

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 other Cousins.

John Colloff, June 2006

Comment

To my continuing amazement Ken is still working and reworking the records and finding fresh entries to augment our knowledge of 19th century Colloffs.

I know that, like me, to Ken these are not just paper records but the slim traces of people living full and busy lives. They will have had numerous contacts with fellow workers; employees, friends and neighbours, and perhaps we will find some record of these activities.

Consider Ken's latest find of Henry Kolloff on Page 9. He has told the census that he and his wife were born in Germany, so there are two possibilities. First that he is a Kohlhoff, and we hope that Elizabeth might recognise him from her enormous work covering those families.

Secondly that he is a Colloff, and if so, he is highly likely to have kept in contact both with those back home in Germany and also our antecedents in Finchley. Could this have left a paper trail somewhere, yet to be discovered?

It is these sorts of details that I hope can be found in the unlikely places like fire insurance companies and workhouse records, especially those of vaccination post 1840. A quick calculation reveals that somewhere there is a record of the vaccination of Henry's son Martin, waiting to be found! Also the records of where the family lived for 27 plus years before 1891 since leaving Germany.

These are both the challenges and fascinations of my One-name Study and I hope that I am managing to convey some part of it to you all in these pages.

We hope that you enjoy reading about our current struggles, whilst sitting in welcome sunshine.

John and Annette

CONVENTIONS

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.

CONTENTS

Oak Cottage and map	Cover
Comment, distribution & Conventions	Page 1.
Latest DNA Results	Pages 2 to 5
Another Lost Colloff	Page 5
Fresh Sources of Records back to 1696	Pages 6 & 7
Latest News of Colloffs	Page 8
Birmingham War Memorials	Page 8
Visit Bona Vacantia	Page 9
A NEW PHOTO CALL	Page 10
Family History Memorabilia on Ebay	Page 11
The Last Words.	Page 12

INDEX to Volume II, addendum Pages 1 and 2

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.

DISTRIBUTION. 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. Tracey Colloff, Bromley. Trevor Rogers, Shotton. Beryl Colloff, Alcester, Helen Williamson, Witney.

Kohlhoff Elizabeth Kohlhoff in Kelso, Australia, Katy Kohlhoff, Germany.

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

Latest DNA Results, Y-DNA Marker Matches Update

Because the results of the comparisons of my Y-DNA marker matches are confusing and different aspects need some lengthy explanations I am starting with a summary of the current conclusions. Then I will list the details of the results with what I hope you will find are the appropriate explanations.

Conclusions

As I anticipated when I submitted my samples for DNA testing there has been no immediate conclusion from the results of those tests, briefly, no other indisputably close relation has yet been tested.

However this is a very new branch of science and as the results of more and more tests are added to the database, increasingly precise results are emerging.

For simplicity I split the areas of the further detailed analysis into three sections;

1. The current generations, 2. The 16th. to 19th. Centuries, and 3. A long-term time scale, then I give the current results.

Section 3 tackles where we came from, section 1 looks at where we are now, and section 2 is trying to see how we got there.

1. Recent generations, 1800 to date

I regularly get updated lists of the latest matches as more and more people are tested and I scan them to see if there is a name or location that coincides with any of our own current results to be pursued within the last few generations. Nothing has resulted from the enquiries that I have made so far, but I would like you to scan the current list shown later to see if any names ring a bell or justify further enquiry.

2. Recent Ancestral Origins, c.1500 to date.

These results are obtained from where the other people with matching markers say that they came from, as they are likely to be the areas from whence our ancestors and their relatives, came. Crudely summarising the results given in more detail later, out of 29,547 entries there are the following numbers of matches for the following locations;

<i>Country</i>	<i>No. of entries</i>	<i>12 Marker Matches</i>	<i>12 Marker, 1 step away matches</i>
British Isles	23,193*	116*	70*
France	1,064	0	41
Germany	3,905	12	79
Italy	916	0	15
Netherlands	469	0	25
Norway	411	0	10
Sweden	545	0	16
Switzerland	693	0	26

The British matches are 0.5% and 1.04% of their country's entries, and
The German matches are 0.3% and 4.4% of their country's entries.

