

Issue FOUR, Summer 2004, Volume 2, Number 4.

This is the newsletter for the One-Name Study of the surname COLLOFF. It will be published twice a year, Summer and Early each Winter and used to keep the other interested Colloff relations up to date with the latest research, whether completed by me, or by one of the John Colloff, June 2004 other Cousins.

#### Comment

I am pleased that this issue will be overshadowed by the news of Ken Colloff's Web Pages.

On Ken's 'colloffancestor' web pages you will see the state of Ken's research concisely summed up. As I say elsewhere, it is so neatly done that it conceals the many tens of journeys and hundreds and hundreds of hours that Ken has spent on gathering, verifying, and collating the facts.

Throughout there has been (and continuous still ongoing) compiling of family trees to generate family groupings from those records, followed by meticulous doublechecking. (See para.2 on page 9)

From the latter Ken has managed to find several records that due to misspellings or misplacings were missed by both of us in our first trawls through the records for which he gets my hearty thanks.

#### **CONVENTIONS**

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Cover

Pages 14 & 15.

There will be no publishing of personal details, dates, addresses, etc. of living people without their express permission. If you want to see the details of you and yours on the trees, you will have to write to me giving me express permission to do exactly that. You might like to include your comments on this enterprise as well.

Should you choose to send me a photo or two to include I will take that as permission to publish unless you expressly forbid it. Contributions in the form of letters, articles and\or photos by any of you would be a very welcome addition for me to include in forthcoming issues.

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The Last Words, starting genealogy

#### Success and Distribution of COLLOFF COUSINS.

I encourage you to photocopy any of CC and send it on to anyone that you think might be interested. For computer owners I can provide a copy in colour in Adobe <\*.pdf> or M\$ Word .doc format so that you can print off your own copies. I still hope to have my web page www.colloff.org.uk up and running soon. On it I hope to have coloured downloadable issues of COLLOFF COUSINS in .GIF and .html browsable formats.

If possible the pages containing living family information will only be accessible with a password freely sent to all family members, mainly to avoid Data Protection Act registration.

**<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>**. I have split up the list of 24 copies to the three (and-a-half?) branches as follows. Benjamin (c.1760 – 1834). Kenneth Edward Colloff, Rainham. Roy William Colloff, Alderholt. Mildred, wife of Reginald Percival Colloff, Dagenham.

Thomas (c.1790 – 1839+). Matthew via John & Mary Colloff, Portugal.

Joseph (c.1814 – 1876). Hilary Colloff, Seattle, USA. Charlotte Hinde, West Sussex, William Colloff, Todmorden, Audrey Palin, Phyllis Colloff, Christine & John Wilson, Brian & Pauline Colloff, and Lyn & Garry James, Birmingham. Derek Colloff, Worcester. Audine & Jamie Watson, and Sheila Kirk, British Columbia. Trevor Rogers, Shotton. Edith Colloff, Swansea. Sidney Colloff, Alcester, Helen Williamson, Witney.

**<u>Kohlhoff</u>** Elizabeth Kohlhoff in Kelso, Australia, Katy Kohlhoff, Germany.

Other, The British Library. Guild of One-Name Studies, file.

# Congratulations to Ken on his Web Pages.

I am delighted to announce that Ken has shamed me by beating me to it and getting his web pages installed on the World Wide Web! They are excellent examples of simplicity and clarity concisely establishing the current state of his research, blandly summarising his many hours over the last ten years or so, of scrutinising Birth, Marriage, Death and Census records, in a few simple pages.

I encourage you all to get onto the Internet and visit his pages to see a summary of the very latest in Colloff family history research at;-

#### www.colloffancestors.com

Ken has kindly given me permission to publicise his success here and give snapshots of what you will find to examine in greater detail there than I can display here.

Also Ken has set up the facility on his pages for you to send E-mails with your comments on the pages (or anything else) to him that I am sure he will be delighted to receive.

One aspect that would be particularly useful would be to let him know if you have been able to see all his pages with all the links working with Internet browser programs other than Micro\$oft's Internet Explorer. I have tried with one version of 'Opera', but there are several of those, and almost as many versions of 'Netscape'. As well as different browsers it would be good to know that other operating systems can access Ken's pages, so if you know of anyone with a Mac or Acorn computer, or even anybody running a Linux system, please see if they can see his pages as well. This will all ensure that they can be seen by the maximum number of people, and who knows, someone may uncover confirmation of the missing links between our different branches.







