migrated across the border two or three hundred years ago.

Thirdly, they provide social and economic information. Here the name Freeman is a good example. Looking at the telephone directories I found that Freeman is particularly concentrated in an arc from Gloucestershire to East Anglia. (Comparing this with a survey of the name from the PCC wills during the Commonwealth period, I found that the distribution was remarkably similar.) Now this area of England contains some of its richest farmland, and so could support many peasants, and this must have some bearing on the origins of the name Freeman, ie someone who was not a serf or villein but was a freeborn man. Did it mean that it was unusual for someone to be a free man, and that most of the peasants remained serfs? Or did it mean the opposite, that the rich farmland either enabled men to become independent or that it suited the manorial lord to free his serfs because then they worked the land more productively?

I agree that members of the Guild should act as a clearing house for people seeking information on a particular name, but their research must also be set in a proper historical, social and economic context and a survey of telephone directories is one way to provide an element of this.

Ms. Jessica Freeman, Member No. 51 [76 Highlever Road, London W10 6PN.]

Dear Mary,

Replying to Mr. Savin's letter in the January 1995 Journal, there has been some quite comprehensive work done on the use of maps to display the distribution and density of events. The most effective to date is Trackback by Ken Barley, this was reviewed in the September 1993 edition of computers in Genealogy. Whilst the current version, 4.7, lacks a Gedcom input facility it does have very good map displays. A demonstration disc, at £3.00 is available from Mr. Barley at 80 George Street, Maulden MK45 2DD.

Also in the January 1995 Journal Mrs. Tayler raised the question of unusual first names and lists a number she has found. Only fifteen difficult ones out of a file of nearly 9,000 is pretty good. As most of the names for the

periods we study will have been transcribed at least twice, once by the originator and once by ourselves, it is very easy to introduce new names where they didn't exist before. Most first names have very simple common origins and my researches show about 1,000 basic names for English speaking countries. However, spoken and subsequent written corruptions of these lead to over 20,000 variants, the majority of which are simple spelling variants. Over 99.5% of usage is covered by a list of about 3,000.

What one has to beware of is at the transcription stage when writing is not readily recognised and it can be a name one is not familiar with, this can easily lead to a best guess which is subsequently hard to unravel. One possible example is "Milcah" of 1762 from Mrs. Tayler's list, this is phonetically unlikely in English and could be from the Michael/Micah variants.

It is important that we transcribe as best we can and don't translate, but we then need to relate these transcribed names to their basic origin so that we can find the person involved when they appear in another list in a different form. Some members will be aware that I have been compiling such a list and have published it as a booklet or disc (£3.00 including postage for either the book or disc). By the courtesy of Rosemary Lockie I am currently analyzing the first names in the 2% sample of the 1851 UK census, this comprises 500,000 people where the first names have been extracted and counted.

As Mrs. Tayler has noted, the date of origin is most important as this can give many clues as to whether the name existed at the time or what type of spellings were contemporary.

For the record Mrs. Tayler's list, which contains some new ones can be analyzed as follows:

	Date	**Link or possible origin**
Alucia	1858	Alicia, Allicia
Argate	1766	Argent
Artie	1902	Arthur, Artemas
Betteres	1568	Betty/Elizabeth family, Bettisia
Bullar ?	1900	Surname
Epsy ?	1860	Ephriam, Euphemia
Hursley	1866	Surname
Jehudijah	1808	Made up Hebrew
Milcah	1762	Transcription problems, Michael/Micah
Morden	1713	Surname or Morgan
Sibly	1629	Sibyl
Tace	1679	Latin "be silent", used as "Silence" as well
Tomsen	1618	Thompson
Ullace	1859	Ulysses
Yden	1544	Eden

I am always pleased to receive any details of variants to add to the list.

Mr. Alan Bardsley, Member No. 1769 [Cartref, Church Lane, Gawsworth, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9QY.]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

I read with interest Mr. Alan Savin's letter published in our Journal (Vol.5, No.5) concerning distribution maps.

Having recently purchased a PC486 computer I would be interested in a programme that would enable me to produce distribution maps. My choice would be for pre 1974 county maps showing the ancient parishes and for census registration district maps covering the changes, e.g. 1837, 1852, etc.

Mr. Roger E. Havelock, Member No 317 [33 Aspin Park Crescent, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8EZ.]

