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THE GUILD OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

Member of the Federation of Family History Societies

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THE JOURNAL OF ONE-NAME STUDIES

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Personally Speaking...

the editor writes what he's thinking but endeavours to avoid libel.

My thanks to all of you who wrote to comment on my first issue - you seem to have generally approved although Dr.Hodsdon (see letters) says I must be more severe! I do not entirely agree. The Journal's main aim is surely to serve as an exchange of ideas and these are found in member's letters. If I am seen to be chopping them down too much they will not bother to write.

My apologies for the few errors in proof-reading due to the usual last minute rush. Curious that they only in occurred in articles typed by myself!

I am glad to say that I also had letters on matters raised in that issue but some of them were personal letters inviting me to correspond on the subject. I am sorry but I cannot do this. With my many commitments my mail bag is already very heavy and I cannot cope with another load. My job as Editor, as I see it, is to EDIT and correspondence on such matters should go to the Chairman or Registrar.

Having said that I naturally want as many letters FOR PUBLICATION as possible.

I recently read an article in another journal on keeping family records. This is a vast subject and one on which, in my experience, no two people will ever agree! However, there is always something to learn and new members always seek guidance as to the best way. The best one is always one's own but it is not necessarily suited to everyone else!

Consequently, this is a subject I think we should see aired in depth in these pages. As a start I have described my own basic filing system to give new members an idea of one way of starting. As they progress they will work out their own and Good Luck to them. My only advice to them is to keep it SIMPLE, EASY to operate and DO NOT BECOME A SLAVE TO IT.

I await your descriptions of your own systems, your devastating criticisms of mine and your reasons for thinking your's to be far superior!

A Very Happy New Year to you all.

* * * * * *

Two articles, several letters and the commencement of the new series of reviews of members' journals have had to be held over due to lack of space despite another increase in size. However this is a healthy sign - please keep them coming.

HOW LARGE IS YOUR FAMILY?

The article in the last issue aroused a considerable amount of interest and I have received a number of letters on the subject. Most seem to think it out of date and the results don't agree with their computations and make their family too large! However, I did make it clear that the method was based on the 1971 Census - Obviously, the figures used as the base-data will have changed over the last twelve years.

Mrs Thelma Smith of 48 Woodham Waye, Woking, Surrey GU21 5SJ says:

> " I found the Lindsay method as given in the Autumn Journal very interesting and tried it straight away. For Roothams the sum went like this: 49 subscribers x 9 giving 441 households. Multiply that by 3, giving 1323 Roothams. This I knew could not be true. For a start, there have only been 610 births and 3 adopts from 1837 to June 1982 and I have less than 450 more going back to the 16th century. I had already tried a method of my own which was to take the average birth rate from 1837 to 1982, which is between 4 and 5, and multiply it by 60 as an average life expectancy. A bit low perhaps but the average age at death of Roothams, 1907 to 1981. This gave me a figure between 240 and 300 which I then checked by a count of the record cards for Roothams who, so far as I knew, were still alive, including wives but not ex-Roothams as marriages roughly break even. This count came to just over 270.I shall be interested to hear of any other checks"

whilst Mr James Coughtrey of 21 Corporation Oaks, Nottingham NG3 4JY clearly doubts its validity when he says:

> "I endeavoured to apply the method suggested against my own calculations and found a considerable discrepancy.
>
> In the latest telephone directories there are 109 "Coughtreys" which multiplied by 9 comes to 981 and further multiplied by 3 gives us 2943. I appreciate that these factors refer to the 1971 Census but do not assume that the 1981 figures would be very much different. If anything I should imagine that the final figure would be higher, as presumably there are now more householders on the telephone than in 1971.
>
> My method is to take figures from the St Catherine's House indices, as follows. Take the total number of births registered since 1900, add to that figure the number of male marriages (thus bringing in females who acquire the name by marriage) and deduct the female marriages (thus accounting for women who have lost their maiden name by marriage) and finally to deduct the number of deaths since 1900 of Coughtreys who were born in or after 1900.
>
> This gives us the following result:

Births registered 1900 - 1982	505 +
Add male marriages	153 -
Deduct female marriages	185 -
Deduct deaths	104

> leaving a figure of only 369 as against 2943 by the Clan Lindsay Society's method.
>
> Clearly, something is drastically wrong with one or other, or perhaps both, of these methods. One thing which comes to mind is that "tele-

phone subscribers" would include business subscribers which should not of course be included in the calculations".

The Reverend Derek West of 298, Stoke Poges Lane, Slough, Berks making a similar point says:-

> I have one reservation about the use of telephone directories for estimating numbers and that is with regard to the people who are ex-directory.
>
> Is this a small percentage, so that it can be ignored in any calculations or will it make a marked difference to the final figure?
>
> Is it possible, either through the Census (unlikely) or other official publications to acquire a percentage of ex-directory subscribers which can be added to step 2 of the method which may thereby give a different proportion?
>
> Perhaps other members can advise.

Eunice Wilson, taking a totally different line (as usual!) says:-

> "...except for immediate father/mother, grandfather/grandfather ratios *surely this is incalculable since brothers and sisters beyond the* immediate living memory are not always totally findable. Through the direct line, one does not to have to go back all that many generations to - 16th Century - to reach 8192 ancestors. Assuming each family had an average of 4 does this give us about 32000?

Brian O.Silverton of 55 Windermere Rd.,Coulsdon, Surrey says he fears the number of subscribers given for 1971 seems to be totally inaccurate.

> "According to "Britain in Figures" (published by Pelican in 1971) the ratio of telephones in the UK in 1968 was 4.3 persons per telephone The population in 1968 was approximately 56 million so a simple division gives the number of telephones, which cannot be much different to the number of subscribers, as about 12½ million in 1968. This throws considerable doubt on the figure given of just over 2 million for 1971.
>
> British Telecom say the number of subscribers today is approaching 20 million i.e. about 1 in 3 of the population has a phone ... it would seem therefore that a straight x 3 of the names in the directory would give the answer ... agreed takes no account of business or ex-directory ... so small not to matter.
>
> Using this method against my own surname gives a total of 372 Silverton name-bearers which I think is not too far out; a previous "Guestimate" using anotherproportionate method method gave a figure of about 500"

So- a good lively debate which has obviously caught the imagination of many members. I have had several other letters on similar lines but space ran out.

Perhaps Mr David Cufley of 55 Broomhill Road, Dartford, Kent has produced the answer when he says:

"The article 'How Large is Your Family' stated that there are 2,123,062 telephone subscribers. The Public Relations Department of British Telecom, in reply to my recent telephone enquiry, quoted from their 1983 'Report and Accounts' as having 3.9 million commercial subscribers and 15.6 million private subscribers.