### <u>Taken from Ken's web site</u> we have from left to right;

Ken's grandparents; Robert John and Elizabeth Jane Ken's parents; Edward John and Emily Clara And finally; Ken and Maureen

# With Ken's permission I reproduce below a copy of one of his web pages from www.colloffancestors.com

This is a copy of the page showing the first four generations of Ken's descendant chart for his and Roy's branch of the family based on their oldest ancestor that Ken has been able to trace;

#### BENJAMIN COLLOFF

#### Descendants of Benjamin Colloff 1 Benjamin Colloff b: Unknown in ? d: March 9, 1834 in Finchley, London. .. +Elizabeth Turk b: Unknown in? m: July 23, 1819 in Holborn, London. d: Unknown in? .. 2 William Colloff b: 1813 in Finchley, London. d: Bet. 1840 - 1851 in? ...... +Ann Turk b: Unknown in ? m: July 25, 1831 in Islington, London. d: Unknown in ? ...... 3 James Colloff b: Abt. 1830 in? d: Unknown in? .. \*2nd Wife of William Colloff; +Ann Bates b: Abt. 1810 in Huntingdon Cambs? m: April 7, 1833 in Islington, London. d: August 8, 1870 in Islington, London. ...... 3 Elizabeth Colloff b: August 28, 1833 in Islington, London. d: Unknown in ? ........... +Henry Dingley b: Abt. 1833 in Bristol Gloucestershire m: Abt. 1856 in ? d: Abt. 1882 in Islington, ...... +Patience? b: Unknown in? m: Unknown in? d: Unknown in? ............ 4 Alice Dingley b: Abt. 1870 ...... \*2nd Husband of Elizabeth Colloff: +William Bailey b: Unknown in ? m: 1883 in Bethnel Green London d: Unknown in ? ...... 3 Ann Colloff b: November 7, 1836 in Islington, London. d: March 18, 1838 in Islington, London. ...... 3 William Colloff b: June 15, 1838 in Islington, London. d: March 13, 1909 in Poplar, London. .......... +Mary Ann Johnson b: January 17, 1844 in ? m: September 8, 1863 in Stepney, London. d: 1922 in Poplar 4 Robert William Colloff b: April 21, 1861 in Stepney, London. d: 1862 in Mile End , London. End Old Town, London. ...... +Emily Lindal b: April 19, 1869 in Walsall West Midlands in: February 22, 1891 in Poplar, London. d: 1956 in Brentwood Essex ...... +Elizabeth Jane Hanson b: 1874 in Poplar London m: May 13, 1894 in Poplar, London. d: May 20, 1954. in Ilford Essex 4 Thomas Colloff b: May 5, 1877 in Limehouse, London. d: March 26, 1953 in West Ham London. ...... +Caroline Davis b: 1873 in ? m: 1897 in Poplar, London. d: May 10, 1947 in Essex S W 4 Esther Colloff b. July 11, 1879 in Stepney, London. d: 1881 in Poplar, London. 4 Elizabeth Sarah Colloff b: April 15, 1882 in Poplar, London. d: Unknown in ? ...... 3 John Colloff b: October 25, 1840 in Fitzroy Square. d: Unknown in ? .......... +Elizabeth Ferguson b. Unknown in ? m: April 9, 1863 in Stepney, London. d: Unknown in ? ...... \*2nd Wife of John Colloff: .......... +Esther Coats b: Unknown in ? m: May 20, 1872 in Stepney, London. d: Unknown in ? .. 2 Joseph Colloff b: 1814 in Finchley London d: 1876 in Aston Warwickshire .. 2 Thomas Colloff b: 1816 in Finchley, London. .. 2 Charles Colloff b: October 2, 1823 in Finchley, London. d: 1867 in Islington, London. ...... +Sarah Faire b: Abt. 1820 in Eaton, Bedford. m: November 17, 1844 in Islington, London. d: 1874 in

Islington, London.

Data taken with Ken's kind permission from his **Colloff Ancestors** web pages showing the earliest definitive Colloff records that we have managed to find.

