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All materials to be published (reports, reviews, short notices, etc.) should be sent to the above address.

## 1. SLIN Conferences and Seminars

The 12th SLIN (Historical English language studies in Italy) National Conference headed **The language(s) of religion: a diachronic approach**, organized by Maria Luisa Maggioni and Margherita Ulrych, is being held at **Milano-Cattolica University** on **9-11 June, 2005**.

Here is the full timetable:

**Venue:** Cripta dell'Aula Magna - Largo Gemelli, 1

**June 9, 2005**

**14,00** Registration

**15,30** Introduction

**Chair:** Margherita Ulrych (Milan – Università Cattolica)

**15,45** **Keynote lecture:** Lynne Long (Warwick)

**Bible translation and its influence on the English language**

**16,45** *Coffee break*

**17,00** Paola Tornaghi (Milan – Bicocca)

*Bible echoes in Exeter Gnomes*

**17,30** Gabriella Del Lungo Camiciotti (Florence)

*Historical genre analysis: the medieval hagiographic tale.*

**18,00** Gabriella Mazzon (Naples – Federico II)

*"Hic cantent angeli in celo": typology and functions of code-switching in Middle English religious drama*

**18,30** Stefania M. Maci (Bergamo)

*Mary Magdalene: how to set religion in a round*

**June 10, 2005**

**Chair:** Giovanni Iamartino (Milan)

**9,00** Richard Dury (Bergamo)

*The Quaker pronoun of address*

**9,30** John Denton (Florence)

*A pronoun's last stand: lexico-grammatical features of religious English at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century*

**10,00 Keynote lecture:** Eugene Nida (Brussels)  
**Translating and making sense of the Bible**

**11,00 Coffee break**

**Chair: Domenico Pezzini (Verona)**

**11,15** Nick Ceramella, David Hart (Rome – *Roma III*)  
*The prose and poetry of D.H. Lawrence: the Bible revisited*

**11,45** Laura Pinnavaia (Milan)  
*Idioms of the biblical past in modern-day English: a corpus linguistic analysis*

**12,15** Ruth Anne Henderson (Turin)  
*Vox clara, vox Dei? Some problems of liturgical translation*

**12,45 Lunch**

**Chair: Maurizio Gotti (Bergamo)**

**15,00** Elisabetta Cecconi (Florence)  
*"Old England of the sins in time repent...": religious lexis and discourse in 17th century broadside ballads*

**15,30** Marina Dossena (Bergamo)  
*"Thank God for his great blessing" – Faith and formulas in 19th century Scottish correspondence*

**16,00 Keynote lecture:** Domenico Pezzini (Verona)  
**The rhetoric of silence, or how to say God in the poetry of R.S. Thomas**

**17,00 Coffee break**

**Chair: Gabriella Mazzon (Naples – Federico II)**

**17,15** Carmela Nocera (Catania)  
*William Laud's Sermons: an assessment*

**17,45** Susan Kermas (Lecce)  
*The metaphorical language of hymns*

**18,15** Massimo Sturiale (Catania)  
*Calvin's Godly Word translated by Anne Locke*

**20,30 Social dinner**

**June 11, 2005**

**Chair: Gabriella Di Martino (Naples)**

**9,00** Maria Luisa Maggioni (Milan – *Università Cattolica*)  
*Images, lexis and religious instruction in Early Middle English: the case of animal imagery in Ancrene Wisse*

**9,30** Nicola Pantaleo (Bari)  
*Uttering the ineffable: the language of paradox and inversion in The Cloud of Unknowing*

**10,00 Coffee break**

**10,15** Silvia Cappello (Turin)  
*Rhetorical structures in the sermons of John Donne and John Henry Newman*

**10,45** Elisabetta Lonati, Giuliana Iannaccaro (Milan)  
*Words of religious dissent in English lexicography between 1650 and 1750*

**Chair: Nicola Pantaleo (Bari)**

**11,45 Workshop**

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## 2. HEL and other (English) linguistics conferences and seminars

### *Reminders and updates*

§ The **First International Conference on the linguistics of Contemporary English** is announced for **23-26 June, 2005**, based in **Edinburgh**. The conference aims at (1) encouraging the cross-fertilization of ideas between different frameworks and research traditions, (2) promoting discussion among researchers interested in linguistic theories (phonologists, syntacticians, variationists, etc.) regarding what we mean when we use the word 'English' to describe the linguistic phenomena which we work to explain. Invited speakers are **Bas Aarts, Luigi Burzio, Lisa Green and Peter Trudgill**.

The website to consult is <http://www.englang.ed.ac.uk/iclee/iclee2005.html>

§§ The Department of English of the university of **Santiago de Compostela** (Spain) will host on **17-20 July 2005** the **International Conference "New reflections on Grammaticalization 3"** (NRG 3) which comes after *NRG1*, Potsdam 1999, and *NRG 2*, Amsterdam 2002. The aim of the Conference is to bring together contributions from different orientations within the field of grammaticalization, question old assumptions and come up with new ideas. The Conference will take place at the Philology building in the North Campus. The invited guest speakers are **William Croft** (Manchester), **Zygmunt Frajzyngier** (Colorado Un.), **Anna Giacalone Ramat** (Pavia) and **Tania Kuteva** (Dusseldorf).

All further information may be accessed through the following Conference website: [www.usc.es/ia303/Gramma3/NRG3.htm](http://www.usc.es/ia303/Gramma3/NRG3.htm)

§§§ **SICOME** (Fifth International Conference on middle English) will be held in **Naples** on **24 to 27 August, 2005** at the Conference Centre of "Federico II" University. Plenary lectures will be given by **Hans-Jürgen Diller** (Ruhr-University Bochum), **Dieter Kastovsky** (Wien) and **Laura C. Wright** (Cambridge).

For any further information please apply to the Conference organizer Gabriella Mazzon, Dipartimento di Filologia moderna, via Porta di Massa 1, 80139 Naples, e-mail [gabrina@aliceposta.it](mailto:gabrina@aliceposta.it) or visit the Conference site: [www.icome5.unina.it](http://www.icome5.unina.it)

§§§§ **SLE38** (*Societas Linguistica Europaea*) on *Formal, Functional and Typological Perspectives on Discourse and Grammar*. **Valencia, 7-10 September, 2005**. The venue will be the faculty of Philology, located by the football stadium and within walking distance of the railway station. Invited speakers are **Johan van der Auwera** (Antwerp, SLE President), **Antonio Briz**

(Valencia), **Sonia Cristofaro** (Pavia), **Eva Hajicova** (Prague), **Emilio Ridruejo** (Valladolid).

Papers will be dealing with

- formal, functional and typological accounts of grammatical and discourse-related issues;
- formal, functional and typological analysis of morphological and syntactic structures;
- formal, functional and typological accounts of textual phenomena (inversion, discourse anaphora, deixis, etc.);
- historical pragmatics;
- pragmatic analyses of functionally-grounded constructions;
- theoretical studies aiming at grounding formal or functional accounts within a theory of science.

The registration form printable from the conference website should be accompanied by a € 90 payment (students: 30), covering local expenses, the conference bags and set of abstracts, reception and coffee breaks.

For any further information please contact Salvador Pons, Departamento de Filología Española, Avda. Blasco Ibañez, 32, 46010, Valencia, Spain. Phone 0034 963983269; fax 0034 963864492; e-mail [salvador.pons@uv.es](mailto:salvador.pons@uv.es)

§§§§§ **SELIM 17** (17<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Spanish Society for Medieval English Language and Literature), A Coruña, 29<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005. Invited plenary speakers are **Luis Iglesias-Rabade** (Santiago de Compostela), **John McKinnell** (Durham), **Donald Scragg** (Manchester), **Tom Shippey** (St. Louis, USA).