In 1981, when I was trying to calculate the " How many Cuf(f)leys " exercise, I was informed that 76% of Householders had telephones - i.e. on the 1981 census figure of 18 million Householders about 13.7 million had telephones. They would not quote an exact figure at that time.

The revised proportion of telephone subscribers to householders is therefore approximately 1:1.32 and not 1:9 which would reduce the Lindsays from 96,120 to only 14,098, still a daunting task to research and even more so to cross reference.

The numbers game can be of use to assess the likely number of references you are going to index when first considering " One Naming ". However, the difference of even one decimal place can alter totals by hundreds.

There are 30 Cufleys and 52 Cuffleys in the U.K. telephone directories which gives a total of 325 Cuf(f)leys in the U.K. population of which 119 are Cufley. I've now traced 47 of these people from 17 telephone subscribers. So the remaining subscribers could yield 35 more. Where are the other 37 Cufleys? (If you're a Cuf(f)ley - please write!)"

and Mr Tony Benton of 14 Hillview Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 2DW supports this view. He says:

" I fear that the article may have led to some members gaining a view that their family is larger than it really is. According to the Government publication, "Social Trends:1983", 75% of households now have a telephone. Therefore it is now necessary to multiply the number of telephone subscribers with a particular name by a factor of four and then to divide by three to give the approximate number of households bearing that name, rather than by nine as suggested.

The average number per household is a bit less than three but by adopting three as the multiplier this will cancel out those ex-directory subscribers who would otherwise be ignored. So the approximate number of households can still be multiplied by three to give the approximate number of people bearing that name.

One final word of warning. It is not sufficient just to count the numbers bearing a certain name from the directories. Each listed subscriber will generally appear not only in his local directory but also in directories for neighbouring areas, particularly in suburban London. Therefore, double or treble counting should be eliminated before starting the above calculations.

Perhaps those members whose surname is sufficiently rare and who have comprehensive data will attempt to see whether this revised method produces reasonable results".

Never mind, it stirred some of you up!

LIFE EXPECTANCY - INTERPRETING STATISTICS

Pauline M.Litton

Some years ago, whilst hunting an elusive ancestor, I abstracted from the Indexes then at Somerset House all the BAKER deaths in the Wolverhampton Registration District for the period April 1869 to March 1873. Being post-1866, ages at death were included and I indulged in a little statistical study. I came to the conclusion that figures can be manipulated to support whatever theory you choose!

Life expectancy nationally at this period has been estimated at forty years, dropping to the early twenties in some city areas. Infant mortality in the industrial areas was very high. This fact is borne out by the Bakers' figures. However, if these infant deaths are removed from the statistics, then the life expectancy figure of the remainder of the population alters dramatically.

In the four year period there were 33 deaths: of these, 16 (or 48.4%) were of infants under the age of 2 years (12 of them being under one year old, 1 aged one and 3 aged 2), 5 were of children aged between 3 and 19 (2 aged seven and 3 in their teens), four of adults aged between 20 and 60 and 8 of adults aged more than 60. The average age at death, including the 16 infants, was 24.3 years. However, exclude those who died under the age of two and the average age at death almost doubles to 47; remove those who died before leaving their teens and the age at death rises to 61.3 years.

While it is statistically correct, from these figures, to quote a life expectancy of 24.3 years, it is surely important to realise that if a child could survive babyhood it had a good chance of reaching its half century and if it passed through its teens it was likely to go a long way towards achieving its 'three score years and ten'.

Realising that a four year period for one surname in an industrial area is a miniscule sample, I repeated the exercise with all the ancestors and collaterals which have accumulated during fifteen years of research and was interested, but not surprised, to find that a very similar pattern emerged.

With the exception of one branch from Suffolk, all my family tree stems from Yorkshire and the Midlands and is fairly evenly divided between families living in industrial and rural areas. Working on some 130 couples and their offspring, ranging in time from the early 1700s to 1950, I discovered that, if the hurdle of the first twelve months was surmounted, then the chances of the child living to a ' ripe old age ' were relatively good!

Obviously, prior to 1812, some ages at death can only be estimated, and I am dealing with people who have survived that first vital year, but the average age at death of those couples on my direct lines whose ages are known is 68.5 years for men and 70 years for women. There were minor 'peaks' in the years between 20 and 60 - several women in their twenties and thirties died in childbirth, six miners were killed in pit accidents, and a number of men died in their late fifties - but the number of septuagenarians, octogenarians and even nonagenarians did surprise me!

(I am still hoping to find a centenarian somewhere amongst my forebears!)

The average life expectancy is most often calculated by taking a given span of years and dividing the sum of the ages at death of all those dying within the period by the total number of deaths. However, the family historian is often more interested in, given that a person has survived to marriageable age, what his (average) age would be at death. The two statistics could hardly be further apart.

Playing around with figures, I came up with more statistics which could have a bearing on the set of assumptions which we commonly use when trying to locate an elusive entry (for example, at what age would an average couple have their first child and how long before the birth should we be looking for their marriage). I discovered that the average age at marriage of the couples was 22.6 years for the men and 21.8 years for the women; 69% of couples had their first child within 12 months of marrying and, of these, 42% (29% of the total number of couples) had their first child within 6 months! The average number of children per couple was 7.5 and 1 in 8 (12½%) of these is known to have died in infancy (of two couples having 15 children, one lost 7 as babies, the other raised all 15 to adulthood).

I make no claim for these statistics, which were worked out purely to satisfy my own curiosity, but I should be interested to know whether other members of the Guild find the national Life Expectancy figures of the statisticians equally misleading when trying to estimate to what age an ancestor might have lived and whether they can confirm or confound my other 'findings'.

[Mrs.P.M.Litton BA. 34 Bramley Rd.,Bramhall, Stockport. Cheshire]

* * * * *

WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR DADDY ? - a finding aid.

Our member Eunice Wilson of 143 Harbord Street, London SW6 6PN tells me that she has been given a book on the men of CRAVEN in Yorkshire who served in World War I 1914 both officers and men. She says it is full of potted biographies and has photos of many of them. It is not just of those who were killed but of everyone who served. If anyone would like her to do a search in it she would be very happy to do so for TWO first class stamps.

Thank you Eunice - that is what membership of the Guild is all about. If you come across an unusual reference book and would like to help other members in a similar way we would be grateful. Let us know.

UREN - Celt, Jew or Viking ?

C.L.Barrett

In researching the name Uren over the past six years the following have been the most commonly found variant spellings :-

Uren U'Ren Uran Urin Uryn Uron - Urene Urane Urine - Uring - Urran Urren Urrin Urron - Youren Youron Yourne Yourn Youronson - Euren Eweren - Urian Urien Urion Urne.