### www.colloffancestors.com

Note. Due to the differences in formatting the data for web pages and display on paper I have not attempted to reproduce the web pages but have used a form of layout better suited to this media

## Colloff BIRTHS Pre 1837

Family Member & Birth date		<u>Parents</u>	Birth Place
Benjamin	c 1780	?	;
Thomas?	c 1780	?	;
George?	c 1790	?	;
William.	Bap August 29 1813	Benjamin & Elizabeth ?	Finchley
Joseph?	c1814	?	Finchley
Elizabeth?	c1815	?	Finchley
Jane	c1815	George & Sarah?	Finchley
Thomas	Bap 7 July 1816	Benjamin & Elizabeth ?	Finchley
Thomas	1816/17	Thomas & ??	Finchley
Sarah.	Born 3 January 1819	Sarah Colloff & Joseph Godfry	Finchley
Eliza.	Born 14 January 1822	Sarah Colloff & Danial Chalkley	Finchley
Charles.	Born 2 October 1823	Benjamin & Elizabeth Turk	Finchley
James	c1830	?	?
Elizabeth.	Born 28 August 1833	William & AnnBates	Islington
Ann.	Born 7 November 1836	William & AnnBates	Islington

## Colloff MARRIAGES Pre 1837

<u>Family Member</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>Date &amp; Place</u>
Benjamin c 1770	Elizabeth Turk	23 July 1819 Holborn
William 1813	Ann Turk	25 July 1831 Islington
William 1813 2nd Marr	Ann Bates	7 April 1833 Islington
George?c1890	Sarah ?	????
Elizabeth Colloff nee Turk	John Dodds	8 January 1836 Islington

# Colloff DEATHS Pre 1837

<u>Family Member Age</u>	<u>Spouse/Parent</u>	<u>Date &amp; Place</u>
George (Colloff/Coltlove) 20	Sarah/ ??	19 November 1815 Finchley
Elizabeth Colloff 15 Mths	?/?	11 August 1816 Finchley
Sarah . Colloff nee ?? 46	George /?	12 June 1831 Finchley
Ann Colloff nee Turk?	William 1813/?	c 1831/1833 ?
Benjamin Colloff?	Elizabeth Turk/?	9 March 1834 Finchley

NOTE after 1837 there was a legal requirement to record all births, marriages and deaths and those records are available for public scrutiny at the Public Record Office. The above records have only been found from examining the records kept by individual churches and therein is the catch 22. You have to guess, find and then search the records of those churches where such family events are likely to have taken place.

## Safe Dedicated Storage of our Records.

Although copies of this newsletter are archived with the British Library at Boston Spa and I have lodged the information on Joseph Colloff's family tree with the Mormons at Salt Lake City, I am sure that all readers of *Colloff Cousins* will be pleased to learn that our records are in a brand new electronic archive in which I like to think that I was one of the forces that caused its creation.

During the time that I was the honorary librarian for the Guild of One-Name Studies [GoO-NS] I consistently reported to the committee the repeated queries that I got from members. Some were just looking for suggestions and information, others were desperate for help, but the theme was always the same, and it usually went like this;

"Dear Mr Colloff, I hope that as Librarian to the Guild you will be able to help me. You see, for the last thirty years I have been researching my family name and now I have six drawers of filing cabinets full of the results of my research and am wondering what is going to happen to it all. My study began in a small way when I could store it in a couple of shoe boxes but over the years it has grown as I gathered more and more information. Now due to my advancing years I can no longer handle, let alone store my material and nobody else in the family is interested. Please can you help me......."

Unfortunately at that time there were only a few options; Join the Genealogical Society and they may accept the work for their archives, or try your local library or family history society to see if they will accept your work in its present state. My post of Librarian also included archiving duties, but as the Guild has no premises of its own it was accepted that there was a limit to the material that I could accept to keep on behalf of the Guild at home. So apart from that advice I accepted and temporarily stored all data sent to me in any electronic format. Fortunately by the time that I resigned all the material submitted could be burnt onto a single data CD, which I deposited with the Guild Chairman on my resignation.

My view was that the Guild could afford to invest in bigger and better electronic storage as and when the amount of material grew. Now a year after my resignation the GoO-NS Vice Chairman has launched the Guild's electronic storage for members' work. This has meant a lot of work by him and other Guild members to produce a system that is usable by all members to store electronic records of their registered one-name studies. Storage is intended to carry on long after the actual individual member has ceased to exist and is certainly not curtailed when the membership ends.