For further information please contact the organizers:

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or visit SELIM web page: [www.uniovi.es/~selim](http://www.uniovi.es/~selim) and the conference

URL: [www.udc.es/dep/finc/selimXVII.htm](http://www.udc.es/dep/finc/selimXVII.htm)

### *New entries*

§ **MESS4** (4<sup>th</sup> Mediaeval English Studies Symposium), organized by The School of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, will be held in Poznan from 27 to 28 November, 2005. Both linguistic and literary sessions are planned as well as three plenary papers.

Papers in all areas of research connected with Mediaeval English language and literature are welcome. 500-word abstracts should be submitted preferably by e-mail ([mess@ifa.amu.edu.pl](mailto:mess@ifa.amu.edu.pl)) either in Word or Windows format. Participants without papers are also welcome. The Symposium will be held at the Polonez Hotel in the centre of Poznan. Conference participants will also be accommodated there at discount prices. More information will be provided in the second circular.

### 3. "Why not whet our curiosity about names?" (R. Bacchielli)

I have great pleasure to host here an unpublished essay by Prof. Rolando Bacchielli, Professor Emeritus, University of Urbino. (*Editor's note*)

#### WHY NOT WHET OUR CURIOSITY ABOUT NAMES?

This short survey of the problems related to the study of English names (anthropo-toponymy) purports to be either a brush-up for some, or an appetizer for others, or simply an invitation to every student of the language to ponder over names in all possible ways and consider their place in society and human culture and, obviously, their linguistic structure and history.

Names are a vital part of our linguistic and cultural heritage that cannot be ignored, not only because they have become more and more intrusive in contemporary developed societies, but also because through their massive in-raid into the sphere of competence of the common noun they have become an important source of new coinages.

They can also be very evocative and have vast cultural implications. They are so closely ingrained in the linguistic and social system that their communicative and expressive power, through both denotational and connotational values, is unquestionably great.

Another aspect that cannot be ignored about names is that of "linguistic consumerism": through the overbearing power of advertising and mass-media our everyday language is spiced up with trademarks and proprietary names (often converted into common nouns and verbs) that designate objects that are now part of our daily life and that we cannot do without. The consequence is that we unconsciously consume names more than the products that they designate: we live by metaphors and symbols in fact and through them we illusorily improve our social status. But in the present situation of academic studies we are faced with a glaring paradox: 1) literature on names is vast, because names are essential for social organization and communication and have vast cultural implications, 2) people are sensitive to names and are emotionally and intellectually

involved in the process of naming, 3) names are a highly revealing source for the linguist (either the diachronist, or the synchronist), the sociologist, the ethnographer, the anthropologist, the archeologist, the literary critic, 4) most developed countries around the world have Name Societies for the study and tutelage of their heritage of names and naming tradition, 5) names are also an important part of the complex game of literary creation. Nonetheless, in the face of all this, we witness a general disregard for names in the panorama of Anglistic studies in Italy: a fact that is hard to accept and justify.

The study of names is a very fascinating subject that involves a large number of disciplines: linguistics, sociology, history, demography, ethnography, anthropology, literature, legislation, etc., but it is also a field fraught with difficulties and snares and far from easy to explore: think of the large and varied terminology, a real maze of terms, created to disentangle the complex situation one is faced with in the study of names: proper / first / personal / given / adopted / Christian name / forename / font-name, pet name / short name / pet name, second name / middle name, last name / family name / surname, by-name, to-name, nickname / soubriquet / substitute name, makeshift or sham name, place-name / toponym, patronymic / metronymic, pseudonym / pen name / stage name / nom de plume / nom de guerre, eponym, epithet, double-barrelled name, oath-name, imperative name, ornamental name / arbitrary name, brand name / trademark / proprietary name, company name, fun name, namesake, metonym, etc. Do we actually know the social, cultural, and juridical implications of all these terms?

Whether we are lured by the zest for adventure (an intellectual adventure at that) or, conversely, feel the need to ease our pricking conscience, trying to apply our linguistic expertise to names is certainly intriguing and profitable.

My chief aim in this paper is to focus attention on the structural aspects of names, but before engaging in this task I think it profitable to brush up some basic notions about the origin and taxonomy of names.

#### TAXONOMIES

Names can be viewed from different angles and, consequently, various forms of classification can be adopted. A basic classification of a "social kind" is that into: *nicknames*, *surnames of occupation and office*, *surnames of provenance or origin*, *surnames of relationship (patronymics, metronymics)*, *imported names*.

**1 - Nicknames.** The term *nickname* comes from an *eke-name* (= an also-name), that is to say an additional name used to express familiarity, affection or ridicule. But in old ages, when it was not obligatory by law to have a name, one way or another people had to be identified by the community and in most cases it was through the description of the physical, psychological or behavioural fea-

tures that a person was identified. That's how nicknames originated. At the beginning they were individual names and then, extended to the off-spring of the bearer, they fixed down as family names.

Nicknames formed by metonymy from names of animals and plants: Partridge, Fox, Lamb, Purcell, Duck, Peacock, Woodcock, Luttrell, Lovel, Garlick, Roebuck, Otter, Nightingale, Oak(e), Wren(n).

Nicknames from colours (as a rule they refer to complexion or hair and often suggested the multiethnic character of people in Britain): Black / Blake, Brown, Nares (< F neir), White, Blunt / Blount / Blondel / Blundell (< F = blond), Red / Read / Reed, Ruddy, Russell (dim. of OF rous), Grissom (< F grison = grey), Snow (metonymic), Morris (< F Maurice = Moorish).

Nicknames as by-names: Ginger, Fatty, Baldy, Lanky, Young, Moody, Little, Moneypenny (< many a penny), Wounded Knee, Big Foot, Sitting Bull, Bloody Mary, Green Goose from the Country (= James Boswell); (obscene forms) Cock, Pintel, Shitface, Fillicunt, Toplady, Shakelady.

Nicknames applied to places and things: Big Ben, The Red Planet, The Big Four.

Provisional names: *Johnny, Jack, Mac* used to address people informally when their names are unknown by the speaker. In legal documents, when the identity of a person was not known, the following names were conventionally used: John Doe, Jane Doe, Richard Roe. Consider, on the other hand, the sham names *Tom, Dick and Harry* (Tizio, Caio e Sempronio in Italian).

(See "substitutions" or *pseudonyms* below).

**2 - Names of occupation and office:** Goldsmith, Cooper / Cowper, Miller, Cartwright, Carpenter, Taylor, Thatcher, Chaucer (= maker of breeches), Spenser (= house-stewart < dispenser), Beadle, Turner, Tanner, Spindler, Fiddler, Porter (= door-keeper, but in *Finnegans Wake* = a man who sells porter, a kind of beer), Pedlar, Webb, Weaver, Webber / Webster (for a woman), Baker / Baxter (for a woman; the OE suffix *-estre* is compound: *-es-stre* and was used in ME solely with reference to the feminine gender. Cp. spinner / spinster with changed meaning), Whistler (= flautist), Marbler, Alderman, Cook, Clark, Smith, Joiner, Skinner, Prentice, Butler, Glover, Sheppard, Frobisher (a furbisher of armours < F. *fourbisseur*), Chandler, Kitchener, Cutler, Usher, Archer, Butcher, Carter, Chandler, Farmer, Walker, Tucker, Mason, Potter, Wheeler, Scrivener, Faulkner, Hunter, Saddler.

Status names: Duke, Prince, Earl, Abbot, Bachelor, Franklin, Knight, Squire, Chamberlain, Stewart.