These have been found mainly in the readily available sources, i.e. Parish Registers from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries, the Mormon International Genealogical Index covering the same period, the Registrar General's Indexes 1837 to 1907 and the 1980 telephone directory for the U.K.

On the one hand, it is easy to see how spellings can vary when the person writing the name is a clerk, educated in English and Latin, and the person giving his name is illiterate, speaks in a local dialect and may well have a speech defect. On the other hand, in plotting the geographical distribution of the variants over the U.K., it is clear that dialect can have a considerable influence on spellings. For example, if one asks someone to pronounce UREN in West Cornwall he will say "youren", in Northumberland he will say "urren" and in Suffolk "uring". While the variants which can be attributed to dialect are certainly grouped in the dialect areas, none of them are found exclusively in those areas. Almost all of the variants listed above are found in Cornwall. The question is, are they all variants of the same name?

Having been told that UREN was a Cornish name, this was where I started my search. Two thirds of the entries of the name were found in Cornwall in each of the sources consulted. The variety of spellings found immediately caused confusion. At an early stage it was decided to collect all of them as found and to sort them out later. This turned out to be a fortunate decision because not only were there many variants in one Parish but as many as five were found in one family. The children of William and Elizabeth Uren, entered in the Baptismal Register of Illogan Parish in the later part of the eighteenth century, are listed as William Urne, James Urion, Elizabeth Uryn, Jone Youren and Thomas Urine. Following this, it was decided that spelling of the name could be no guide to relationship and that variant spellings were to be expected rather than the reverse.

Pawley-White, in his " Handbook of Cornish Surnames ", tells us that Uren is a corruption of the word "Gwern" meaning swamp, that people called Uren lived by marshy ground. This is certainly consistent with the idea that most Urens were tinners working the alluvial tin streams of mediaeval West Cornwall.

The Curator of the Royal Institution of Cornwall tells us that Uren may be a corruption of the Roman name Uranus. Roman tin merchants are known to have dealt in Cornish tin and it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that one of them may have settled in the County, giving the name to people working in his tin streams.

Our member, Rev. Malcolm Uren, has a considerable knowledge of the Holy Land and its languages. He tells us that "Youren" is not only the phonetic spelling of Uren in Cornwall but also of "Aaron" in Israel. His

suggestion is that Jewish tinners and tin merchants called Aaron settled in Cornwall and that Uren is the corrupted version of their name. Abraham the Tinner is reported, in the Black Prince's " White Book of Cornwall", in 1357 to have held two tin mines, four tin streams, and to have employed over three hundred men, women and children. We can be sure, then, that there was a Jewish settlement in Cornwall in the Middle Ages and of its involvement in the tin trade. It could well be, then, that one of them was of the family of Aaron. The Victoria County History of Cornwall tells us that, when Edward II expelled the Jews, the communities in the towns were forced out of the country. These were the bankers and money lenders who had offended the King. There were, however, numbers of Jewish families scattered around the country, engaged in various trades, who went underground, took Christian names, maintained a public front of Christian life and were able to escape the expulsion. These, it appears, were absorbed into the ordinary community as could the family of Aaron the Tinner have been.

When I commented on the Semitic appearance of many of my relations in Victorian photographs and suggested that they may have been of Jewish blood Sarah Euren said, "Oh no! Urens are much more Scandinavian looking"! She then went on to tell me of her great grandfather, Henry Francis Euren, who had found the same name in Norway and Sweden. He had read the Saga of Olaf Trygvesson who had been shipwrecked off the coast of Cornwall, married the widow of the Earl, and whose men had helped the Cornish Celts to beat off the invasion of the Saxons in 516 A.D. There was some settlement of Vikings in Cornwall in that period, as is evidenced by the names Hecking and Hesking, common in Roseland, and Helston and Helford River, all of which are of Scandinavian origin. The Genealogical Societies of Norway and Sweden both confirm that in those countries one took one's name from the farm where one was born and that in Norway there are nine villages called Uren, some of which certainly existed before written records. It was for this reason that H.F. adopted the spelling 'Euren' found in Scandinavia and tried to persuade his family to do so as well. It is curious that the Urens we have found living in Roseland, Falmouth and south coast areas of the county, appear to be much more involved in seafaring occupations, both in times past and in present generations, than are the Urens found in the Parishes of the north coast of West Cornwall who seem to have been almost exclusively engaged in tin and copper mining.

When one looks at the geographical distribution of the name in the period before the Cornish began migrating, when their mines failed,one finds that the areas of Viking settlement, i.e. Northumberland and Durham, Fife, Cumberland and Westmorland, Man and parts of Ireland, contain groups of Urens, of various spellings of the UR and URR varieties.

In his interesting study of " The Stannaries ", G.R.Lewis examines the effect of Stannary law on the lives of the mediaeval Cornish miners . Several of his comments are relevant in the context of this study. He points out that, because mineral rights were held direct from the King, there are no references to them or to the people who worked them in Domesday. Hence there are no Urens in Domesday. He also points out that the feudal labour service for a man working the King's mines was to be impressed for service for a number of days in the year in the King's mines in another part of the country or to use their skills in digging to help

build castles and defensive works or to mine and destroy enemy defences in time of war or rebellion. It is significant, therefore, that occurrences of groups of the name appear in the early years of the parish registers in the Forest of Dean coal mining area, in Nottingham and Derbyshire lead and coal mining areas and Cumberland iron mine areas. It would seem, therefore, that impressed Cornish tinners settled in the area of their impressment.

The variant spelling Urion/Urian/Urien does not fit into the geographical distribution already described. We are told by the Dictionary of National Biography, and by Nora Chapman in her " Celtic Britain ", that Urien of Rheged was prince of Cumbria in the sixth century. He ruled an area including the lands around the Solway Firth and Morecambe Bay and was killed while campaigning against the Anglo-Saxon invaders who had established themselves in the coastal plain north of the Tyne and round into Lothian. Many people took their surname from the lord they served and it is likely that the people who called themselves Urien etc. are Celts from Cumbria rather than tinners from Cornwall and can be taken to be of different stock. In the Parish Registers their geographical distribution appears to be mainly in Shropshire and Staffordshire. So far no explanation of this has been found. The occasional spelling of this type found in Cornwall has been taken to be a quirk of pronunciation or spelling arising out of the lack of familiarity of the clerk with dialect, mixed up with other spellings in the same registers and families as they are.

In Blewett's " Origins of Cornish Celtic Surnames ", he links Uren to the Trewern name common in Madron Parish. This, he suggests, means the homestead by the marsh and that the Tre was dropped to give the name Uren. In the face of the alternative origins described in this study, this seems to be unlikely.