Last year the Guild celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and seems secure for at least another 25 years, and certain to continue for many more years after that. So by the time you are all reading this, the results of the work over the years by Ken, Mildred, Roy and myself will be safely stored away in this electronic archive.

The designers of the scheme are well aware of the security problems that genealogical material can raise and have made provisions to cater for all requirements by making the following choices available;

- 1. Total privacy. The member alone can access this part of the study.
- 2. Members' access. This part of the work is available for study by other members of GoO-NS. This is another major benefit to members, as they can search other members' work for occurrences of names of interest to them in their one-name studies for those elusive lost records.
- 3. Non-members' access. The member can make some parts (or even all) of the work available via the Internet either subject to an additional password that the member gives to co-workers or make part totally free to the Internet.

The usual solution will be for material subject to 3 above to have all references to living people omitted, and perhaps even category 2 material as well, subject to interpretations of the Data Protection Act. Generally it has been found that the Data Protection Registrar accepts that genealogical studies do not fall under his jurisdiction.

It is early days of the scheme at the moment with only 100 other members records, so watch this space for details of how you may be able to browse at leisure through our collected works via the Internet and the GoO-NS web pages. Certainly I hope to be able to ask some of you to check the accuracy of the parts of the records about which you have personal detailed knowledge. Further, who knows, scanning the records might inspire you to write some contribution of snippets of family history fact or trivia for **Colloff Cousins!** 

# <u>The Times got it WRONG!!</u> Search for Colloff's in the archive of 'THE TIMES' 1795 to 1995.

The more perceptive among you will have noticed that I have changed the form of type displayed on this page to that used and established by *The Times* newspaper. That is because I have been able to have access to an archive of the contents of that newspaper from 1795 to 1995, and have searched them for news and references to Colloffs, Coltloves, and Kohlhoffs and I am reporting on my scant findings here. The Colloff clan has never hit the headlines in a big way it would seem, from the very few references that I found. Or, at least if they have any such mention has been lost in the OCR process that I describe below.

#### **Optical Character Recognition**

This is not as straightforward as it seems at first glance because the archive has been generated by having a computer try to recognise and reproduce every character on every page from pictures of each original page. This process is known as Optical Character Recognition or OCR in short. With modern printed matter OCR is very good and almost 100% accurate as the pages are clear and the typefaces clean and precise. However as soon as you go back before the 20<sup>th</sup> century the older paper can become discoloured and the typefaces become blurred. This means that letters like 'm' and 'n' become confused as well as 'll' looking like 'ff' and 'tt' to the computer.

Having explained that I will confine this report to the few meaningful reports among the many that the archive claimed that it held for us. These numbered five in total and unfortunately none of the reports furthered our family history studies, only giving brief glimpses of Colloffs that came to the papers notice in the 1980s, 1960s, and in 1873 and 1831. I will give them in reverse chronological order,

#### The mistakes, 1983

First the reason for my headline above. The Times is one of the most well known and respected of newspapers and for many years has prided itself on the accuracy of its reporting, but I found one instance where the mistake was not a typographical error, but they simply got it wrong when they reported the result of my daughter Tracey's three years at Exeter College Oxford. On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1983 they reported her as having been awarded a Class II degree and then on 1<sup>st</sup> August, without a word of apology her class III degree was recorded accurately. Fortunately it is not a matter of great concern and has never mattered in her subsequent teaching career, but I was shocked to find such blatant uncorrected errors.

#### The Golfer and his Wife, 1956-66.

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 1956 *The Times* recorded a golfing victory by Edward Stanley Colloff in a pairs competition at Woking golf Club. A scant eight years later they recorded his death on 10<sup>th</sup> March 1964 at home, The Ridings, Kingfield, Woking, followed soon after by the death of his wife Lilian Violet, again at the ridings on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1866.