Dear Editor,

This letter is a further comment of Joseph Biddulph's letter the April 1994 Journal (Vol.5, No.2), stimulated by Bernadette Kefford and Stan Verrinder's letters in previous Journals.

A look at the Census records for the South Wales valleys gives a clear picture of immigration into the region: the birthplaces of the miners, their wives and children show the pattern. I have seen records of a man born in Ireland with children born in Fife, clearly he had become a miner and then moved from one coal field to another. Men from Cornwall may have been tin miners, those from my native Pembrokeshire may have been agricultural workers or fishermen. I think the Welsh Valleys were, in their hey-day, a black Klondike with men flooding into an area where work was plentiful and wages (comparatively) good. The speed of development was remarkable: in one Census my mother's native village consisted of two farmsteads, ten years later the villages of Abergwynfi and Blaengwynfi had been built and occupied. Sadly, they now have something of the atmosphere of ghost towns.

We do not need to search too far to find out how the news of new opportunities was spread. Literacy was perhaps more widespread and communications better than we tend to believe today. When the town of Bicester decided in 1830 to assist the emigration of a group of paupers to North America, committee members went to nearby Kings Sutton to enquire how a similar scheme there had been organised and how the emigrants had fared. Members of the Kings Sutton group had already written home telling of their success in finding work and detailing wages received, costs of food, etc. and encouraging others to join them. The Bicester scheme had received mention in English newspapers; letters soon arrived suggesting alternative destinations for the emigrants, offering to provide shipping, accommodation and so on. A letter requesting details of the scheme was mailed from Hertford on 25th May, the reply from Bicester was dated 27th May; presumably the letter had travelled by coach from Hertford to London and, after a change of coach, from London to Bicester - today we can only match that speed of communication some of the time.

The two Blencowe families in the Bicester group failed in their resolve and stayed behind in England. Other Blencowes were made of sterner stuff; John Blencowe of Brackley was recruited as a wheelwright on a 7 year contract with the Van Diemen's Land Company, arriving with his family in Launceston 31 august 1830. When he had completed his contract he moved on to Adelaide in South Australia where his descendants still prosper. Other Blencowes made the journey at Her Majesty's expense, one (a Blinco from Hedgerley) as a warder rather than inmate of Freemantle prison!

Individual developers also attracted immigrants to new lands. A number of families from Weedon Bec, Aynho and Mixbury were encouraged to go to Elora a settlement near Guelph, Ontario, where Captain Robert Pilkington of the Royal Corps of Engineers had obtained title to land on both banks of the Grand

River. Pilkington had returned to England and become a general with the post of Overseer of Fortresses and Barracks. He had invested money in roads, quarries and mills and in 1817 the first settlers arrived, many from around Weedon where Pilkington had supervised a central military depot for arms and stores. George and Harry Blinco from Mixbury did not go until 1844, sailing to New York and then travelling over land to Ontario. Their parents and others of the family followed the next year. They settled into a community where many came from their own part of England.

It is important also not to underestimate the freedom with which people moved around. Thomas Blencowe, a pharmacist from Towchester, emigrated to America with his wife and son in the early 1850s. He and his wife had another son in Illinois about 1856, a daughter in Minnisota about 1858 and a third son in New York about 1861. By 1862 he was back in Towchester where three more children were born. He had probably returned to help his elderly father, Timothy, run the family chemist's shop. After his father's death and he and his brother had executed his father's will, Thomas returned to America and settled in Lynchburg, Virginia, where his great-grandson, James (himself a grandfather), lives today.

Mobility was often matched by tenacity of purpose. William John Blenko, born in 1854 in Bethnal Green, became a glass blower. In the early 1890s he emigrated to America, planning to start a factory making ecclesiastical stained glass. After ten years hard work, his first attempt at Kokomo, Indiana, failed and he returned to work in London. Around 1907 he tried again at Port Marion, Pennsylvania; unsuccessful again, in 1911 he moved to Clarksburg, West Virginia, where in 1913 he failed yet again. Eventually he settled in Milton, West Virginia, where, at last, the availability of natural gas, good sand deposits and the build-up of a skilled work force led to the economic survival of his enterprise. Even then it was only the development of ornamental blown glassware to supplement the stained glass business that allowed his company to survive the depression of the 1930s. William John died in 1933; his son, grandson and great-grandson have continued the business, they have provided glass for the National Cathedral in Washington, the Air Force Academy chapel in Colorado and have even exported glass to the cathedrals of Chartres and Rheims.