The Jewish connection is strengthened by some information from abroad. In the Dispersion of the Jews from Israel in the years before the birth of Christ, many Jews migrated across the Black Sea into the Crimea, the Ukraine and European Russia, where there are large Jewish communities known to have settled in that way. In Russia, near Minsk, there is a town called Uren with a large Jewish community. In 1977, Victor Urin, described in "The Times" as a "dissident Russian Jewish poet", was granted a visa to emigrate to Israel and left Russia on 29 October of that year.

In the 1891 census of Pennsylvania U.S.A., we find families of Uhrens giving their place of birth as Austria-Hungary and who are thought to have been Jews.

Much of the foregoing is circumstantial and does not constitute definite proof of the origin of the family and name UREN. However, the weight of evidence leads one to the conclusion that the origin is much more likely to have been Jewish in Cornwall and Viking elsewhere, with isolated communities which migrated from their root areas for one reason or another at different times in the later Middle Ages. The mass movements of population in the nineteenth century are much easier to plot and leave us in no doubt of their origins.

[C.L.Barrett, 15 Limes Road, Folkestone, Kent]

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The Cornwall County Record Office
Folkestone Public Library and Reference Library

* * * * * *

HELP AND ADVICE WANTED.

Harold Culling, a member of the Guild but also a very busy secretary of the Liverpool Family History Society has written to Fred Filby asking him for suggestions on how to deal with a problem that many of us come across. He says:-

..... I find that at the present time I am being plagued by One-Name Researchers. The usual letter is to ask for extraction of ALL the family names in any of our local indexes, plus extractions of the required name from telephone directories, wills etc. and a request for space in our magazine to contact our members.

As you are aware space in our magazines is hard to find, our members making full use of every inch and we never have time for free research, there just aren't enough hours in the day. Perhaps you could make a polite mention in the Guild Journal mentioning the difficulties and asking them that if they DO have to write to PLEASE enclose a S.A.E.

[Editor: I am afraid that this is an age-old problem that we who are officers of Societies are always meeting. People are so inconsiderate and some downright rude if you do not reply straightaway! I know one Secretary who consigns the letter to the WPB immediately if there is no S.A.E.!

I am sure no GUILD member would do this knowingly but if they do then in my opinion they do not deserve a reply. I do not think this is a subject for discussion in these pages but if you are in a similar position and have ideas which you think could help Harold please write to him direct at 11 Lisburn Lane, Liverpool L13 9AE as Fred has done.]

MEET YOUR TREASURER

Born on the 14th. of April 1931 on the North bank of the Trent in Burton, Sydney Brewin looks across the county border to Leicestershire for his Brewin ancestors. His grandfather crossed the Trent to marry the daughter of a Burton brewer.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch afforded the Brewins their home for some 200 years prior to the turn of the last century. Buying cattle from Wales and Ireland, feeding them in the Midland plains and taking them by drove road to London was their business. Long distance family 'reps' in London had tanneries in the Old Kent Road and Bermondsey. Sydney's great grandfather was born in London.

Centuries earlier they had flourished in their beloved Leicestershire and in London, claiming descent from the ancient Counts of Lusignan with their Crusader and older traditions. Fletcher's 'Leicestershire Pedigrees and Royal Descents' refers to an old verbal claim of descent from Sir Guy de Bruyn, a Norman Knight. Certainly a number of the Plantagenet descendents married into the Brewins.

The Brewins of Leicestershire included Robert, early 19th.Century radical Mayor of Leicester about 1838 and prosperous worsted spinner (Corporation of Leicester 1689-1836 - R.W.Greave). He had the stamp of men who 'beleived only in one God but paid 20 shillings in the pound' (Radical Leicester - A.Temple Patterson). Other Brewins with the same ancestry were Quakers and one visited the West Indies to report on the ill-treatment of natives (Cirencester Quakers 1655-1873 - Leslie Stephens). Another Leicestershire Brewin married Sarah Lloyd (neice of the founder of the Bank) at a Quaker ceremony in Birmingham in 1788. Felix McCarthy, the unsuccessful radical parliamentary candidate for Leicester in 1802 was proposed by 'Mr.Brewin, a Tanner' (The Times, 8July 1802). Many of the Brewins were Liberals in politics and non-conformist in religion.

The cross moline has featured prominently in their coats of arms. Ambrose Brewin of Loughborough was proud of it. He was associated with John Heathcoat and Anbrose Junior married John Heathcoat's daughter, Caroline and migrated to Tiverton after the Luddite riots.

Sydney says that today's Brewins are as practical and down to earth as ever but 'we still believe in one God'. The family motto 'Steadfast and Free' accompanies his arms - 'Azure, a cross moline checky Argent and Gules, at each angle of the finial a Bezant, in Chief two Eagles displayed Gold, beaked and legged Gules' and for the Crest, 'upon a Helm with a Wreath Or and Sable, a Unicorn rampant Argent reposing the sinister foreleg upon a Shield of the Arms.

Our Treasurer is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Chartered Institute of Secretaries & Administrators, the Corporation of Certified Accountants (I like that one! Ed.) the British Institute of Management, the Association of Professional Insolvency Accountants and an Associate of the Institute of Taxation and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

He is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of the City of London and a Freeman of that City.

Sydney is the Principal of Brewin & Co. and is a specialist in insolvency administration. He is a Director of the National Chamber of Trade, serving On its Legislation and Taxation Committee and a Director of the Southern Tourist Board. He was chairman of the Hampshire and Wight Council of the National Chamber of Trade in 1980/82 and chairman of the Wessex Council of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators in 1981. He is currently President of the Hayling Island Chamber of Trade.

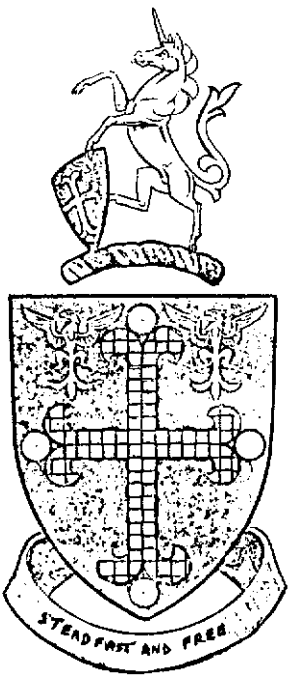
Sydney stood as Liberal Parliamentary Candidate for the Havant and Waterloo Division in February and October 1974 and for Portsmouth North in 1979. A life long Liberal, he was District Councillor for East Grinstead West 1959-63 and, not surprisingly, chairman of the Council's Finance Committee in 1963. He was the County Councillor for East Grinstead West on the East Sussex County Council 1960-63 and is currently a Liberal Havant Borough Councillor.