#### Wartime deaths in 1943 and 1941

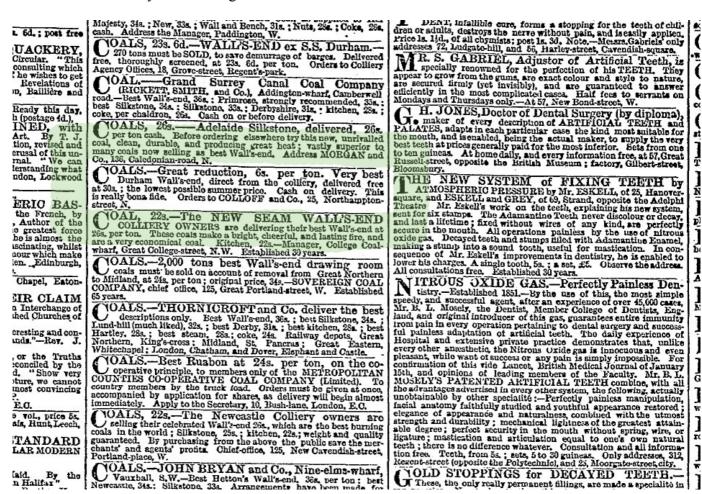
On 17<sup>th</sup> September 1943 *The Times* recorded the death of Sergeant B.J.A. Colloff in Sicily. On 28<sup>th</sup> February 1941 *The Times* reproduced the Roll of Honour published by the Admiralty of the lives lost when the HMS Jervis Bay the armed merchant ship was sunk in a brave holding action protecting a convoy. Amongst those listed is J.A.Colloff, as reported in an earlier issue of *Colloff Cousins* and mentioned in the article from the *Daily Mail* on page 10.

#### Divorce in 1939.

At a time when divorce was unusual and rare, compared with the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries there was one Colloff divorce among the 64 for that day. In the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1939 a decree absolute was granted between N.Colloff and J.W.Colloff before Mr Justice Henn Colins.

#### An advertising Colloff.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May 1873 the front page of *The Times* had amongst its many adverts that of 'Colloff and Co.' of 25 Northampton-Street, N. apparently selling coal at an eye-catching six shillings a ton, about a third of the going rate. Closer inspection reveals it to be a six shillings a ton reduction on coal to be delivered free at thirty-two shillings a ton!



Unfortunately there is nothing more to be learnt from this advertisement apart from the fact that a Colloff was busy making a living in London at this time. Actually the adjacent dental adverts are far more interesting!

You can see in Ken's article about his latest census searches how he located Colloffs in Northanpton Street.

#### **The Times** archive 1795 to 1995 (continued)

order part of the property to be restored to his lordship, who required it.

Mr. ROGERS said it was only necessary to identify a few

of the articles.

Mr. Wooler stated, that Lord and Lady Belhaven had both expressed themselves satisfied that there was no blame attached to the prisoner Wright's father, who had used every means to discover the property and thieves.

Atkins was discharged, but Wright was committed for

trial.

HAMBETH-STREET.—Yesterday Matilda M'Dowell and William Al'Calliff were charged, the former with robbing her master, Dr. Kearn, in Cannon-street-road, to a considerable amount, and the latter with having received a part of the pro-

perty, well knowing it to have been stelen.

It appeared that on last Friday week the female prisoner left her situation to get married to M'Calliff, who is a journeyman tailor, but though they had been called three Sundays in church, the hymeneal knot is not yet tied. Within the last few days several articles of property had been missed by the family of Dr. Kearn, and suspicion falling on the female prisoner, Mr. Norman, an inspector of H division of police, proceeded to her lodgings on Sunday morning, where he found several articles of the missing property, and duplicates of the remainder, and her intended husband had on at the time a fine linen frill shirt belonging to the Doctor.

The prisoners were committed to prison for two months

The prisoners were committed to prison for two months each, the one for unlawfully pawning, and the other for having about him property of which he could not give a proper

account.

Worship-street.—Yesterday a young man, named John Langford, son of the Rev. Robert Langford, a dissenting minister, was placed at the bar before Mr. Broughton, with Sophia, his wife, on a charge of burglariously and sacrilegiously breaking into and robbing Ebenezer Chapel, Bethnal-green.

The chapel, it appeared, was entered some time between Sunday evening, the 6th inst., and the following Wednesday,

#### Is this one of Ours? 1831.

On 21<sup>st</sup> November 1831 a journeyman tailor and his wife-to-be (as *The Times* put it, their hymeneal knot had yet to be tied) were brought before the magistrates at Lambeth Street, accused of stealing from her employer. The tailor was named as **William M'Calliff**, and charged with handling goods stolen by Matilda M'Dowell from her employer a Dr Kearn in Cannon Street Row. They both got two months.

Not very edifying but perhaps another possible source or corruption of *Colloff* to be investigated.