Finally, we should pay tribute to the sheer grit required of some emigrants, even quite late in the 19th century. William Blincow, born in 1832 to a farming family in Long Buckby had by 1871 become a tenant farmer of 165 acres at Appletree employing two men and a boy. However, as a nonconformist, he was unhappy paying tithes to the Church of England and decided to emigrate. In April 1872 he set out with his wife and five children for America where a friend, Abel Green, had taken up land in Nebraska. The voyage by sailing ship lasted several weeks; then followed a rail journey to Lincoln, Nebraska - the rail head in those days. Leaving the family in an "immigrant house" - a house with cooking stove and straw on the floor for sleeping - he walked 50 miles to find his friend Green near Fairmont. Returning to Lincoln to file a claim for land, he then took the family to Fairmont to get the farm started. The Blincows had to do it the hard way; like many other immigrants their first home was a "dug-out" - the future cellar of their house - covered over with a sod roof. In this the family faced the rigour if their first Nebraska winter and, in November 1872, William's wife, the former Betsy Wykes Howe, was delivered of the first of their three children born in Nebraska. The children all survived and most of them married; places with names like Paunee, Nebraska; Hiawatha, Kansas; Spokane, Washington and Rifle, Colorado; give a Wild West flavour to birth and marriage records. One of William's grand-

daughters has left an account of the journey by covered wagon (at 20 miles a day) from Nebraska to Colorado. When the little girls got bored with riding in the wagon they would walk behind with a rope round their waists attached to the tailboard to stop them wandering off!

This last information came to me from one of William's youngest granddaughters, Ruth Blincow Musset, now retired with her husband in California, with whom I exchange visits. It is contacts like this, and the tales that are told that add sparkle to family history research.

Mr. Jack Blencowe, Member No. 2010 [24 Dale Close, Oxford OX1 1TU.]

Dear Mrs. Rumsey,

You kindly published my letter on migration to South Wales in the July 1994 issue (pages 83/84).

I have now received and analyzed the 1881 Census entries for SPEAR in Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire, which has helped towards my study, in part, of the migration of individual families from the stronghold of the family in the South-Western counties.

In Glamorgan in 1881, taking into account the variants SPEARE and SPEARS, there were 8 families, totalling 18 adults plus 20 children (aged 20 and under). There were also 4 "individual" adults plus 1 child (a school boarder).

Of these adults, 12 were male, 7 from Somerset (including Bristol) and 1 each from Devon, Cornwall and Dorset. 2 were born in Rhymney, from an ex-Somerset family. 10 were female, 6 from the West Country and 4 from Glamorgan or Brecon. Of the 8 West Country husbands, 4 had Welsh wives.

Of the 21 children, 13 were born in Glamorganshire or Monmouthshire. All except one (aged 13) were aged 6 or less.

The locations in Glamorganshire were quite clustered. Of the 8 families, 4 were in Cardiff, 3 in Penarth and 1 in Llantwit Vairdre near Llantrisant. The Penarth location is quite interesting. I recall my grandfather in Barry saying that there used to be paddle steamers coming over from Weston super Mare and Clevedon in Somerset. I haven't checked this point.

The occupations were not as diverse as I should have expected. Of the male adults, no less than 5 were gardeners, 3 butchers, 2 railway workers, 1 plasterer and 1 haulier. The gardeners seem to be from 3 different Somerset families and the butchers were from another Somerset family.

I have not detailed the Monmouthshire findings, which were basically a plumber's family from Bristol and a clergyman and his wife, both families in Newport, plus some individuals, 6 adults and 4 children in all.

Although this is only a small statistical population, the indication is certainly that by 1881 Glamorganshire had attracted a "seedcorn" of families from Somerset and other counties in the South-West, also single men. who married local girls. As you will recall from my tabulation of births, the SPEAR population in Glamorganshire increased significantly in the following two decades, swollen no doubt by further migration from the same areas and maybe at the end of the time by children of the first generation to settle in South Wales.

I shall try to obtain a similar picture from 1891 Census in due course. I have sent this letter, and a copy of my previous letter to you, to the Glamorgan Family History Society for their information.

Mr. Peter J. Spear, Member No. 1078 [58 Gally Hill Road, Church Crookham, Fleet, Hampshire GU13 ORU.]