Sydney married Diana Elizabeth Louise 24 years ago. They share their home on Hayling Island with four pug dogs. Diana is secretary of the City of Portsmouth Dog Show, an animal and art lover in that order.

A pistol in their possession reminds them of the service of one of her Murray ancestors with the Atholl Brigade at Culloden Moor, whilst other direct ancestors include a Thearle who was chief surveyor at Lloyds, and a Portsmouth born naval architect, and Professor Dunbar who married the daughter of Sir James Hamilton (see D.N.B.)

The Brewins have two daughters who are technically heraldic co-heiresses, Sarah Ann, a vegetarian who loves the Ballet, she now helps her father with his practice and Caroline Elizabeth Rose who is currently growing mango seeds in the Negev desert in Israel.

A man of many parts, we are very lucky to have him as our Treasurer but canot think how he makes the time!



TATLERS - TEN IN A MILLION

G.L.V.Tatler

Much has been published in the Guild of One-Name Studies Newsletter and the Journal of One-Name Studies regarding the rarity and incidence of family names. For data over the past century and a half, extracts from the Registrar General's quarterly indexes have proved the most reliable. Indeed, members of the Guild of One-Name Studies are encouraged to record every entry for their name(s) of interest from these indexes. Certainly this is an easier task for those researching rarer names. From such lists estimation of the absolute numbers of the bearers of a given name may be made for any given time in the past. The extraction of the comparatively rare name of Tatler, with its obvious variant of Tattler, has been relatively easy to accomplish but has only recently been completed. A variety of methods used to estimate the incidence of the name Tatler within the population of England and Wales has consistently given a figure of the order of one in one hundred thousand and this can be clearly seen from the accompanying graph which charts the occurrence of Tatler marriages, births and deaths, and those of the total population of England and Wales. The points on the graph are constructed for five yearly periods. For a small family the number of entries over five years are likely to be of more significance than for a shorter time. The quinquennial cohorts commence with the period 1841 -1845 to coincide with those published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. 1841 is probably a more satisfactory year than 1838 to commence a study since the problems of under-registration in the early years are well known.

Detailed investigation of a rare name enables a high proportion of unregistered events to be identified, and sometimes allows for individuals to be traced in the index under unusual variations of spelling. In common with other workers, this study has shown that a number of persons do not appear in the indexes, probably for one of the following reasons :-

a) The event was not registered, particularly in the earlier years.
b) The registrar spelt the name at variance, and some variations of spelling make identification difficult.
c) The index clerk misread the registrar's spelling. That the index clerks had difficulty in reading the returns is evident by the occasional entry indexed under more than one name.

In addition to the obvious variant spelling of Tattler, the name has been registered as Tather Tatlar Tatlers Tatlery Tatlet Tatley Tatlor Tatner Tatten Tatter Tatters Tetlar and Tetler. Of interest, in pre 1837 records the name was frequently spelt as Tatlor but this spelling is unusual in the post 1837 indexes. Tatley and Tatlow are certainly the names of quite separate families. Tetlar and Tetlaw are names which appear to come from Yorkshire, and Tattle is a name concentrated in the West Country. Tatla is a name from the Indian subcontinent not found in the indexes until the present century. Tatter is a name found in North East England. The registrars and index clerks occasionally seem to confuse Tatter and Tatler as both names can appear similar in script; in fact there is a high degree of probability that any Tatter registered in the Midlands was a Tatler, and a Tatler registered in North East England was in reality a Tatter.

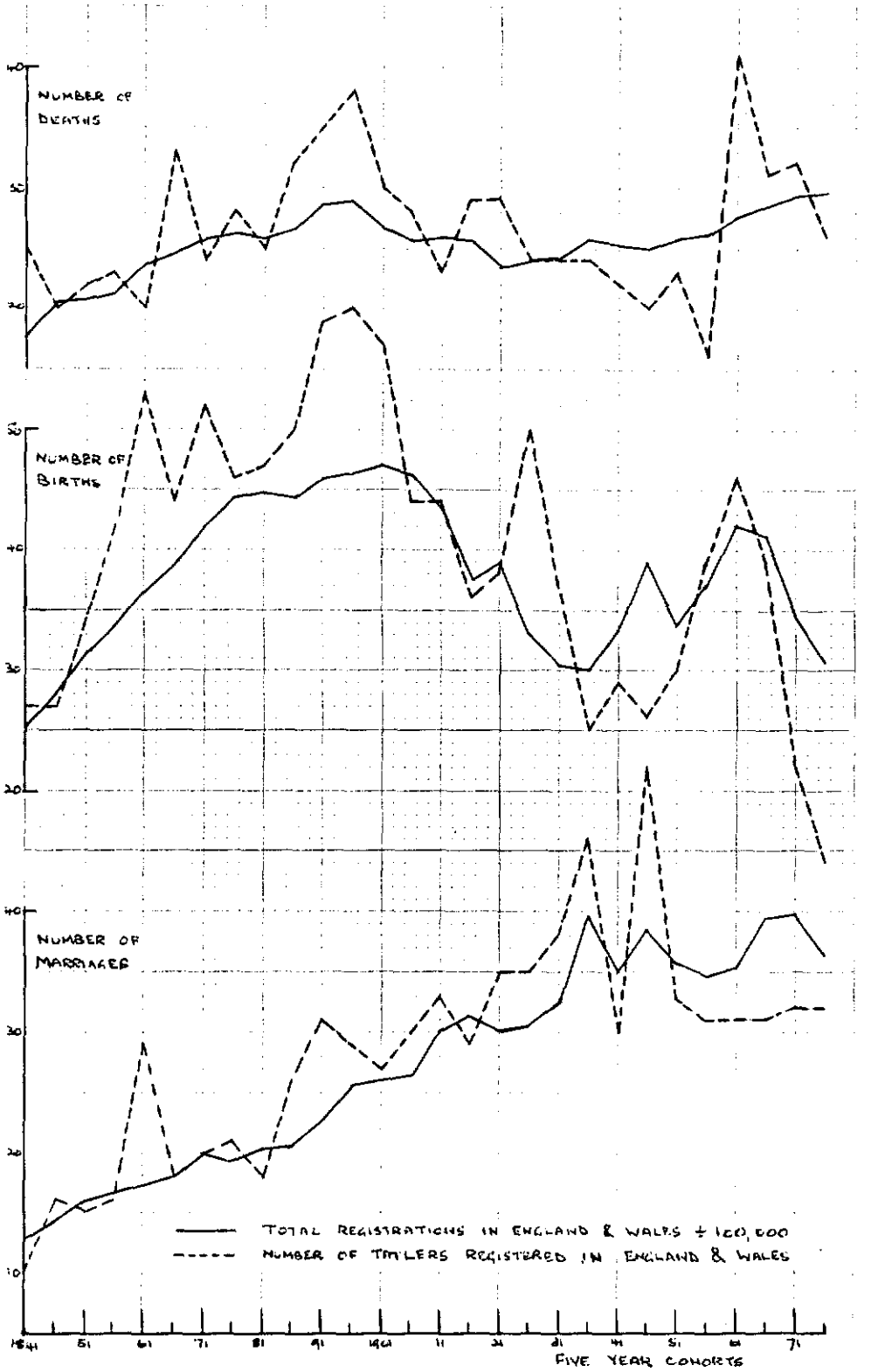
The great majority of the Victorian population was, by most definitions, working class so there can only have been a few families or sub-groups of