#### **Kohlhoff and Coltlove**

There were no results for Coltlove, and only three for Kohlhoff which were;

<u>1961.</u> A Miss Uta Kohloff was reported as playing the part of Maria in a German translation and production of Sheridan's *'The School for Scandal'* at Berlin's Schloss Schwetzingen theatre.

<u>1930</u> The death on 12 January 1930 was reported of Caroline Eliza Nell, aged 85. She was the dearly loved wife of Louis Nell of Columbo, Ceylon, and daughter of the Rev. Christian Samuel Kohlhoff of Erungalore, South India. (Should this be Bangalore? JC)

**1840** It is reported that at the feast of Epiphany the Rev. Kohlhoff was admitted to priest's orders on a report on the church in India by the Madras Diocesan secretary.

# **More Census Searches**

#### By Ken Colloff

With only a couple of Colloff's on the 1871 census, I set about looking for more. That meant a visit to the "Family Record Centre". Checking the addresses from previous census, and birth certificates, failed to find any. It looks as if our ancestors were a very nomadic lot. Here today and gone tomorrow, or as I found, here one census, and gone the next.

Having no luck with the addresses, I decided to do a blanket search. This involves checking every page on the film. Each film contains approximately one thousand pages. With good photographic reproduction and not to much eyestrain, I can get through a film in two and a half to three hours. Mind you, the photographic reproductions aren't always as good as they could be. As always happens, when it's nearly time to call it a day, and after five hours over a hot film reader I came upon a Mrs Colliff (sic), widow, Very unusual to be listed as a Mrs. Checking out the children and their ages who were listed with her, told me it was Sarah Colloff nee Faire, the widow of Charles b 1823. The address was 25, Northampton St, Canonbury, Islington.

With that sort of luck, I decided to check the same address on the 1861 census. My luck was holding, as I found Charles b 1823 and wife Sarah with their children. This time they were living at number 11, Northampton St. On this census number 25 was uninhabitable. So after the death of Charles in 1867, did Sarah find cheaper lodgings? Unless number 25 was renovated by this time.

{or was totally occupied by the coal business? See TIMES advert. John}

In the 1851 census Charles and Sarah were living at 29, Lower Queen St, which is the continuation of Northampton St. I said they were nomadic, moving up the road 200yds at a time. A very satisfying day. Worth all the eyestrain.

On my next visit I decided to switch my search of the 1871 census to Aston. This time I was looking for Joseph Colloff and Jane Jermey. The usual addresses failed to find the elusive Joseph. Doing the blanket search again, I did not have long to wait before I found a Joseph Collett, (sic), age 57, and wife Jane age 45. With children, Charles age 16, Thomas age 5, William age 6 months, Jane age11, and Emma age 2. Living at Edward St, Aston. With those children and their ages, I soon realized I had found Joseph and Jane. Another very satisfying day.

Still looking for Joseph Benjamin b 1852, who was not living at home at the time of this census.

That's the second Colloff I have found spelt as Collett. Perhaps we should check them out as well?.

{Good idea Ken, John}

# A Heroic Colloff among the 'Three Graces' at a world heritage site.

I reproduce below part of page 27 of the *Daily Mail* of Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2004, recording the fact that the Liverpool waterfront has won world status as a heritage site alongside locations like the



The point of interest to us is that within that site is the World War II memorial for men of the Royal and Merchant Navies who lost their lives in conflicts at sea. As reported in an earlier issue of *Colloff Cousins* (and *The Times*) this includes HMS JERVIS BAY, in which Ken's uncle, John Alfred Colloff lost his life.



The white column of the memorial can just be made out here in the corner of the picture. The names are inscribed on the surrounding wall.

#### Site Visit 18 March 1999

As reported in *Colloff Ciousins* vol1, issue 4, Ken, Maureen and I visited the memorial and Ken was pleased to find his uncle's name as shown below.





# Le nom que vous recherchez n'est pas dans nos bases !

This is the result that I got when I visited

http://www.genealogie.com
the French equivalent of the English speaking world's
http://www.ancestry.com

Although I had checked without a result for Colloffs in the French on-line telephone directory, this confirms that there is no record of any Colloff having slipped into the French records, however briefly.

An interesting section of the site is the area giving any details of your relations pre the revolution, which was also searched without result. Time and my limited French prevented me from finding if there was an 'official' listing of the numerous victims of Madame Guillotine or only a record of nobility and the famous that died that way.