REVIEWS

SIR THOMAS BILLING 1410 - 1481 OF GRAY'S INN AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE -CHIEF JUSTICE IN ENGLAND UNDER EDWARD IV A4 format, 189 pages, ISBN 0 9508803 5 3. Copyright 1995 A. M. Billings. Printed and published by the Billing Family History Society, 37 Camp Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 5DX.

This book is the result of four co-researchers carrying out research into Sir Thomas Billing over a ten year period. The result is a fine book, which should appeal to both members of the Billing Family History Society, and also to anyone who is interested in the history of the English law in the fifteenth century, and how people lived and survived in that period. This would equally apply to interested parties on a worldwide basis as there was a branch of Billings who landed in New England, USA, circa 1640.

Included in the excellent text are some colour plates which add a great deal to the publication. There are also some detailed family trees, a comprehensive index and a good bibliography.

After ten years study the full story has still not come to light. The postscript certainly raises the point that there are facts which need further research and I feel sure that further delving will answer some of these.

It is evident that a great deal of research has been undertaken in producing this book and I would recommend that if you are interested in this period of history you should try to obtain a copy.

B. J. M. H.

A BAGSHAWE GENEALOGY - The Bagshawes of Oakes Park and Wormhill Hall; The Descendants of Sir William Chalmers Bagshawe (1771-1832) by Roy Newton. A4 format, 30 pages, plus illustrations. Published privately.

This is an exemplary gathering together in narrative form of the descendants of one couple and their nineteen (yes, nineteen) children. Professor Newton is fortunate to have a good number of interesting and well documented lives to summarise, and this he achieves effectively and in a concise fashion. The two column A4 format is clear, sources are clearly footnoted and - delight for the one-name hound - there is a full index. How wonderful if every family historian, having put in months or years of work to produce an article or book, could take those extra hours to make an index too - it really does add value.

This comb-bound booklet is generously illustrated (77 figures), doubtless considerably increasing its interest to its Bagshawe readership. As it is a private publication, its audience will presumably have background knowledge of the family already, but - if it is intended to have a wider appeal - it would benefit from a little more introductory matter. I had to read well into page 2 to discover for certain in which county Oakes Park lay (Derbyshire),

and it would not demand much extra space to have a couple of scene-setting paragraphs telling how this branch of the Bagshawes fits into the authors wider one-name study. These are small points; the main thing is that the research has been written up and very competently too.

J.D.H.

QUAKER CONNECTIONS The Magazine of the Quaker Family History Society, Number 1. A5 format. Published March 1994, ISSN 1353/4807.

This is the first Magazine of the newly formed Quaker Family History Society and a very high standard has been set from the first edition.

The Magazine was well produced with a list of Members 1 to 94 at the back, together with the names and addresses of the Steering Committee.

There was a good balance of material which included an Editorial by Mr. Michael Gandy setting out the details of the founding meeting at Friends House, London, which was to be held on 11th June 1994.

One article which I found of great interest was "What to Read About Quakers". This mentioned various books which would certainly assist in finding further Quaker sources for research.

One other article which would be of benefit to Quaker researchers was "Who Knows What". This gave details of some of the Meeting Houses of the United Kingdom who have carried out research in some form and who possibly had published their findings. Correspondents were mentioned in all cases, so a reference point was established.

This first issue has set out to establish a very high standard in both content and presentation. I would certainly suggest that if you think you may have a Quaker in your family tree that you join the Quaker Family history Society, as there is a treat in store if the subsequent Magazines are as good.

B.J.M.H.

MUCKLESTON MISCELLANY Volume 1, Number 1, April 1994. A5 format, 12 pages, ISSN 1354-4071. Published by Janet and Bill Mackleston, 91 Cecil Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8HS.

This is a very well presented Newsletter, which is published on a quarterly basis and covers all variations of the Muckleston name.

The Newsletter starts with an editorial, which explains that because the people who have an interest in the family live all over the world, the best way to keep in contact is by way of a newsletter.

Janet and Bill have asked for further contributions and feedback, however, they have failed to include a contact address, although an address is given in a personal profile of Janet, further on in the booklet. Whilst on the subject of addresses, I feel that it is a sad reflection on society, that I should have to say that a detailed personal profile, together with a full address should be avoided in a publication which is in the public domain.