Occupational-names obtained by metonymy from animals, costumes, equipment, and the commodity goods dealt in: Colt, Goate, Hood, Cape, Staff, Baston, Harness, Garlick, Coffey.

**3 - Surnames of provenance:** London, Wood, Moor, Hall, Hill, Marsh, Brooks, Rivers, Dale, Washington, Lincoln, Cleveland.

**4 - Surnames of relationship** (patronymics and metronymics). In the English onomastic heritage patronymics occupy a very relevant place, not only for their number, but also because they have become ethnic, geographic and linguistic indicators. They can be both prefixal and suffixal: *McIntosh, Apsimon, Upjohn, Bevan, Powell, Kilian, Quinn, O'Brien, Johnson, Wilkins, Whiting*.

**Prefixal forms:**

O' typically Irish. It was very productive: O'Neil, O'Hara, O'Keefe, O'Kelly, O'Leary.

**Fitz-** Fitz-names are an Anglo-Norman type of formation which developed in England and has no parallel in France. *Fitz* is from OF *fits* = son. The Normans formed patronymic names composed of *fitz* and the oblique case of the father's name: Fitzgerald, Fitz-Peter, Fitzroy, Fitz-Thomas, Fitzherbert, Fitz-William. This practice was in later times extended to the surnames of royal bastards. Charles II used *Fitzroy* (= the king's son) as a surname for his illegitimate sons.

**Suffixal forms:**

**-son** (< *-sen* introduced by the Vikings) is by far the commonest patronymic form: Stevenson, Edmonson, Peterson, Dixon;

**-s** is the reduction of *-son* above (Bates/on, Collins/on, Dickens/on, Dobbs/on, Wilkins/on), but often occurs as the sign of the Saxon genitive (Godsmark, Bairnsfather, Kingsley, Miggles = son of Michael, Jenkins) or of the plural indicating a whole family: Rhodes, Stocks, Stubbs;

**-ing(s)** (< OE *-ingas*) was usually added to a personal name to give the meaning of "son of" or "descendant from". In fact Alfred the Great often appears as Ælfred Æfelwulfing "Alfred, son of Athelwulf". But, as in other Germanic areas, added to a personal name, it was used in the plural to denote a dynasty

or an ethnic group (folk-names): Hastings (the people of Haesta), Kipling (the people of Cyppel), Filkins (the people of Filica), Cannings (the people of Cana), Reading (which has lost the final -s, the people of Reada). These names belong to the earliest periods of English settlement in Britain. Besides being an ethnic and patronymic it was also a diminutive: Rawling (dim. of Raoul) and, in common language, a noun-forming suffix which sometimes survives in obscured form: king, penny, shilling, farthing, herring, tithing, thrithing (= third part; cp. Riding of Yorkshire). It has been very productive also in the combination **-ling** (*darling, sterling, duckling*);

**-kin** a diminutive suffix with a limited use in the early ME period, but that was later re-adopted in English from Flemish and afterwards became considerably productive: Jenkin, Darkin, Lambkin, Wilkin, Ruskin, Atkin, Perkins, Hoskin, Tomkin;

**-cock** (and its variant **-cox**) can be both the base form of a compound name (Cockburn / Coburn, Cockbain) and a suffix that was sometimes used with an affectionate and diminutive tinge to distinguish the son from the father, therefore a patronymic (Hitchcock, Wilcock, Philcox): it must not be confused with the suffix **-ock**;

**-en** an archaic form of genitive used as a patronymic usually applied to masculine pet-names: Niven, Molden, Hawken.

**5 - Imported:** given the ethnic composition of the British Isles and their historical and cultural vicissitudes, "imported" or "un-English" names are numerous. Foreign names for the most part have been adapted to the morphoschematic structures of English (see below the "ethno-linguistic taxonomy" and "variation"). We give here below only a short list of those that have retained an unquestionable foreign look: Rossetti, Panizzi, Piozzi, Bronte, Disraeli, Pinero, Cohen, Fuseli, Belloc, De La Mare, Beaumont, Tourneur, Skegg, Clegg, Ingall, Briggs, Olsen, Scargill, Elgar.

#### **Ethno-linguistic**

English / Anglo-Saxon: Greaves, Clough, Raleigh, Aldridge, Edwards, Edmonds, Howard, Alfred.

**Old Norse / Scandinavian:** Lachlan / Laughlin, Winskell, Osgood, Osborne, Brisco(e), Marrick, Cruickshank, Gadsby, Ashkettle, Holmes / Hulme, Lund, Askwith / Asquith, Todd, Tubbs, Skegg, Catterall / Catterell, Clegg, Thwaite, Scargill, Scarborough, Harold, Ronald, Rolf, Olaf, Olsen, Grimes, Gaitskell / Gaskell, Kilby, Briggs, Selby, Elgar, Booth, Hauby, Hesketh, Scholes.

**Scandinavian suffixes found in names:** -by, -bank, -beck, -booth, -breck, -car(r), -ergh, -gate, -how(e) / -hoe, -ing, -keld, -kirk, -rigg, -skill, -skew, -slack, -with, -burn, -gill, -thorp, -toft, -thwaite, -holme / -hulme, -biggin, -wich / -wick.

**Latin** (most of them are embodied in mixed forms): *Eccles* (ecclesia), *Charterhouse* (charta), *Casterbridge / Chesterfield / Newcastle* (castrum/castellum), *Westminster* (monasterium), *Whitechapel* (cappella), *Greenwich* (vicus), *Millbrook* (molina), *Kettle* (catillus).

**French and Norman-French** (Norman names such as William, Robert, Richard, Hugh, etc. replaced the traditional repertoire of OE personal names particularly among the middle and upper classes. It is often possible to distinguish between a Norman and a French name: Candler/Chandler, Champion/Champion. Most names imported from France have a diminutive form, or are colour-names or names of animals): *Feverel*, *Massinger*, *Furnivall* (= richly cropped valley), *Forester*, *Foljambe* (= foolish leg), *Blanchard*, *Mallory*, *Frobisher*, *Croaker*, *Bellamy*, *Fletcher*, *Lewis*, *Raymond*, *Robert*, *Tousaint* (= all saints), *Tallemach* (= knapsack), *Bissett*, *Russell*, *Sorrell*, *Beecham*, *Bewley*, *Crawcour* (< Crèvecoeur), *Beavis*, *Chaucer* (< Chasseur), *Quantrell*, *Maliphant* (< OF mal infant = naughty child), *Cavell* (a dim. of cave = bald), *Ames/Amis* (< ami = friend), *Gascoygne*, *Francis*, *Vernon*, *Bailey*, *Lorraine*, *Everest / Evreux / Devereux*, *Grosvenor* (< OF great huntsman), *Pomfret* (= broken bridge < F pontefract), *Trapnell* (= too quick < F trop + isnell), *Carface/Carfax* (< OF quatre faces), *Taverner*, *De La Mare*, *De La Haye*, *De Quincey*, *De Vere*.

**Huguenot:** *Garrick*, *Corbet*, *Riviere*, *Lanier*, *Marion*, *Du Plessis*, *Durand*, *Lempriere*.

**Celtic:** Celtic contribution is relevant particularly in the toponymic area: names of rivers (Avon, Trent, Thames, Shannon, Ouse, Dee, Esk, Wye, Glen), mountains and woods (Ben Nevis, Brent, Malvern, Savernake), towns and regions (London, Dover, Glasgow, Liverpool). We also find Celtic topouyms embodied in mixed forms (Lincoln, Exeter, Winchester, Cumberland, Edimburgh, Salisbury). Typical Celtic personal names are: *Sean*, *Glen(n)*, *Tristram*. Altogether Celtic names are far more numerous than common Celtic words borrowed into English.