Please read the more detailed explanation before you get too excited by any of the above figures. ☺

Note * I have ignored what I consider a false return for Scotland that is unsupported by other data

Latest DNA Results (continued)**3. Tribal haplogroups, up to 100,000 years ago.**

An analysis of the groupings of the DNA markers has resulted in the recognition of distinct haplogroups. I have not included any further details of this work.

We appear to be in haplogroup R1b1 that means that our ancestors have lived outside Africa for at least the last 60,000 years.

This is one of the groups (I think of them as tribes) that re-colonised Europe after the last Ice Age 10,000 to 12,000 years ago.

1. Recent Y-DNA Matching Results

As applied to current generations

Current Total of 264 Matches found, latest additions shown below.

When I get these results I scan the names and e-mail addresses hoping to see a likely relative to give a match that could be pursued within the last few generations. So far nothing has turned up, but please let me know if any of the names given look promising to you.

Where I match someone who has signed a Release Form their name(s) and email addresses are shown below.

Only people who have signed release forms are eligible to be listed here. If the individuals with whom I have matches have tested for more markers, you will see next to theirs, between parenthesis, the number of markers for which they have tested.

1.1 Exact Matches

Bill McKeighan	maryee2@juno.com
Donald Blair McKenzie	don@greenbush.co.nz
Mr. Frederick Daniel Harrington, Sr.	marisharrington@rogers.com
Rev. Ray Ragland Moya	seagulls6@msn.com
Mr. Todd Sterling Thompson	toddsthompson@aol.com
Mr. Brian S Thornton	briansthorton@usamedia.tv
Mr. Michael James Ross	rossbeatty@charter.net
Donald Kenneth McLarty	dkm1@swbell.net
Mr. Leslie Dean Garrison	deangarr@comcast.net
Kelly Dennis Burbach (Y37)	kellyburbach@yahoo.com
Mr. Ralph Clinton Sweaney	rcsweaney@todays-tech.com
Mr. Francis Patrick Ross	PHARMERPAT@PRODIGY.NET
George Haas, M.D.	susanhaas@cox.net
Jim Wilkinson	bruceleeming@rogers.com
Scott Ingram	srmanolo1019@yahoo.com
Thomas Joseph Kies	cindy.pursel@verizon.net
James Cotten (Y25)	jcotten@cobrilimited.com
Keith Michael Robertson (Y37)	kmrobertson@rica.net
James West Mathieson (Y37)	jmathisn@gamewood.net
Steven Peyton Baughn, M.D.	zelbono@yahoo.com
Rev. Paul Allen Miller	ProfPaul@gramcord.org
Gilbert Keith St. Clair (Y37)	Glbrtstclr@aol.com
Kenyon Charles Kies (Y37)	kkies@earthlink.net
Mr. Keith Goodman	keithgoodman@unwired.com.au
William Clette Buchanan (Y37)	skkidd@bellsouth.net
Matthew Gracey (Y25)	gracey@defendmd.com

1.2 As reported before for 25 and 37 marker matches;**Four results for 25 Marker Matches**

<u>Exact Match</u>	John L. Cofer (Y37)	m.mccluen@comcast.net
<u>Genetic Distance – 1</u>	Hubert Cofer (Y37)	m.mccluen@comcast.net
<u>Genetic Distance – 2</u>	Kelly Dennis Burbach (Y37)	kellyburbach@yahoo.com
	Mr. Clifford Howard Allison (Y37)	clifford-allison@supanet.com

Three results for 37 Marker Matches

<u>Genetic Distance – 2</u>	John L. Cofer	m.mccluen@comcast.net
<u>Genetic Distance – 3</u>	Hubert Cofer	m.mccluen@comcast.net
<u>Genetic Distance – 4</u>	Mr. Clifford Howard Allison	clifford-allison@supanet.com

Results from; *Family Tree DNA - Genealogy by Genetics, Ltd.*

Latest DNA Results (continued)**2. Recent Ancestral Origins**

This table shows where the matching people ***believe***, and have said, that they come from. The fact that their DNA markers match ours (well, mine, until proved otherwise) suggests that these places are where our ancestor's relatives may have come from.