The contents are varied and very interesting. In Mucklestons from the past, there is a wonderful insight into life in the 1700s with an extract from

"Antiquities and Memoirs of Myddle" (a Shropshire village) written by Richard Gough in 1700. This article had me glued to the page, here is just a snippet.

> "Shee endeavoured to keep a good house, butt this caused them to keep an unquiet house, and many contests happened beetweene them which ended not without blows."

Wonderful stuff and they promise more extracts in the future!

The format, print size and reproduction is very good and good use had been made of graphics on some of the titles. Janet and Bill have opted for a style in which the information is presented in the most part without references. This may lead to researchers with an interest in the name entering into further correspondence in order to confirm references, which seems to conflict with the aims of a booklet which appears to want to cut down on the need for correspondence.

Finally, one has to dig very deep to find anything wrong with this Newsletter. The only minor error appeared to be a victim of "spellcheck".

M. P. G.

CRAMP(E) ONE NAME ASSOCIATION Issue No. 1, November 1993, A4 format folded to A5. Compiled and edited by Mrs. Brenda Harper, 3 Reed Avenue, Orpington, Kent BR6 9RU.

This first Newletter sets a good standard, which if maintained augurs well for future issues. There is an index which states clearly the contents of the issue.

The content is also very good, including a short article on "Our Earliest Known Ancestor". There is also mention of a list of Indexes being compiled by the Editor, which the readers are advised they may consult and request printouts. I feel sure that this Association's Newsletter will grow under the guiding hand of the Editor as she is communicating well with her readers from the onset.

B. J. M. H.

NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

VICTORIAN VIRTUES, VICES AND VIRTUOSITY

The Berkshire Family History society will host the Federation of Family History Societies Conference at Reading University, Whiteknights Park, on 8 - 10 September 1995.

The theme "Victorian Virtues, Vices and Virtuosity" has been deliberately chosen to appeal to newcomers to family history as it is unlikely that even the newest family historian has not managed to get back to at least one Victorian ancestor. However, there will be plenty for the more experienced researcher too, who should discover ample "flesh" to put on the "bones". There will be talks on some Victorian occupations - those concerning the Post Office, the start of the electrical industry, estate workers and the ag labs (we all have some of those). The urban poor, the gentry and the artisans and servants they employed will all be covered, also will those elusive ancestors the touring actors and entertainers. Some of the more unusual records held

in the Berkshire County Record Office will be revealed and the great leveller death will be covered in a lively talk on the Victorian funeral.

There will be plenty of social activities including a visit to Windsor, Highclere Castle or the Berkshire Record Office. The Museum of English Rural Life is situated on the Reading university campus and will be open for the period of the Conference. On Saturday evening there will be a banquet with Victorian parlour and music entertainment afterwards.

Reading University has superior accommodation with good sized single bedrooms with en-suite facilities. The Conference would make an ideal autumn break. Details and booking forms cans be obtained from Joyce Wells, Conference Organiser, 15 Wellington Close, Shaw, Newbury, Berkshire RG13 2HG on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

THE HASKELL FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Haskell Family History Society will hold their Annual Reunion and BBQ on Saturday, 20th May 1995, beginning at 10am at the Village Hall, Cranborne, Dorset. Their patron, Viscount Cranborne, has graciously accepted an invitation to this event. It is hoped that each member will bring their family tree and as many items of Haskell family memorabilia as they can muster, especially interesting family photographs.

Information can be obtained by contacting the Honourary Secretary: Mrs. Mary Haskell, 21 Royston Way, Slough, Berkshire SL1 6EP, England, or Mr. W. A. Haskell, Mohrengasse 11, 76359 Marxzell/Pfaffenrot, Germany.

ITHACA JOURNAL OBITUARIES 1980 - 1989

Dr. Diane Brook, Member 1104, 7 Werfa Street, Roath Park, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF2 5EW, writes as follows:

As an American citizen, but a long standing British resident, I know how frustrating it can be to try to research across the Atlantic, in either direction.

My American parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, are also keen on genealogy and indexing as hobbies and have produced annual obituary indexes for 1980 to 1989 to their local newspaper, the Ithaca Journal. Ithaca is in central New York state and the town where Cornell University is situated. As a university town, it attracts people from all over the world as well as having a long settled local farming and town population of various national origins. My parents have recently produced a ten-year abstract of the index, giving full name, nickname if given, and date and page of the obituary in the Journal. They have given me a copy for reference.