**Irish** (Irish names are never derived from place-names, usually it is the contrary): *Flynn*, *Connell*, *Doolan*, *Donnell(y)*, *Donohue*, *Donovan*, *Duncan*, *Neal*, *Flaherty*, *Creagh*, *Brennan*, *Re(a)gan*, *Flanagan*, *Finnegan*, *Finn*, *Kelly*,

Murphy, Fergus(on), Kennedy, Cummin(g)s, Moran, Brian, Kavanagh, Kilkenny, Moran, Sullivan, Mahon, Murph(e)y, Hennessy, Driscoll, and obviously all O'-names and most Fitz-names: O'Brian, O'Neil, O'Connell, Fitzgerald, Fitzgibbon, Fitzpatrick.

**Scots Gaelic:** Angus, Douglas, Gavin (cp. Gawain which is Old Welsh), Logan, Kerr, Wallace, Dunlop, Urquhart, Farquhar, Cameron, Gordon, Murray, Lennox, Abercrombie, Arbuthnot, Aberdeen, Cunningham, Forbes, Gillespie, Murray, Drummond, Ross/Rose, Buchan, Buchanan, Argyll/Argyle, Duff, Duncan, Malcol(m), and obviously all Mac-names: McLeash, McIntosh, McKenzie, McDonald, McArthur, McCarthy, McMillan, McNamara, McPherson.

**Welsh:** W. names for the most part are derived from personal names. In a number of W. names a vestige of the W. patronymic prefixes *Ap-* and *Ab-* is still found at the beginning of the name: *Price/Preece/Prees* (*Ap* + *Rhys*), *Bowen* (*Ap* + *Owen*), *Powel* (*Ap* + *Howell*), *Pritchard* (*Ap* + *Richard*), *Breese* (*Ap* + *Rees*), *Parry* (*Ap* + *Harry*), *Probert* (*Ap* + *Robert*); *Bedward* (*Ap* + *Edward*). To other names the E. suffix *-s* has been added: *Evans*, *Jones*, *Williams*. Typical W. names are: *Lloyd / Floyd*, *Llewellyn*, *Morgan*, *Howell*, *Gwyn*, *Kemble* (cp. *Cymbeline*), *Evans* (one of the Welsh forms of *John*), *Pendle*, *Wantling*, *Jennifer* (cp. *Guinevere*), *Meredith*, *Eccles* (from Latin *ecclesia*), *Beddoes*, *Trevor*, *Vaughn*, *Malvern*, *Mottram*. In Wales where the surname *Jones* is very common, a to-name of occupation is often added: *Dai Jones-the-Milk*, *Dai Jones-the-Post*.

**Manx** (the patronymic *Mac-* has for the most part reduced to initial *C-*, *K-*, or *Q-*; 30% of Manx surnames in the telephone directory begin with these letters): *Kermode* (< *McDermot*), *Keegan* (< *McEgan*), *Kilroy* (< *McGilroy*), *Quail* (< *McPaul*), *Quilliam* (< *McWilliam*), *Killip* (*MacPhilip*), *Kissac* (*MacIsaac*), *Qualtrough* (*Mac-* + *Walter* + *-ough* a kind of plural termination).

**Cornish** (the majority of C. surnames are habitation names): *Clemow*, *Pengelly*, *Pascoe*, *Trelawny*, *Tremayne*, *Tregear*, *Trehowan*, *Trevellick*, *Trevena*, *Tredinnick*, *Trefasis*, *Trethew(e)y*.

**Breton:** *Harvey*, *Mingay*, *Wymark*, *Brett*, *Bretton* and *Britton*; (*Le Goff*, *Lefur* are Breton names).

**Jewish** (in the English-speaking countries most of the Jews in recent times have been *Ashkenazim*. There are of course also *Sefardic* names): *Disraeli*,

*Pinero*, *Cohen*, *Levi*, *Sherman*, *Rifkin*, *Sorkin*, *Esterman*, *Perlman*, *Selbourne*, *Fishbein*, *Goldsmith*, *Goldman*, *Goldberg*, *Espinosa*, *Roseman*.

**Mixed** (hybridisation): *Mansfield* (< Celtic *mam* = mother/breast + *field*), *Winchester* (Welsh *Gwent* + L. *castra*), *Chesterholm* (Latin *castra* + Norse *holm*), *Cunningham* (Scots *Cunegan* + O.E. *ham*), *Rowntree* (< ON *rowan* + E *tree*), *Scholfield* (< ON *scholes* + OE *field* = field with a hut), *Brisbane* (F *briser* + E *bone*), *Lincoln* (< Celtic *lin* + Latin *colonia*), *Casterbridge* (< Latin *castra* + E *bridge*), *Cambridge* (< Celtic *Cam* + E *bridge*), *Penhill* (< Celtic *pen* = hill).

**Cultural taxonomy:** Names often have a cultural, emotional, and ideological motivation.

**Christian:** *Lazar*, *George*, *Joseph*, *Mary*;

**biblical/protestant:** *Joel*, *Ezra*, *David*, *Isaac*, *Abraham*;

**catholic:** *Martin*, *Nicholas*, *Mary*, *Patrick*, *Paul*, *Peter*, *John*, *Luke*.

**Hagiographic names:** *Sinclair* (St. *Clair*), *Salinger* (St. *Léger*), *Scymour* (Saint-Maur), *Sidney* (Saint *Denis*)

**Hebrew:** *Joel*, *Gabriel*, *Matthew*, *Abraham*, *Absalom*, *Abel*, *Adam*, *Eve*, *Mordecai*, *Magdalen/Maudling/Magdala/Magda*.

**Pagan:** a) Old Germanic: *Rudolph*, *Leonard*, *Theodoric*, b) classic (Latin & Greek): *Stephen*, *Julian*, *Felix*, *Silvester*, *Victor*, *Adrian*, *Caesar*, *Cecil*, *Diana*, *Sybil*, *Horace*, *Alexander*, *Daphne*, *Valentine*.

**Apotropaic names:** *Hilary* (< *hilarious*), *Makepeace*.

**Theophoric names:** *Herodotus*, *Tudor* (the Welsh adaptation of *Theodore* = God's gift).

## STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

### Compounding

The linguistic study of names offers the historian of the language an interesting opportunity to reconsider certain authoritative opinions and theoretical pronouncements about the typological evolution of the English lexicon.

An analysis of Old and Middle English names confirms, in the same way as the study of ordinary compound words, that E. at the beginning was typologically a synthetic language; the most productive formative patterns, in fact, were of the synthetic type and they have remained prevalent all along its historical development. In the face of the much debated question of the rise of the analytic or phraseological types a close analysis of the formative patterns of names induces us to conclude that a phraseological tendency developed spontaneously in the middle and late OE period with *phrasal verbs* being the spearhead of this *typological development* and that this new tendency was strongly and extensively increased after the Conquest by the influence of Norman-French models (Heaney, pp. 279-289).

According to Marchand (p. 380, 5.8.1) personal substantives of the *pickpocket* type are recorded as early as the beginning of the 14th century. "The type, he says, arose under the influence of French imperative phrases". The earliest documented example dates back to 1305: *trailbastoun* and the pattern became remarkably productive in the following centuries (*pickpocket*, *makepeace*, *turncoat*, *saw-bones*, *pick-penny*, etc.). We find at least 25 of them in Shakespeare (Jerspersen, p. 223), himself the bearer of such a phrase-formation as a name. "But phrase-names are found much earlier than the *pickpocket* type and are much more numerous than common nouns of similar formation" (Reaney, p. 280). Of about 380 Middle English phrase-names recorded from the 11th to the 14th century 26 are first recorded in the 11th century (10 in the *Domesday Book*): this is enough to contradict Marchand's assertion. Of these, 11 are purely English formations which appeared either before the Conquest or in areas where French influence was unlikely. The earliest purely English name of this type in the middle period is *Stikehare* (= kill hare) 1053.