families that were privileged. The Tatler family was totally working class. 85% lived in the Midlands and the remaining 15% lived mostly in London and the South of England. The midland people were predominantly potters and miners, whilst those in the south had a higher proportion of tradesmen and artisans. An estimate of the life expectancy, based on the experience at death of 102 consecutive deaths between 1866 and 1884, showed that the average age at death of the Midlands group was 25 and, for the south of England, it was 33. A further consecutive count from 1885 to 1900 showed that the expectation in the Midlands had only risen to 27 and in the south to 37. This low life expectancy is in keeping with Farr's figures which gave a national life expectancy of 40, with a range from under 20 in the worst parts of some manufacturing cities to 51 in Surrey. These figures show that the Tatlers were, overall, less privileged than average. 100 consecutive deaths from 1892 to 1907 show that 41 did not reach their first birthday. There were 183 live births during this period to give an equivalent infant mortality of 224 per 1000 - somewhat higher than the national rate. The effect of this high mortality can only have been offset by a higher than usual national birth rate. The Tatler birth graph shows four peaks of doubtful signifance at intervals of just over 30 years. the first peak would be better shown between 1863 and 1867 on a graph drawn with five year cohorts commencing at 1838.

Throughout the whole period a number of those born, and who survived to become adults, have been lost to the study by emigration to the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Isle of Man. This loss may be no more than the national average but could account for a lesser number of post Second World War marriages and subsequent births.

It is unlikely that the maximum concentration of an established English family, living in a given area, will increase after a period of time. The Tatler family is no exception. Between 1841 and 1860, 55% of all Tatler births were registered in the Potteries, which steadily fell to 20% for the twenty year period 1961 to 1980. There were no Tatlers living in the Potteries until the late eighteenth century when they were apparently drawn in from the east from the land by the Industrial Revolution. The effect of the Industrial Revolution on the lives of our ancestors was dramatic and perhaps not fully appreciated by everyone today. It is probable that there was very considerable movement in earlier times, and only the small number of families which held substantial property were likely to remain in their immediate vicinity for long periods, while the majority moved, if only a few miles from the country to a nearby town. To compare the relative mobility of families is difficult, if the locality chosen in some cases is small, while in others it covers large regions containing huge populations. To compare the trends of English and Welsh families with those who are currently immigrating from other countries is unrealistic; nevertheless, if such families are removed from Dr Lickfold's table (Vol.I p.48), the apparent inconsistency within the remainder is remarkable. Small samples may always be at variance. At least the Tatler family are consistent to the extent that they show a trend in proportion to the national figures.

[Dr.G.L.V.Tatler. 480 Chiswick High Rd.,London W4 5TT]


NUMBER OF DEATHS
NUMBER OF BIRTHS
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES
TOTAL REGISTRATIONS IN ENGLAND & WALES ÷ 100,000
NUMBER OF TWINS REGISTERED IN ENGLAND & WALES
FIVE YEAR COHORTS

KEEPING YOUR FAMILY RECORDS (1)

I.S.Swinnerton

We all, I am sure, agree that the backs of cigarette packets or unpaid bills, whilst admirable for the quick note in the field, are not the ideal way to store your family records permanently! But what is?

Although your ideas will probably change over the years as your archives grow, it is essential to have a basic system to start which must be SECURE EASY to CONSULT and CAPABLE OF ADDITIONS and AMENDMENTS.

The hard-backed, bound notebook is obviously the most permanent and secure but has the great disadvantage that additions cannot be entered in chronological or alphabetical order.

The obvious choice, therefore, is a loose-leaf system that can be added to or re-arranged at will. This does have the disadvantage that constant turning over the pages can weaken the punched holes and sheets could tear and drop out. This risk can be almost eliminated by using strong paper (100gm. at least), by using multi-ring binders, by reinforcing the holes with linen circles (like self-adhesive polo mints and readily available from most stationers) or even by inserting the sheets in pre-punched polythene folders.

I use the Esselte Conference Files: A4 in an attractive simulated leather finish (they look better on my bookshelves than bright Reds, Greens or Blues) with 4 'D' Rings. These give a larger capacity than the usual round rings and enable me to use the spring slide provided to secure the papers before closing the file.

Having acquired your binder how are you to arrange your papers in it?

You need to be able to find a particular record quickly and easily - not to have sit there ages turning over page after page muttering 'I know I've seen that somewhere'!

I use a simple aphabetical system - again cloth-reinforced, strong A-Z index dividers are readily available, and I use the following headings:-

A Addresses - of family, Record Offices, Societies etc.

B Birth Briefs - for the beginner, a Brief is a simple chart showing the descent on both sides from (usually) 16 great-great-grandparents (hence its technical term of 'seize quartiers' sixteen quarters). There are smaller ones giving just the 8 great-grandparents.

C Census Returns

D Directories

E.F [I have not found a use for these letters & would welcome ideas]

G Guild of One Name Studies - correspondence, details etc.

H Heraldry - of the family

I.J Illustrations - photographs, photocopies of pictures from books

K Kindred - details of allied families etc.

L Libraries - details of those consulted, when etc.

Mc Miscellaneous

M Monumental Inscriptions (MI's)

NO Newspapers - extracts from

PQ Parish Registers

R Record Forms - one for each member of the family showing their immediate descent, address etc.

S St.Catherine's House - extracts from the G.R.O.Index [this may seem a little odd but, of course, when I started it was Somerset House]

T Trees

UV Unidentified as yet - your 'pending' file!

W Wills

XY Z Because it came out long after I started I use this for extracts from the Mormon Index - it should have been C (CFI) or later I (IGI) both already in use.

These are only suggestions, you can formulate your own divisions. It does not matter as long as you can find a record easily and quickly.

Obviously I have now expanded to several files with a section of the alphabet in each (the Parish Register extracts, for instance, occupy a whole file to themselves) but I still use the same basic system that I started with years ago because it suits me and I find it easy to follow.

A final word on security - ALWAYS make AT LEAST one extra copy and preferably several and deposit them with other members of your family, the SOG, your local RO etc. It is a good idea to have 2 copies yourself. one the Master copy and the other the working record. Keep them seperate and then if you do lose or damage one you have a back-up.