Bear in mind that this may be what they have been told over the past few generations, although in many cases the input will be genealogically exact as the database includes many large formal studies.

The greater the number of entries the more I am inclined to believe the result.

The original tables are enormous and I have picked out those with entries greater than 10.

At present there are not enough 25 and 37 marker matches to make similar tables from their results.

<u>Country</u>	<u>(Number of Entries)</u>	<u>12 Marker Y-DNA Matches</u>	<u>12 Marker Y-DNA One Step Mutations</u>
British Isles	(461)		15
England	(8746)	52	241
France	(1064)		41
Germany	(3905)	12	79
Great Britain	(593)		19
Ireland	(4590)	37	172
Italy	(916)		15
Netherlands	(469)		25
Norway	(411)		10
Scotland	(3721)	120*	0
Sweden	(545)		16
Switzerland	(471)		26
United Kingdom	(2962)	27	93
Wales	(693)		24

* I am inclined to disbelieve this entry against Scotland as I think it comes from one large study and has no supporting one-step mutations.

Of course what you cannot see in this summary are the zero matches against Russia and many other countries, and single matches against nearly all the other countries (mainly European) that you can think of.

This note by Family Tree DNA gives more background against which these results should be viewed.

'Incorrect origins provided by testees may lead to search results that do not seem logical. for example: Assume your ancestors are from England, but your search results show the ancestral origin of your matches as England, France, AND one match shows an origin of Native American. Does that mean that your ancestors relatives may have lived in England and France? Yes. Does it mean that your ancestor was also a Native American? No. This means that a settler in America had a child with a Native American woman, the child was brought up as a Native American, and that, over time, the family has "forgotten" the European ancestor, and believe their ancestry to be Native American.'

Latest DNA Results (continued)**Examples.**

I thought that it would be interesting for me to record two examples of where I am using these DNA results to guide my research into the Colloff surname.

1. Our non-existent Russian Origins.

50 years ago I did not argue with the many people who suggested that we came from Russia. This was not supported by the enquiries that I made during my visits to Moscow and St Petersburg, and confirmed by the views of several other experts, followed by zero DNA returns.

Instead, today I believe that we are left with three alternatives;

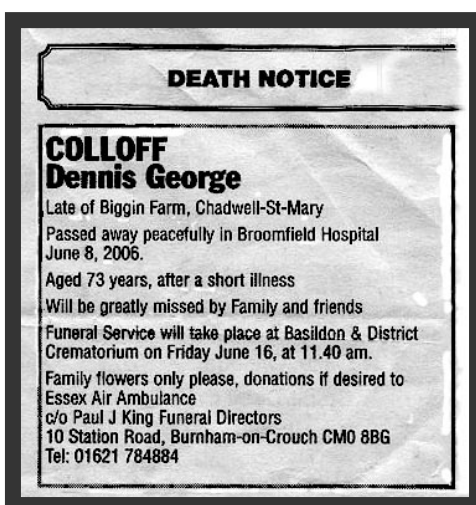
1. Pomerania, if our connection to the Kohlhoffs is correct, suggested by the high percentage of DNA marker matches from Germany.
2. The English Midlands, if the Tatenhill connection can be proved.
3. Some other British ancestry as suggested by the high percentage of DNA marker matches from these sources.

2. Our non-existent Scottish Connections.

The Birth, Marriage and Death records for Scotland have always been kept separate from those of the rest of the UK. They cover a longer period and are much more complete. Several years ago, just before the present growth of genealogy on the Internet, they were made publicly available for easy searching.