These phrase-names were either occupational (*Copestake* = woodcutter), complimentary (*Makepeace*), uncomplimentary (*Scattergood*), or derogatory (*Catchpole* < F *chasse* + *pullet* = chase fowl, but with the transferred meaning of "tax-gatherer" in that he seized poultry if he couldn't collect taxes) used commonly in speech as nicknames to identify people. No systematic enquiry has been made for the late OE period, but the few instances recorded have much to say: OE *Weorð pund* = worthship pound, said of a miser. If phrase-names are recorded much earlier than phrase-nouns, there is no question that the pattern was already safely established in popular usage.

### Synthetic compounds:

[N + N]: Alfred (elf + ræd), Ethelred (ethel = native country + ræd = advice), Cynewulf (cyne = king + wulf = wolf), Aelfric (< elf + rikja = lord of the elves), Frederick (= peace rule), Randolph (= shield wolf), William (= will + helm), Calvert (< calf + herd).

[Adj. + N]: Aethelwulf (= noble wolf), Widsith (wid = wide + sith = journey), Cruikshank (crook + shank), Bradford (= broad ford; this name has absorbed also the French name *Braz de fer*), Norwich (= northern town), Fairchild, Longfellow, Blackwood, Littlewood, Sweetapple, Lightfoot, Truelove, Goodyear, Tru(e)man.

[Adj./ N + Adj.]: Richard (= powerful brave or as brave as a lord), Albert (= noble + bright), Archibald (= precious + bold).

**Analytic compounds** (phraseological constructions, phrasal names or phrase-names, lexical phrases, prepositional phrases).

This pattern was considerably productive. Numerous surnames of this type have fallen out of use from the 11th century on. We shall give here some examples to show how popular inventiveness favoured this model: Brekeleg, Cachepeni, Drawebac, Hackbon, Hopyndore, Likkeberd, Prikpeny, Lykkedoust, Lickefinger, Makebeter, Makelitel, Mangebien, Pikechese, Pilecrowe, Singalday, Sparebutter, Spillbred, Spilgold, Spylwater, Tirevache, Waspail, Washewhite; (of obscene connotation) Strokelady, Toplass, Fillecunt. Also Wagstaffe, Waghorn and Shakespeare may have been used in an obscene sense. According to Marchand (p. 380, 5.8.1) these formations arose from French imperative phrases, but this is still an open question among the historians of the language: Whether they are imperative phrases converted into compound nouns or free combinations of a verb stem with an object, a particle or a prepositional phrase is irrelevant, because in any case they supply evidence of a widespread and productive new tendency.

[V + O]: Shakespeare, Shakeshaft, Wagstaffe, Waghorne, Waggerepear, Waggpole (cp. the corrupted version Waple), Breakspear, Makepeace, Drinkwater, Drinkale / Drinkall (= drink health, the reply to Wassail !), Drawater, Doliittle, Turnbull, Turnpenny, Leapgate, Knatchbull (= to knock out the bull), Lovejoy, Scattergood, Hackwood, Brisbane (< OF *briser* = break + OE *ban* = bone), Kellogg (= kill hog), Telfer (= iron-cleaver, < F. *taille-fer*; cp. Ital. *Tagliaferri*), Tallboy (< F. *taillebois* = cut-wood, cp. Ital. *Tagliaboschi*), Cutbush, Lackland, Catchpole (< F. *chasse* + *pullet* = chase fowl), Catchlove (= chase wolf), Fetiplace (< F. *fait place* = make room), Culpepper (< F. *cucille* + *poivre*), Spendlove (= squander love as a folk etymology, but actually from F. *espond- louve* = to disembowel the wolf), Pendrell / Pendrill (< F. *pendoreil* =

hang-ear), Croaker / Crawcour (< F *crèvecoeur* = heart-breaker, cp. Italian "crepacuore"), Tiplady / Toplady / Toplass = tup the lady / lass; obscene nicknames for libertines), a special case in this category is that of Doubtfire which is built on the phrasal verb "to do out" contracted into "to dout" and -b- added in popular etymology, for one who puts out a fire, Leapgate (= one that deer and horses can leap), Passmore (< F *passee* + *mer* = cross sea), Sacheverell (< OF *sault* + *chevreuil* = leap the goat).

[Verb-particle derivatives and V + prepositional phrase]: Rideout, Startup, Gover, Standaloff, Golightly, Standfast, Drinklater, Treadwell, Farewell (which can also be = fair spring), Hopewell, Startavant (= start forward), Passavant (< F. *passé* + *avant*), Doubtfire (see above); Stickatit, Gotobed. Obsolete forms in this category are: Drawebac, Skipop, Sitadun, Triphup, Drink al up.

[N + Adj.] (the noun, being a qualifier, often has an adjectival function, but it can be instrumental or have a comparative value): Gerard/Gerald (= spear brave), Robert(s) (= fame bright), Herbert (= army bright), Lambert (= land bright), Gilbert (= pledge bright), Roderick (= fame powerful), Leonard (= lion hardy < *lewo* + *hart*), Rudolf / Rudolph (< *hroth* = fame + *wulf* = lion), Theobald (= people bold), Richard (*rikja* = ruler + *hart* = brave, brave as a ruler), Roderick (= fame powerful), Humbert (< *hum* = giant + *berth* = bright), Nesbit(t) (OE = nose bight = "bent like a nose", cp. the compound adjectives of the type *dutyfree*), Lillywhite, Armstrong, Wombestrang.

[Adj.+ Adv.]: Goodenough, Gaylord (< *lofty* + *hard*: *lord* is a corruption of *hard* = high-spirited)

[Adj.+ prepositional phrase]: *Fullalove* (= full of love).

[N + prepositional phrase] (obscured formations): *Bradford* < *bras de fer* (but see also *Bradford* = broad ford), *Eastabrook* / *Easterbrook* = (one who lived to the east of the brook: -a- and -er- are weakened forms of *of*, *Sotheby* = (one who lived) south of the by (Scand. for "village") (-e- = of as above).

[Prep.+ N] A number of place-names carry vestiges of OE morphology: *Attlee* (= at the lee; *lee* = wood; the second -t- is the remains of the def. article), *Attwood* (same as *Attlee*), *Atterbury* (= at the bury; -ter- represents the feminine dative singular of the def. article after the preposition *at*), *Atteridge*, *Atfield*, *At(t)rwell*, *Attwood*, *Athill*.

OE combinations of the preposition *at* and the def article: *æt fiæm* (masculine) and *æt fiære* (feminine), reduced to ME *atten* and *atter* and Mod.E *n-* and *r-* can be traced in *Nash* (< *atten* > *N-* + ash tree = at the ash tree), *Nyland* (< *atlen* + island), *Noke* = "at the oak-tree" and *Rock* = "at the oak-tree", *Rye* = "at the island". *Attenborough* and *Attercliffe* are cases in which *atten-* and *atter-* still survive in their entire form.