DO IT NOW!

* * * * *

While memory holds a seat
In this distracted globe. Remember thee!
Yea from the table of my memory
I'll wipe away all trivial fond records

[Hamlet. I.v.96]

* * * * *

The Federation of Family Histories, of which the Guild is a member, is celebrating its 10th Birthday on Saturday the 8th. of June 1984 with a Garden Party at the home of its Patron, the Duke of Wellington, at Stratfield Saye. This promises to be a most exciting with family historians from all over the country attending. Full details are available from the Secretary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr Filby

You may be glad to hear that I have now completed the typing and microfilming of my Gilbert Index and a copy is lodged with the S. of G. At the time I did not fully realise that the main part of those suggestions would take me two years to complete at a daily six hours at my portable. Now that the S. of G. have a copy, so many of those interested in my Surname, and living in or visiting London, can avail themselves of this material; correspondents in future, as in the past, can still write to me with their contributions or queries and I will gladly help if I am able.

The microfilmed Index is divided as follows:

a) Gilbert Christian Name Index (pages 1 - 1780)
b) Connected Surname Index (pages 1781 - 2076).

Both cover the U.K. with some overseas additions at approximately 55 entries per page; material drawn from personal work over more than 25 years with many additions from correspondents, collected up to about four years ago.

Now I shall commence work on Part 2, to catch up with information I have not been able to include previously, and hope this time to include I.G.I. lists as well as anything to be submitted by correspondents. I try to limit the later date to 1850 or so, as these B.M.D.s are in the safe hands of St Catherine's House and it would be foolish of me to attempt to compete.

My main intention in compiling the Index is to help those who are Gilberts or have Surname connections in the U.K. and I avoided the easier way of attempting to write a family history.

My own pedigree has consequently remained static at 1524 in Leicestershire and I have had no time to pursue my maternal line of Waddington which may not prove so difficult as I remember my grandmother taking me, as an eight year old schoolboy, to visit some "cousins twice removed" at Waddington Old Hall near Clitheroe, who claimed descent from Wada in A.D.798. That was 65 years ago and I had no interest in genealogy then.

At times during the last years of typing I nearly gave up the struggle but consoled myself that I could have been a Smith, Brown or Williams and, in any case, the ultimate Gilbert goal cannot be earlier than 1066.

Yours sincerely

W.S.Gilbert

(9b Charles Street, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3EJ)

* * * * * *

Dear Sir

As a Guild member representing the name Ulyatt and variants, I have never been called upon to respond to an enquiry on the name although under the Guild's requirements one must do so. It may be that all persons of this name cannot write, though I have found that many can. Or perhaps our people are not very bright or involve themselves in other ways too much. I still follow my practice of prior to being a Guild member, namely, of going

out and finding people of this name. On this basis, the correspondence is world-wide.

What also occurs to me is that perhaps too few people know about the Guild and the fine service that it performs and the use than can be made of the members. If the list of registered surnames was broadcast widely enough, then there should certainly be more enquiries even though some members may be getting all that they care for now. Publication of the list of names represented by the Guild in the Journal of the Federation of Family History Societies, or a list of names sent to all the member Societies of the Federation might be of substantial benefit to researchers generally.

The subject may have been discussed at Committee meetings but I did not hear it and must admit that at 5000 miles my hearing is worsening greatly, due also to old age!

Kenneth Ulyatt

(T.F.K.Ulyatt, 2508 Via Astuto, Carlsbad, California 92008, U.S.A.)

(Until June 1981 each issue of Family History News and Digest contained a complete list of Surnames registered with the Guild. Since that date, due to pressure on space, it has only been possible to include additional Surnames registered during the preceding six months. Each member Society of the Federation does receive a copy of the Register. Editor).

* * * * *

Dear Sir

Some comments on Douglas Beresford's suggestions for the Guild's future (Vol.I p.112): the experience of Category 'A' members should certainly be tapped. However, the geographical scattering of the membership would hinder their participation in council/committee work and I believe, therefore, that the Journal, as the only meeting place available to all members, has to be strengthened and confirmed as the main channel for infusing/disseminating experience.

I don't believe Mr Beresford is really suggesting that increasing the subscription rates (which are, in truth, very modest) would automatically improve the content quality of the Journal; but I share his evident feeling that improvements are possible and desirable. I am less concerned with the number of pages than with the quality (typographical and editorial) of what is on the pages. Though we are still a fledgling group, there is no reason why we should not aim in time to achieve something of the consistently high standard of the Genealogists' Magazine.

The Editor should not shrink from applying his scissors to the extraneous material in letters and articles. The Guild and its Journal are for the promotion of One Name Studies - the "exchange of ideas", it says inside the back cover - and not the listing, without comment, argument or point, of chunks of data from individual family history delvings. In our interests, we Guild members are self-proclaimed monomaniacs, with no excessive tolerance for other people's family history per se. Accordingly, the Journal can only function properly by finding, and keeping to, ground of reasonably common interest.

The Guild has already produced one unique and valuable contribution to name studies, in the form of its Register. It is clear that individual members' contributions to the forthcoming Hanks and Hodges surname dictionary were

also valued. May I suggest that we need to move on to larger achievements and that the time is now ripe for the Guild to plan to assemble and publish a collection of studies, of standardised scope and format, of as many names as have now been sufficiently researched by members. Such a collection could do much to illustrate the value of one-name studies and encourage others to realise the full potential of their labours.

While on the subject of contributions, the Guild might also investigate what scope there is for members to make their input to other ongoing name studies, such as Dr McKinley's mammoth undertaking, the English Surname Series.

Yours faithfully

James Hodsdon

(Dr J.D.Hodsdon, c/o Room 422, British Embassy, Washington, D.C.20008, USA)

* * * * *

Dear Sir

Nominating a Successor

I was very interested to read the letter from Kenneth Ulyatt in the Autumn 1983 issue (Vol.I, No.8, p.137) as I find myself in a somewhat similar position. With an overwhelming range of commitments of various sorts I cannot see myself, even in future retirement from my full-time occupation, able to devote the time and effort to my particular One-Name Study that it deserves. After many years, a member of the younger generation has expressed an interest in taking over and, as none of my own immediate family has any interest, I would like eventually to be able to pass my registration on to him together with the Leeson Archive. With full-blown One-Name societies there is presumably no difficulty in this respect as their registration is as a body, so it is quite possible the Guild will accept successor-nominations on the part of individuals. I can see nothing in the Rules against this and would hope that, provided the Annual Subscription were continued, a further Registration Fee would not be required.