Another limitation was the hysterical sounds from the computer! As an experiment I had one of the disability program's features turned on, the read-aloud feature. The hysterical sounds were the American 'Micro\$oft Sam' trying to read aloud all the pages that were in French.

John Colloff Page 12 20/09/2006



#### a Mysterious Research Resource.

#### **The Family Origin Name Survey**

On the Internet family history discussion groups there have been regular outbreaks every few months of queries about this service. They do not advertise, but somehow take note of active genealogists and send them a copy of their leaflet describing their services and inviting subscriptions.

They claim to be working through various records and following your subscribing they will

	send a copy of anything they find containing your name of interest. They charge £2 for each entry they send to you and you can choose from three different time periods.
Family Origin Name Survey - REGISTRATION  Please enrol me for registration. This registration relates to a single surname and immediate variants, and enables me to pre-order specified quantities of entries relating to this surname, as they are found during the indexing process.  The entries will be sent to me as they occur, up to the limit I have specified, and charged at £2.00 each. Once the quota ordered has been sent, I may opt for further sets of entries (at a similar cost for each), at my discretion, without further registration or membership fee. There is no obligation for me to renew or order further entries at any stage.  I wish to register for the surname: (please enter in box)  and immediate variants: see overleaf – where you can list your requirements. (If you want to register additional surnames, please copy this registration form)  I wish to register this surname for these periods: (please tick as required)  Pre 1600 (registration fee -£5.00)	You register with a payment of £5 for each name and period selected, and they trustingly send an invoice for £2 for each record that they send to you They do not guarantee results, they do not respond to letters, they do not tell you what sources they are searching, and simply provide any result along with the necessary references so that you can check it out for yourself.
Please send me as soon as possible this number of entries:  Pre 1600	The address they use is a London accommodation address, which has been visited to no avail by several curious researchers. However they have many satisfied customers for whom they appear to have found invaluable references, so when I received yet another form from them I decided to subscribe.

I had noted that the reports from dissatisfied customers occurred when they asked for information from a period that they had covered themselves and found results and just got those results again.

As there is no other way to tell FONS what results you do not want I subscribed for **Colloff** for the earliest period; *pre 1600*, as I could not afford to pay for the tens of records that we have found in their next period 1600 to 1858.

Taking a chance I subscribed to **Coltlove** for **1600 to 1858.** 

#### **FONS** Results for Coltlove.

For **COLTLOVE** FONS reported that in a first check the only approximation that they have to COLTLOVE in 1600 to 1858 is **CUTLOVE**, and there the matter rests for the present.

I suppose that the next step would be to look for the earliest Cutloves to be found post 1837 in the BMD records to see if there is a possible geographical link to our studies. However I feel that we are now moving further away from possible mis-spellings.

### **FONS** Results for Colloff

There is one return here, and it is for **I.COLLOPHE.** and is sparsely spread out over three pages which I summarise below.

The item is from a reference used in 'The Rising in East Anglia in 1381' by Edgar Powell, published Cambridge, 1910, and referred to in table 29 therein.

#### A Suffolk Hundred in the Year 1283

The Assessment of the Hundred of Blackbourne for a Tax of one Thirtieth, and a Return showing the Land Tenure there.

1283

STOWLANGETOT.

Isti sunt Taxores, viz. W.de Norwico, Helyseus fil. Odonis, W.Gernum, R.Hotir, Rad. Brithin

This Latin translates as:

These are the taxers, viz. W.deNorwico [Norwich], Helyse son of Odo, W.Gernum, R.Hotir, Ralph Brithwin.

Then follows a list of taxable items; eight crops and seventeen animals, against which poor old I Collophe has only one entry of 33 Oves (ewes) which appear to be valued at one shilling each, making his taxable total £1-13s.-od (one pound thirteen shillings) and his tax payable 1s-2d (one shilling and two pence).

There is nothing else apart from a note between the tax men list and goods list of [Skin 7] which I take to mean that this information was on the seventh skin of the collection (There being no paper at that time, presumably a skin was used on which to record these details.)

#### **Frustration**

This is where the mystery begins. From previous reports I understand that nothing more can be learnt by writing back to them. After that all I can see is to try to trace and inspect the book that is referred to, for other clues.