Other prefixal prepositions are: OE *hi* > *Byfleet* (= by the stream), *Bygrave* (= by the grave), *Biddick* (= by the ditch), *Bythorn* (= by the thorn-bush), *Bythesea*, *Bytheway*, *Bythewater*, *Bythewood*; OE *upp* > *Upham*, *Upton*, *Upwood*; OE *under* > *Underley* (= below the glade); OE *fore* > *Forhill* (= in front of the hill); OF *de*: *De La Mare*, *De Quincey*, *De Vere*, *De Foe*, *Dubois*, *Dubarry*; OF *par* > *Paramour* (= with love).

### Affixation

Prefixal particles: though prefixation was, and still is, extremely frequent in ordinary language, it is rather uncommon with names. See "analytic compounds": [prep. + N] above and also *patronymics* and *diminutives*.

**Nouns that have become prefixoids or occur as independent place names:** Firth: *Fright* / *Thrift* / *Freak* / *Frith* / *Firk*; Hill: *Hil-*, *Hel-*, *Hul-*; Hough: *Hol-*, *Hoo-*, *How-*, *Hu-* (hill spur); Barrow (hill, mound): *Bar-*, *Berg-*; Beck (stream); Bigging (ON for building); Bold: *Bothel* / *Bootle* (dwelling); Booth (temporary shelter); Borough: *Brough*, *Burgh*, *Bury* (fortified place); Burn: *Brun-* (stream, spring); Caster / Chester (< L. *castrum*); Clough: *Clof* / *Cluff* / *Clow* (ravine, deep valley); Comb: *Comp-* (coomb, valley); Croft (enclosed arable land); Dean: *Deane* / *Den* (valley); Down: *Dun-* (down, hill); E-: *Ea-* / *Ey-* (island); Haigh: *Hale* / *Hal-* / *Hall-* / *Haugh-* (narrow valley, recess); Lea: *Lee* / *Leigh* (wood, glade); Load: *Lode* (water-course, track); Lock (enclosure); Pen (OW top, hill); Ridding: *Riding* / *Ruding* (clearing); Rise: *Ris-* (brushwood); Road: *Rodd* / *Rode* (clearing); Shaw (copse); Shelf (ledge); Slade: *Sled-* (valley); Stain: *Stan-* / *Sten-* (stone); Stoke: *Stock-* / *Stough-* (religious place); Strat: *Strel-* / *Strad-* / *Streat-* (Roman road); Sty (path); Thorpe: *Throp* / *Thrope* / *Thrupp* (farm, hamlet); Thwaite (meadow, clearing); Toft (homestead); Wade (ford); Wark (fortification); Wick: *Wig-* / *Wych-* (< L. *vicus*, village); Worth (enclosure, homestead).

**Nouns that have become suffixoids** (often subject to semantic variation): -by, -beck (stream), -borough / -burgh / -berry (fortified place), -brook / -broke, -burn / -bourne (stream, spring), -caster / -chester / -cester (< L. *Castra*, old Roman fortification), -clough (ravine), -cock, -coln (< L. *colonia*), -coombe / -combe (valley), -cot / -cote (cottage), -croft (piece of arable land), -dale, -dean

/ -den (pasture), -down / -den / -ton (down, hill), -ey / -y (island), -forth / -ford (ford), -garth, -grove / -grave (grove), -ham (village, manor), -hamstead (homestead), -haugh / -haw / -hay (enclosure), -hill / -el / -le (hill), -kin, -knoll (hill), -lake / -lock (stream), -leigh / -ley / -le / -low (wood), -lock (enclosure), -mead (meadow), -minster (monastery), -ness (promontory), -rick / -ridge (narrow road), -shaw (copse), -slate (valley), -stead / -sted (religious site), -stoke / -stock (secondary settlement), -stow / -stoc (place of assembly), -thorp / -throp / -drop / -trop (hamlet, farm), -thwaite (ON meadow, clearing), -toft (homestead), -tôn (village, manor), -wold / -wald / -would (woodland), -wark (fortification), -well / -wall / -will (well), -worth / -wath / -with (ford), -wright, (carpenter).

Scandinavian suffixes found in names: -by, -bank, -beck, -booth, -breck, -car(r), -ergh, -gate, -how(e) / -hoc, -ing, -keld, -kirk, -rigg, -skill, -skew, -slack, -with, -burn, -gill, -thorp, -toft, -thwaite, -holme / -hulme, -biggin, -wich / -wick.

Latin suffixes and base forms found in names: castra, strata, colonia, caesens, portus, caupo, molina, monasterium, vallum, vicus, ecclesia, cappella, episcopus, charta.

Multiple suffixes: -*ingdon* (Huntingdon), -*ington* (Washington), -*ingham* (Birmingham), -*hampton* (Southampton), -*hamstead* (Berkhamstead), -*kinson* (Atkinson).

Inflected forms (some names contain morphological relics or other obscured structures): Newgham (-n- is a relic of the weak dative adjective needed after the lost preposition and definite article), Forde (-e is dative after a lost preposition). The genitive singular ending -*an* (for genitive singular -*es* see under *patronymics*) has left traces in the modern form of some place-names: Tottenham (< Tottan-ham = Totta's homestead), Bardney (= Bearda's island); Minchin / Minchen (= nun) is the feminine of monk; the double dim. -*el-in* (Catlin, Wakelin, Emeline), Keele (< kye, the plural of cow + hill), Hewlett (< hough + -el + -ot, a double diminutive), Tomlin (a treble diminutive: Tom + el + in), Clive (< (at) the Cliff: -e shows dative after a lost preposition).

Reduplicated (all fanciful formations): Humpty Dumpty, Quangle-Wangle, Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo, Humblecumbel (archaic).

Double-barrelled names and the middle name: they can be a) hyphenated: Dame Victoria Mary *Sackville-West*, John *Middleton-Murray*, Harley

*Granville-Barker*, John *Pope-Hennessy*, David *Spencer-Smith*, Sir Edward Coley *Burne-Jones*, Simon *Baring-Gould* or b) non-hyphenated: Francis Scott *Fitzgerald*, Ralph *Vaughn Williams*, Duncan *Campbell Scott*. With non-hyphenated forms there's the problem of the *middle name* which can be a *first surname* as in the cases above, or a *second given name* as in John *Fitzgerald Kennedy*, sometimes with an emblematic, augural force: William *Makepeace Thackeray*. But the middle name can also be a *maiden name* as in Elizabeth *Barrett Browning* (frequently in Scotland a woman's middle name is her maiden name), a *metonymic* as in Patrick *Brunwell Brontë*, or the *name of the adopter* as in Edgar *Allan Poe*.

Also company names can be hyphenated: Metro-Goldwin-Meyer, Rowntree-MacIntosh, or joint by *and* or *ampersand*: Black and Decker, Marks and Spencer, Brown & Watkins, Smith & Wesson.

### Artificial vocabulary

Trademarks and proprietary names (artificially and variously devised): Ace, Agfa, Biro, Bostik, Bovril, Coke, Esso, Ferodo, Goodyear, Mogadon, Revlon, Oxo, Omo, Odo-Ro-No (Odour, oh no!).

Computer-devised: Biso, Daxo, Fazu, Gixa, Hoga, Jyty, Kojo, Lyso, Myka, Nyro, Paho, Rify, Soxo.

### FANCIFUL FORMATIONS - INVENTED NAMES

Apart from the artificial and computer-devised names mentioned above there are lots of other invented and fanciful formations, particularly in literature. New names have been invented in every age at all cultural levels and in all spheres of use, but never more imaginatively so than in literature. Writers, in fact, have always exploited the evocative power of names, what they could denote and connote with them and what they could mean through an invented name. In some cases the whole structure and meaning of a literary work is hinged on names. According to Wimsatt and Warren naming is "the simplest form of characterization". A character's name may correspond to his or her role in life. Names may be allusive and thematic and offer clues that the reader must interpret. Authors often use invented names to tease readers, to stir their imagination and make surface in their conscience, or at least subliminally, all sorts of mental associations that may be useful for the understanding of the various layers of the text. "Joyce and Nabokov, for instance, had an obsession for names: in the exuberant play with onomastic devices Joyce is the master; his play with words and ideas is frenetic and often impossible to explain" (Hutchinson, p. 81). He has a compulsive desire to exercise his wild imagination in names and titles with self-descriptive, thematic or allusive significance.