Yours truly

Frank Leeson

(F.L.Leeson FSG, 108 Sea Lane, Ferring, West Sussex BN12 5HB)

* * * * *

Dear Editor

As a very new member of the GOONS, I was interested to read the correspondence in back numbers about the aims and effectiveness of the Guild. I shall of course form my own view in the light of experience, though I have been impressed with the lay-out and content of the Journal's first seven issues.

My purpose in writing is to comment on the Guild's publicity, or rather the lack of it. I have been carrying out one-name research on my own surname since 1978 and by the middle of 1980 had extracted all of the ULPH entries in the GRO indexes. Yet it was not until April 1983 that I learned, from another new member, of the Guild's existence.

I'm sure that the Guild wishes to recruit new members in its aim to get a registration for every surname and to boost its own income in order to improve the service. So why not advertise in the journals of other family

history societies, in the publications of County Record Offices and on the notice boards of public search rooms - especially at St Catherine's House, Portugal Street and Kew?

There must be many more family historians like myself, who would join if only they knew of the GOONS aims, objectives and address.

Yours sincerely

Colin Ulph

(281 Upper Shoreham Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN4 6BB)

* * * * *

Dear Sir,

I noted with considerable interest an article by Mr.Light in the 'Genealogist's Magazine' regarding the 'FOUNDLING ORIGIN of SURNAMES' and as his long list included the names ASHBY/CARTER/CLIFFORD/COLE/COOPER/LEWIS/MARTIN/NEWMAN/ROSE/SHAW and possibly some others in which members may have a vested interest, I would like to know their views.

Mr.Light admits that this possible origin possibly only applies to a few of those bearing the name but the suggestion is interesting.

Yours faithfully,

Heygate-Brown senior.

(J.Heygate-Browne, 51 Amersham Hill, High Wycombe, Bucks.)

* * * * * *

Dear Iain

I have recruited two beginners recently, one with a Robert Burns connection. She would be interested to hear, via me, of any others similarly connected. We will be putting together material for a One-Name Study soon. The other came about because I have been doing a lot of R.A.F. research recently - is anyone else interested in the R.A.F. and the antecedents of its heroes?

Talking of the military (How dare she couple the junior service with the Military - Ed.) does anyone know where Pinkney Park is? It was a base from which the US.Army went to France. An American visitor was stationed there and wants more information.

(Eunice Wilson, 143 Harbord St., London SW6 6PN)

* * * * * *

'Not a bit on it,' said Sam, 'She'll vish there wos more, and that's the great art o' letter writing' (Charles Dickens)

BOOKS

Family History Research Vol.I "The French Connection" by Patrick Delaforce

published by Regency Press (London & New York) Ltd. 125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA 1983. 5½" x 8". 224pp. 17 illustrations. £4.95 paperback ISBN; 0 7212 0688 3

On reading the title, one might be forgiven for suspecting that it was Volume I of a substantial treatise dealing with research methods with particular reference to French Ancestry. However it turns out to be a curious mixture of lists of source material and chapters dealing with various portions of the Delaforce lineage.

The author, who is a Fellow of the Huguenot Society of London, has drawn on Huguenot sources to establish the many French connections. There is no mention of the use of French Archives as such. Several chapters deal with branches of the family in London where they carried on a wide variety of trades, crafts and businesses including pawnbroking, shipping port wine and silkweaving.

There are some short chapters dealing with Australian, American and Canadian branches with a brief indication of source material in those countries. The book concludes with 19 pages of family trees.

Almost a quarter of the text is devoted to source material, most of which appears in Chapter I. One section of this is headed "Other Family History Sources" and is a non-selective alphabetical listing with such items as "Feet of Fines" against which is a cross-reference "See Crime and Punishment". Neither of the latter could be found in this section and it was not possible to make use of the index because there was no index. This made it difficult to make ready reference to specific Delaforce entries or anything else.

Other omissions and misprints were much in evidence and it is not easy to decide how useful it is likely to be either to the beginner or the Delaforce descendant. Perhaps it is the author's intention to provide a comprehensive index to all of the volumes when the series is completed. If so the outcome could be worthwhile.

D.A.P.

ERRATA.

In the review of Norman Graham's latest Guide in the last issue one or two errors occurred due to the information being acquired second hand, we had not seen an actual copy. My apologies to Mr.Graham and I hasten to put the record straight.

The Guide is to the INNER London not Outer as stated, it is a new edition of the 1976 Guide, it includes records of some 600 churches and to the list of Repositories should be added City of Westminster - the Essex and Herts ROs. should be deleted.

KEEP UP TO DATE

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The voting papers showed an overwhelming preference for London as the location for the 1984 AGM. The date has now been fixed for the 19/20th. May - the actual venue has still to be fixed. Speakers have been booked, full details to follow.

GUILD PROSPECTUS

A new name list for this is being prepared and the new issue will be updated as to officers and registration fee. This is our 'recruiting' sheet and if you know any likely new members a copy or copies can be obtained from the Secretary.

BINDERS FOR YOUR GUILD JOURNALS.

Dark Blue with the Guild emblem gold blocked on the spine, these have now been ordered and will be available shortly.

NORTH EAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Arrangements for this are now well in hand and it will take place on the 24th. March at Harrogate.

CORRESPONDENCE

Your Registrar reported that this was slightly down but he still received 137 letters in 11 weeks!

MEMBERSHIP

Currently (as at 30 Sept.) is 515 and we are still on target with an average of 2 new members per week.

CALLING ALL WEST COUNTRY EAST ANGLIANS!

At the Regional Meeting of the Guild held at Taunton last year it became apparent that many members present had strong EAST ANGLIAN connections although now living in the West Country. Because of distance and family problems they could never attend meetings of the Family History Societies in East Anglia but thanks to the initiative of the South West Region Committee they now have a meeting all of their own.

It is to be held on SATURDAY 30th. JUNE 1984 at Taunton and there will be speakers from most (if not all) the East Anglian Family History / Genealogical Societies.

This should be a most interesting day and we do appeal to members to support the Regional Committee's efforts. Further details (S.A.E. please, of course) from David Hall, The Old Vicarage, Elm Grove, Taunton TA1 1EH, telephone Taunton (0823) 84877 - EVENINGS ONLY please.

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

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

The Aims and Objectives of the GUILD are:

(a) To bring together those individuals and groups of people who are engaged in the collection of family data data relative to all references, branches and occurrences of a single surname.

(b) To produce a Journal and hold periodic meetings for the exchange of information on sources and research techniques helpful to One-Name activity.

(c) To maintain and publish a REGISTER of the surnames being researched and, through close association with the Federation of Family History Societies, to secure the widest possible awareness of One-Name research.

(d) To encourage and ensure by a written undertaking, that members will deal with all reply-paid enquiries relative to their registered surname.

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

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

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