However if I.Collophe survived after that date surely there would have been more records (up to the maximum of 5 that I ordered) to be forwarded at this time.

Looking at a Gazetteer I see that there is a village of Stowlangtoft on the A143 five miles North-East of Bury St.Edmunds which makes sense of W. of Norwich being one of the taxers.

#### **The Last Words**

#### **Beginning Genealogy or Starting Family History.**

Now that you have been bombarded by my inspiring and scintillating prose in these last ten newsletters you can contain yourself no longer. You are dieing to have a go yourself and want to know how to make a start with your own family history.

In your dreams, John, that will never happen, but just in case I give below how such dialogues might develop.

# "I'm new at this. I was wondering if you could guide me or help me figure out how to get started."

Any aspect of genealogy is a wonderful hobby. It combines mystery and history and many say it brings history to life for them. Even those who slept through classes at school now find history is fascinating. Of course, when you are first beginning your research, it can get a little frustrating. The best way to avoid that is to read up on the subject. There are many good how-to books available for those researching their family tree. I would suggest checking at your local library to see what they have. These books, and others like them, introduce you to the concepts of genealogical research and the tracing of a family tree and offer many useful articles written by experienced genealogists from all different avenues of the hobby. Each article will introduce you to another aspect of the hobby and may give you some great tips to help you avoid some of the early problems and frustrations that so many of us have endured in our research.

#### "No that is too long winded, impersonal and much too much like hard school work"

OK then, do what I call 'Getting Nosy with Great Aunt Rosie.'

Choose amongst your older relatives and have a talk with them. The disadvantage of this is that they are most likely to be retired. Where is the disadvantage in that you ask? Well, contrary to popular belief, retired people are not just sitting around doing nothing, waiting to drop off their perch. If they are anything like Annette and I they are so busy enjoying themselves it may be difficult to catch them, so there is your first challenge. Misquoting Mrs Beeton, first catch your old relative, after that it may get easier. Once caught they do tend to talk quite freely (did somebody say too freely?). People say that talking to your plants can make them grow, and the same is true for family trees. While it's not always necessary to record oral histories to get the basic vital statistics about your ancestors, you may find that interviewing your family members provides some of the most interesting information about your family. Learning about hobbies, family traditions, and personalities can really bring the names in your family tree to life! Making the most of your interview means keeping an ear open for good stories, and also asking follow-up questions on details like dates and places. When you record an oral history, remember that you're an interested relative, not a hard-nosed reporter. Recording an oral history should be an enjoyable experience for everyone involved, and you're more likely to get good results if that's the case.

Now that you are started all these facts begin to get confusing and you want to start getting them down on paper. Here I refer you to Volume 1 issue 3 where I outlined the circle diagram method to keep all your mini family trees in order, and you begin to put together your own family history to pass on to your children.

What now?

# "Well I seem to have made some mistakes, my sister's aunt seems to have become my mother on my family tree!"

Ah, you've gone back to your earlier endeavours and discovered that you have drawn inaccurate conclusions from the research you did. This happens to all of us and we go back and fix it and try not to mourn too loudly the sawing of that limb from the family tree that was generated from some too wishful guesswork. Above all remember, there are no stupid questions. If you don't know what something is, ask. If you don't know how to get a certain type of record, ask other researchers. We all had to learn at some point and most are more than happy to share that knowledge.

Well all of the above is far too much for me to expect to happen. However, if this has inspired you to ask the odd question I would ask you to try to make two collections and send the results to me for inclusion and sharing, in future issues.

These are;

1. Any old photos, hopefully with names and a bit of a story.

2. A list of hobbies and interests. Let us see if there is any common theme or how many crazy interests can we find hiding in the Colloff clan.

Oh, and one last thing. In these newsletters I am discussing my Colloff **ONE-NAME STUDY**, where I am concentrating on the source of the family name, and am working back from all the descendants bearing the family name trying to prove that we are all related. Referring to the circle diagram for my study I am only interested in one person on each of the concentric circles – the male with the surname Colloff. Of course it does not stop there because there are all the circles for every one of all you other twigs, boughs and branches of the family.

However in the above article I am dreaming of awakening your interest in your own family history and all your relations, male and female, that is, all of the people in your circle diagram and everybody related to them.

Should I have awakened such an interest we wish you good luck and offer whatever help I can along your way.

#### John and Annette.

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