I will search the index for entries in return for an s.a.e. and will send further details of how to obtain the obituary entries themselves. Extracts are not available directly from the newspaper offices. Please NOTE I am a slow correspondent with a constant backlog of letters, but I will reply eventually.

Surnames and very close variants already in the Register (10th Edition) which occur are:

ABBOTT, ADAMS, ADES, ADRIAN, ANGLE, ARMITAGE, BADGER, BAGGER, BANGS, BARLEY, BARRETT, BARROW, BARROWS, BARTLETT, (BASTAIN), BATY, BAUGH, BEAMISH, BEARDMORE, BEAVER, BEVIS, BILLINGS, BIRDSALL, BISH, BLACK, BLAIR, BLAKELEY, BLISS, BODMAN, BOSE, BOYCE, BOYES, BUCHANAN, BUCKLEY, BURRELL, BURRITT, BUSHNELL, CALVIN, CANFIELD, CARPENTER, CHAFFIN, CHANDLER, CHURCH, CLAPP, COCKER, COLLIER, COLVIN, COMPTON, CORBIT, COREY, CORNISH, COTTON, COX, CUTTING, DAINES, DALRYMPLE, DALTON, DANKS, DAVISON, DEW, DOBSON, DOLTON, DYE, EDMONDS, EDMONDSON, EVINGTON, FELLOWS, FELTON, FESSENDEN, FINCHER, FOGG, FRENCH, FUDGE, FULTON, GARLAND, GEE, GEGG, GILBERT, GILES, GOLDING, GREENWOOD, GROSS, (GULICK), HALLADAY, HALLIDAY, HANKINSON, HARRINGTON, HARROWER, HATFIELD, HAWKS, HERRINGTON, HILKER, HILL, HOAR, HOBBS, HOLLIDAY, HOLLISTER, HOSKINS, HULL, HYLAND, IRELAND, IRONS, JACOBS, JOHNSON, JOHNSTON, (JOSLIN), KELLER, KENYON, KING, LAMBERT, (LAMPHERE), (LAMPHIER), LANDON, (LAUGHLIN), LAW, LAWSON, LEGG, LEGGE, LEWIS, LIVERMORE, LYON, McCORD, McLAUGHLIN, McMANUS, MAHONEY, MAINE, MALLORY, MARSTON, MARTIN, MAY, MEACHEM, MESSINGER, METCALF, MILLER, MILLIGAN, MOFFAT, (MOGGE), MORGAN, MORRELL, MORRILL, (MULNIX), MURDOCK, NAGLE, NASH, NEMES, NEWBERRY, NEWBURY, NORMAN, OLMSTEAD, OSWALD, PALMER, PEAK, PEDLEY, PERKINS, (PERRINE), PHELPS, PHILLIPS, PIPER, POMEROY, POOLE, POPE, POTTER, PREST, PRESTON, PRESWICK, PRINCE, PURPLE, RACE, RADCLIFFE, RAINES, RATHMELL, RIVERS, ROCKER, RODMAN, ROSE, RUMSEY, RUSS, SAGE, SAGER, SAVILLE, SAXTON, SCALES, SCOLES, SCOTT, SEARS, SEXTON, SHARP, SHARPE, SHELDON, SIMMONS, SIMONDS, SIMONS, SKINNER, SLACK, SOPER, SPEAR, STALEY, STARK, STEPTOE, STOCKTON, STOTT, STRATH, SWAN, (SYMONS), TEMPLETON, TENNANT, TERRELL, THORP, THORPE, TIGHE, TIMBER, TODD, TOWNSEND, TRELEAVEN, TRIPP, (TULLEY), TURK, TYRELL, (VENABLE), WARE, WARN, WATTS, WELDON, WELLS, WESTON, WHEATER, WHITLOCK, WHITNEY, WINTER, WOODHAMS, (WOODIN), WOOLLEN, WORTH, YARNELL.

My parents are now working on 1900 to 1909, a very different distribution of surnames, they assure me. I will advertise details when they become available.

THE COVENTRY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Coventry Family History Society has been formed recently. A quarterly newsletter will be published, the first having been issued in December 1994. The newsletter will include members' interests, articles on the history of Coventry and its people and other useful information for the family historian. Further information about the Society can be obtained from Mrs. Jane Cobbett, 8 Handcross Grove, Coventry CV3 6DZ.