I took advantage of a willing and competent colleague to have the whole of the records up to 1900 searched without finding a single Colloff. Due to travel difficulties in earlier times this virtually ruled out Scotland as a source for the Colloffs in earlier centuries.

I feel that this is supported by the absence of any other than the one large study's set of 12 marker matches, without any of the usual pattern of 1, 2 and 3 step away matches (or mutations) seen elsewhere from other sources.

Another Lost Colloff

It is with the deepest regret that I have to report the death of Roy's younger brother who died suddenly in June. I reproduce here the newspaper announcement that Ken was kind enough to forward to me. Our condolences go to Roy and Dorothy and their family

A Fresh Source of Records back to 1696.

Thanks to Ken's extremely diligent and persistent examination and scrutiny I am certain that there are no more early 19th century Colloffs to be discovered in the official records of Births, Marriages and Deaths [B M & D], and Censuses.

Of course there may still be some record in some old church register or other church papers, but of those that have been indexed and are searchable, nothing new has been found. Finding anything in all those papers is simply a matter of chance, perhaps finding something when trying to verify some other record. So I was very interested in two sources that have been drawn to my attention, but remain as yet, unexplored for Colloffs.

Surprisingly they are the records of the various workhouses, and even more surprisingly the records of various fire insurance companies.

First, the Workhouse. Unfortunately the records are not all complete, but those that exist are remarkably detailed due to the system gradually established through the 18th century and brought to full flower in the 19th century, in time to take care of the human fallout from the Industrial Revolution.

The records start in 1600 when the onus for caring for the poor and homeless was put on the parishes, where it stayed for a very long time. The disruptions of the Napoleonic Wars gave rise to further legislation, and the New Poor Law of 1834 established that the standards of the workhouse were not meant to be punitive but simply a deterrent. They were to be ***'No better than those of the lowest labourer'***.

In practice this still meant that on entering the workhouse husband, wife and children were all dealt with and accommodated separately. To achieve this, full details of each person, such as age, relationship and place of birth, were recorded to give a wealth of detail. Such records are ideal for the family historian trying to reconstruct family groupings from plain B M & D records, and lucky enough to find an ancestor's record of such a plight. A fellow family historian has found a wealth of detail of one great great grandparent who played the system as adroitly as any present day benefits' cheat. He left the workhouse on Friday so that he was free to booze with his pals in the pub on Saturday night and on Sunday he was back in for the rest of the week. And every time all the details that otherwise can take an age to find, were meticulously recorded over and over again for each admission and exit of the old rogue to the workhouse.

After 1840 a similar amount of detail can be found in the vaccination records. In 1840 new legislation called for ***all*** children to be vaccinated and full records kept. So after 'grubbing around' for your poorer relatives in the workhouse Poor Law records, even the wealthiest are found in those for vaccination.

Of course you have to know where to look, and I understand from Ken that the volume of Finchley vestry minutes that might have held vital Colloff information before 1800 were destroyed by fire, and Ken has wrung the last drop of information out of the available consecutive volume.

Fire Insurance Companies' Records

The Great Fire of London of 1666 devastated the city and during the recovery period it was realized how harmful quite a small fire could be and that nationally, with most buildings using mainly timber and thatch, how great the risk of fire was.

A simple fire in a carpenter's workshop would usually destroy his tools and thus his livelihood, rendering a prosperous craftsman destitute within an hour! Should the fire have spread to his dwelling (which it usually did) he and his family were homeless as well, and on their way to the workhouse.

Based on this realization fire insurance companies began to be set up from 1680 on.

Before 1666 any aid following a fire was limited to a local collection in the parish, but the scale of the problem became so great that fire insurance companies came into existence in the late 17th century. Most of the early ones had a brief life, but in 1696 *'The Contributors for Insuring Houses, chambers or rooms from Loss by Fire, by Amicable Contributions'* was set up. It became *'The Hand-in-Hand Fire Office'* in 1713 and some of its earliest records still exist. Initially the *'Hand-in-Hand'* covered only London but from 1806 it covered the whole country.