Some of his examples require mental acrobatics. His names often have more levels of significance. Some of them are real polyglot puns,

Here is a short list of examples taken from literature: (Spenser) Braggadocio, (Norton and Sackville) Gorboduc, (Shakespeare) Miranda, (Bunyan) Mrs. Timorous, (De Foe) Friday, (Sterne) Shandy, (Sheridan) Malaprop, (Walpole) Serendip, (Fielding) Lady Tittle, Lady Tattle, (Swift) Yahoo, Brobdingnag, Laputa, Houyhnhm, Lilliput, (Smollett) Ransom, Pickle, Clinker, (Dickens) Scrooge, Gradgrind, Pecksniff, Gamp, Micawber, Chuzzlewit, (Lear) Borley Melling, Quangle-Wangle, Mr. and Mrs. Discobolus, Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo, (Carroll) Dinah Mite, Galanthus, Humpty Dumpty, Addlepat, Wrekin, Fogey, Jabberwock, (Thackeray) Fillgrave, Stickatit, Quiverful, (J.M. Barrie) Wendy, (James Smith) Gotobed, Pardiggle, Flammelcat, Skimpole, (T. Stoppard) Jumper, Lord Muck, Lady Muck, (Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*) Earwicker / Earwaker (= wild boar), Persse O'Reilly (< F perce-oreille), (folk tales) Tom Thumb, Lillibullero (part of the refrain to a song deriding the Irish Roman Catholics).

By and large the study of names is useful to throw light on the writer's literary technique and aesthetic canons. Naming, in conclusion, is a very creative activity of the human mind.

## VARIATION

Variation, usually thought of as a negative aspect of language, is on the contrary a very important linguistic resource: it is organic to language; it is functionally motivated and lexicogenic.

Given their function and archaic character names are usually supposed to remain fixed and immutable in time. But it isn't so. Most of them have undergone the ordinary evolution of the language. Moreover, they are subject to variation for a number of reasons: the zest for variation itself, smoothing and streamlining, word play, the whim for "fun names", popular or folk etymology, phono-orthographic adaptations to local or regional conventions and dialectal systems, the changing rules of phonology and spelling, phonotactic rules, etc. In analysing the processes of manipulation and remanufacturing it is certainly worth remembering that not only sounds and their orthographic representations vary in time, but also all forms of "sub-word" structures like recurrent sound clusters and morphemes (i.e. phonemes and graphemes). The following instance is eloquent enough: Faulkner, Falkner, Farconar, Falconer, Faulconer, Falkiner, Fawknar.

**Diminutives:** the use of diminutive suffixes is very frequent. Diminutive personal names usually acquire an endearing and affective force and are a sign of familiarity. In some cases they have also given rise to patronymics.

**French** (a lot of names imported from France have a diminutive form); -et (*Corbet, Garnett*), -ette (*Dowsett* < OF *doucette*), -ot (*Amior* < *Ames*), -in (*Rawlin* < *Raoul*), -el (*Amiel* < *Amy*, *Meynell* < *mesnil* < *mansion*);

**double diminutives:** -el-in (*Roblin* < *Rob* / *Robert*), -el-ot (*Roblett*), -in-ot (*Rabnot*), -en-el (*Avenel*).

**English:** -y (*Bobby*), -ie (*Annie*), -el / -le (*Pottell* / *Pottle*), -ing (*Rawling*), -ling (*Suckling*), -let (*Bartlett*), -ock (*Bessock, Jamock, Kittock*), -cock (*Hitchcock, Ellicock / Elcock*, with an endearing tinge, but -cock can also form a diminutive, a patronymic, or be a metonym), -kin / -ikin (*Perkin* < *Peter*, *Tomkin* < *Thomas*, *Dawkin* < *David*, *Wilkin* < *William*: a suffix of Middle Dutch & Low German origin, see German -chen).

**Various:** -erel (*Doggrell, Cockerell, Pickerell*), -een (< Irish English: *Deneen*, cp. *girleen*).

**Double and treble diminutives:** *Higgins* (*Higg* for *Richard* + *in*), *Tomlin* (*Tom* for *Thomas* + *el* + *in*), *Noblet* (*Nob* for *Robert* + *el* + *et*), *Hopkin* (*Hobb* for *Robert* + *kin*).

**Hypocoristic development** (short names, pet names and ethno-regional variations):

**Elizabeth:** *Elsbeth, Elspet, Elspic, Eliza, Elsie, Elsa, Bess / Bessie / Bessy / Betsy, Bet / Bette / Betty / Beth, Libby, Lilibet, Lizzie / Lizzy, Tatty, Isabell / Ibbett / Ibbitt / Ibbott / Ibell / Ib; Guinevere:* *Gwendolen, Gwyneth, Gwennie, Gweyn, Gwin, Gwynne, Gwen; Magdalen:* *Maudling, Magdala, Magda; Robert:* *Bob, Hobb, Nabb; Roger:* *Hodge, Hodgkin, Dodge, Dodgin, Dodgson; William:* *Will, Bill; James:* *Jim; Richard:* *Dick, Hick, Higg; Geoffrey:* *Jeff; Gerald:* *Jerry; Gilbert:* *Gibb; Gregory:* *Gregg, Gregor, Grigg; Harold / Henry:* *Harry; Helen:* *Nell, Nellie, Nelly; Joseph:* *Joe, Jess, Jessel, Jessup, Jessop; John:* *Jock, Ian, Sean, Evans* (one of the Welsh forms of *John*); *Ithael:* *Ithell, Iddols, Idle; Millicent / Mary:* *Molly; Nicholas:* *Nicol, Nick, Cole; Peter:* *Pete; Theobald:* *Dipple; Theodoric:* *Terry.*

**Expansions:** a number of proper names have entered into compound nouns and phrases contributing to the formation of new lexemes and the creation of new meanings, particularly in informal language and idiomatic expressions: *Jack*

(for John): jack-tar, jackass, jackdaw, jack-a-dandy, jack-of-all-trades, jack-in-the-box, jack-in-office, jack-o'-lantern, *Tom*: tomboy, tomcat, tomfool(ery), peeping tom, tom noddy, tom farthing, Tom Collins, Tom Thumb, *John*: jonny-cake, Johnny-come-lately, John Bull, John Doe, Johnny Raw, long Johns, *Bob*: bobby, bobcat, bobtail, bobbysoxer, *Jenny* (for Jennifer): jenny-ass, jenny-hopper, jenny-wren, jenny-puss, jenny cat, jenny dog, *Jim* (for James): jim-crow, jim-dandy, *Jerry* (for Gerald): jerry-builder, jerry-come-tumble, jerry-go-nimble, *Hob* (for Robert): hobgoblin, hob-thrush, *Mag* (for Margaret): magpie.

Also scientific language often makes use of names: Peirce's Law, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Adam's apple, etc. Then there are lots of expressions in common use that contain names: French leave, Dutch courage, Russian roulette, Swiss roll, French letter, Columbus Day, etc., whilst others have acquired an eponymous function: John Bull, John Doe, Uncle Tom, Uncle Sam, *Tom, Dick and Harry*, (to keep up with) *the Joneses*, Paul Pry, Colonel Blimp, Dow Jones, Bobby, Sammy, Tommy, Johnny, romeo, mentor, scrooge, shylock, Jekyll and Hyde, Cinderella.