THE BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY OF GREATER OTTAWA

The newly formed British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa aims to assist in the research and publishing of family histories of people with origins in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, whose ancestors migrated to North America and settled in Canada. Society membership is open to individuals, families and institutions and all members will recieve four issues a year of Anglo-Celtic Roots, the Society's newsletter; an annual journal and ten monthly programmes. A three day workshop will be conducted in conjunction with the Society's Annual General Meeting in September 1995.

The geographic identifier, Greater Ottawa was chosen to indicate the Society's focus on both sides of the Ottawa River, but its interests extend beyond any specific territorial boundaries. Settlers with roots in the British Isles began arriving in the Greater Ottawa area some two hundred years ago. The Ottawa and Rideau Rivers were then the only transportation routes into the newly surveyed lands.

Information can be obtained from BIFHSGO, P.O. Box 38026, Ottawa ON K2C 1NO, Canada.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES REGIONAL MEETINGS

21st to 23rd April 1995 The Sixteenth Annual Conference and AGM will be held at Nottingham University (East Midlands Conference Centre). The Conference and all accommodation will be in Florence Boot Hall (all under one roof). The booking form will be included in the January 1995 Journal.
27 May 1995 Wales/Gloucestershire Conference at Tintern Village Hall, Tintern, Gloucestershire beginning at 10am.
21 October 1995 Provisional date for Chester Area Conference probably to be at Chelfield near Macclesfield, Cheshire.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
22nd April 1995 The Sixth Annual Conference of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies will be held in Aberdeen. Further details can be obtained from Aberdeen Family History Research Centre and Shop, 164 King Street, Aberdeen AB2 3BD.
20th May 1995 The Haskell Family History Society's Annual Reunion and BBQ, at the Village Hall, Cranborne, Dorset, beginning at 10am. (see page 198)
21st to 23rd July 1995 The Barrett International Reunion, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. For information write to: Dan Barrett, 179-3033 Townline Road, Stevensville, Ontario, Canada LOS 1S1.
8th to 10th September 1995 The Berkshire Family History Society hosts the Federation of Family History Societies' Conference at Reading University on the theme "Victorian Virtues, Vices and Virtuosity". (see page 197)

DEADLINES

The deadline for the July 1995 issue is Monday, 8th May 1995 and for the October 1995 issue is Tuesday, 8 August 1995.

There has been some difficulty with material sent on disc since the computer will not accept high density discs. The Journal is currently being produced using WordPerfect 5.1 on an IBM compatible computer accepting both 5 1/4" and 3 1/2" discs.

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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. Such a group, whether or not formally constituted, may become associated with the Guild through an individual member. Anyone with a genuine interest in this type of research is welcome to join, membership not being restricted to those who register specific surnames.

The Aims and Objectives of the GUILD are:

(a) To advance the education of the public in the study of genealogy and family history of persons with the same name and its variants.

(b) To promote the preservation and publication of the resultant data, and to maximise its accessibility to interested members of the public.

In furtherance of these aims the Guild:

(i) Provides a forum for individuals and groups of people engaged in the collection of ALL references and occurrences of a single name and its variants worldwide.

(ii) Arranges conferences, meetings and similar gatherings for Guild members and others interested.

(iii) Encourages one-name research, particularly from original documents, and publishes or assists in the publication of the useful results of such research.

(iv) Produces a Journal and other literature, helpful to One-Name Studies.

(v) Maintains and publishes a Register of the surnames being researched and of the places where members have deposited the result of their researches, and through close association with the Federation of Family History Societies, the Society of Genealogists, the Association of Scottish Family History Societies and similar organisations worldwide secures the greatest possible awareness of One-Name research. By means of the Register each member becomes the publicised contact and expert in the name(s) he or she has registered.

(vi) Encourages and ensures by a written undertaking, that members deal with all reply-paid enquiries, which relate to their registered names. This undertaking is a primary requirement and should not be given lightly, particularly with the more common names.

New applicants for membership of the Guild should send a stamped addressed envelope to the Registrar, requesting a Registration Form. Overseas applicants should send three International Reply Coupons. The Registration Fee is £4.00 for each name registered; each registration may include up to five variants. The Annual Subscription, payable 1st January, is £8.00, and covers four issues of this Journal and two issues of Family History News and Digest. On joining members receive a copy of the current edition of the REGISTER OF ONE-NAME STUDIES and supplements and new editions as they are issued.

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