**Conversions:** jeans, denims, feience, buckram, derby, rugby, jaffa, jersey, guinea, bikini, cardigan, wellingtons, romeo, Casanova, Jonah, Jeremiah, a Job's comforter, gipsy, scrooge, caliban, sandwich, macintosh, macfarlane, plimsolls, biro, hoover, guy, bob / bobby, charlie, turkey, china, hooligan, condom, dunce, teddyboy, diesel, nicotine, guillotine, winchester, cardigan, bikini, champagne, duffle coat (montgomery in Italy), jersey, marathon, gypsy, muslim, hamburger.

**Substitutions** (pseudonyms, pen-names, stage-names, nom de plume, by-names, allonyms): *Lewis Carroll* (C.L. Dodgson), *Currer, Ellis, Acton Bell* (Bronte sisters), *Boz* (Charles Dickens), *George Eliot* (Mary Ann Evans), *Mark Twain* (S.L. Clemens), *Waverly* (Walter Scott), *Bozzy* (James Boswell), *Elia* (Charles Lamb), *Nicholas Blake* (Cecil Day Lewis), *John Wayne, Fred Astaire, Boris Karloff, Old Hickory* (President A. Jackson), *Iron Duke* (The Duke of Wellington), *Capability Brown, Bloody Mary / John Collins / Tom Collins* (names of cocktails), *Madonna, Twiggy, Eyetie* (for an Italian), *Frog* (for a French), *Jerry* (for a German).

**Corruptions or perversions:** *Cavell* (= bald, dim of Cave < L. calvus), *Trapnell* (= too quick < OF trop + isnel), *Feverel* (< February), *Averell* (= April), *Mallory* (< F mal + auguré = ill-augured), *Crawcour* (< F. Crèvecoeur), *Sinclair* (< St. Clair), *Sidney* (< St. Denis), *Frobisher* (< F fourbisseur), *Cullen* (< Cologne), *Culpepper* (= pepper-culler < F. cueille + poivre), *Brontë* (< Bronty + Sicilian Bronte through Admiral Nelson), *Sacheverell* (< Sault-

Chevreuil = kid's leap), *Pankhurst* (< Pentecost), *Driffil* (< dirt / manure field), *Whittle* (< white hill), *Marshall* (< mare + skalk = servant), *Seneshall* (< semi-IE for old + skalk = servant), *Lempriere* (< l'empereur), *Postle* (< Apostle), *Shrapnel* (< F charbon + dim.suffix -el), *Nowell* (< F Nouel), *Everest* (< Evreux / d'Evreux / Devereux), *Morpeth* (< murder path), *Clennell* (< clean hill), *Parnell* (< Petronilla), *Meynell* (< OF mesnil, the dim. of mansion), *Toutle* (< Toothill), *Smollett* (= small head).

**Respelling of French names:** *Beecham* (for Beauchamp), *Bewley* (for Beaulieu), *Dallimore* (for De La Mare), *Beldham* (for Belledame), *Boswell* (for Bosville), *Montagu* (for Montacute), *Morris* (for Maurice), *Charterhouse* (for Chartreuse), *Scovel / Scovil* (for Escoville), *Warren* (for La Varenne).

**False-friends** (often the adaptation of names through morphesthemics, popular etymology, word-play, etc. is such that the resulting forms can be equated with real "false-friends"): *Catchlove* (< chase + woolf, cp. F loup), *Spendlove* (< espond + louve = disembowel the wolf), *Honeyball* (< Annabell), *Profit* (< prophet), *Forward* (= swineherd < far(ow) + ward), *Reddish* (< reedy ditch), *Bridewell* (= spring with birds), *Raper* (= rope-maker), *Coward* (a variant of Cowherd), *Carface* (< OF quatre faces), *Prestige* (< Prestwich = priests' farm or parsonage), *Doubtsire* (< "to do out" a fire), *January* (= Genoese, man from Genoa), *Redburn* (= reedy stream), *Gamble* (< ON gamell = old), *Toplady / Toplass* (see analytic compounds), *Roadnight* (= mounted servant, cp. knight), *Price* (< Ap + Rhys), *Quirk* (< Mac + Head), *Tallboy* (< F taillebois = woodcutter).

**Variation and origin:** Candler and Campion are typical Norman forms, whilst Chandler and Champion are typical central French forms: thus also Skelton, Keswick and Carlton are Scandinavian, whilst Shelton, Chiswick and Charlton are English.

**Anomalous pronunciations:** Cholmendeley / ts' mli /, Cirencester / siri? /, Worcester / wust? /, Churchdown / ts' ouz?n /, Southwark / s o?k /, Benedict / benit /, Scattle / si:-?ll /, Buchan / b\_ks?n /, Cockburn / koub?:n /, like its variant Coburn /.

**Multiple pronunciation:** *Bury*, like berry, but /bju?ri/ as a family name; *Carew* /kè?ru:/ as a place-name, but /k?rù:/ as a family name; *Derwent* /d?:w?nt/ as a river, but /da:w?nt/ as a family name; *Home* /houm/ as a common surname, but /hju:m/ as a noble family name, *Tyrone* /tiroun/ a county in Ireland, but /tài?roun/ a personal name, *Ruthwell* /rLqw?l/ (generally), but /ri:-?l/ (locally).

## SOME PROPOSITIONS

1) Literary onomastics is worth exploring further than has been done so far; 2) the Anglicization of names in Britain and the U.S.A and, conversely, the adoption and adaptation of English names into other languages: a primarily contrastive linguistic perspective with considerable cultural, social and political implications: an aspect that should be pursued in the light of the history of the English phonological and orthographic systems; 3) the rediscovery of old trades and crafts, human activities, working procedures and techniques, institutions, customs, festivities, rites and ceremonies through the study of names; 4) an investigation into the subtle and unpredictable effects of names on society and on the collective imagination.

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#### 4. Reviews and bibliographical information (via M. Dossena)

Here are two quite original bibliographical indications.

*-Texts in Context* is a rich and unusual collection of over 400 British Library texts. You can find menus for medieval banquets and handwritten recipes scribbled inside book covers. You can browse the first English dictionary ever written and explore the secret language of the Georgian underworld. You can study the East India Company's shopping lists and practise sentences from colonial phrasebooks. You can learn smugglers' songs, listen to rare dialect recordings, and examine the logbooks of 17th century trading ships. Use the Go Deeper links to explore the following themes:

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- Shipwrecks and Smuggling
- Town and Tourists
- Taking the Waters
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- Teachers' Notes

A letter from : "Anita Auer"

Dear all,

I have recently attended an interesting launch workshop of EEBO (Early English Books Online), which is a very useful e-resource containing complete electronic facsimiles of more than 125,000 books and pamphlets published between 1473 and 1700. ECCO is a similar electronic database covering the eighteenth century. I have used the latter resource for a few months now and have to say that it is extremely useful. In case you haven't heard of the resources yet, you can find additional information on the following websites:

More information on ECCO - <http://www.lib.umich.edu/tep/ecco/>

More information on EEBO - <http://eebo.chadwyck.com/home>

Now, to come to the point, a member of staff from the John Rylands Library in Manchester who works closely with ProQuest, the editors of EEBO and ECCO, asked me to collect a list of books, pamphlets, etc. from 1470 to 1800 that are not included in the databases yet but we think should be included. May I therefore ask you to nominate books that you would like to see included and I will inform the person in the library. Thanks!

Happy Easter!

Anita

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