In 1710 *'The Sun Fire Office'* was formed and covered the whole of England, and their records still exist and can be consulted at The Guild Hall Library.

Of the numerous local companies that were formed at that time, only two others grew to a size that meaningfully covered England as a whole.

They were;

'The London Assurance Corporation' 1720, whose main policy registers survive for 1722 to 1727, 1760 to 1761, 1821 to 1826, and 1863 to 1884 at the Guild Hall Library.

and

'The Royal Exchange Assurance' 1720, whose various policy registers survive for 1753 to 1759, 1773 to 1833, 1803 to 1883, and 1809 to 1870 at the Guild Hall Library.

However records of the many local companies exist and are also available for research in several locations.

What use are these Records?

But why should I want to look at them, and what chance is there that I have an ancestor who took out fire insurance?

Taking the last question first the following estimates have been made for the coverage of fire insurance for the period 1775 to 1798, for the *Sun* and *Royal Exchange* in England only.

Gentlemen	36 %
Professional Men	22 %
Inns	20 %

Allowing for all the other companies, both local and national, operating at that time, it has been estimated that fire insurance coverage ranged from one person in four, to one person in seven at that time.

Answering the second question, where policy details exist they list very full details of the households, people and property, covered by the insurance. Very many of these were the properties in the large estates insured



by their gentlemen landowners. So, along with the grand houses, and their paintings, furniture and jewellery, every hut, workshop or cottage was recorded with its materials of construction (and maybe a plan), as well as the names and relationships of the occupants, and their tools and possessions. More superb family history material.

All this information and a fantastic amount of detail and anecdotes are given in a very readable format with full details of the locations and accessibility of records by David T. Hawkings in his book ***Fire Insurance Records for family and local historians 1696 to 1920***. ISBN 1 903427 142

As many of you will know, in those early days there were no fire brigades, and soon after the fire insurance companies were set up, those companies established their own teams of fire fighters. These, naturally enough only protected the property of people insured with the company paying for them. So, after paying your insurance premium, the insurance company gave you a cast iron plate displaying their emblem and with your policy number engraved on it to fix to the front of the insured premises, so somebody raising the alarm knew which fire brigade to contact.

These were known as fire marks or fire plates and the photo shows the Royal Exchange fire plate displayed on the front of my house. ***

The chief fire officer of Warrington has assured me that his men would come out to my house if there is a fire, regardless, but I have put it up, just to be on the safe side. ☺

*** Bought for me by Annette to commemorate a very enjoyable visit to the Ironbridge Museum, the first of many.

Latest News of Colloffs.

Another Found Colloff ?

Another product of Ken's continuing scrutiny of Census and B. M & D. records is another mis-spelt Colloff

Administrative County of West Ham The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

City Parish West Ham Municipal Ward Canning Town Urban Sanitary District West Ham Town or Village or Hamlet West Ham Rural Sanitary District West Ham Parliamentary Borough or District South West Ham Ecclesiastical Parish or District St. Mary's

Page 46 90

No. of House	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	NAME and Surname of Head of Family	RELATION to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	WIFE'S BORN	(1) Death-Death's
494/17	Trinity St.	John Beaman	Head	72	Boyle Jabson	Ann Beaman	Widow
495/19		Alfred M. Taine	Head	28	Robert Bruce	London	Widow
		Martha	Wife	28	Scholar	London	Widow
		Elizabeth	Daughter	5		London	Widow
		Alfred	Daughter	3			
		George	Daughter	2			
		Frank	Daughter	2			
		David	Daughter	2			
496/19		Henry Kollif	Head	72	Robert Bruce	London	Widow
		Martha	Wife	28	Scholar	London	Widow
		Martin	Daughter	5		London	Widow
497/2		John Tyle	Head	28	Robert Bruce	London	Widow
		Martha	Wife	28	Scholar	London	Widow
		James	Daughter	5		London	Widow
		John	Daughter	3			
		Robert	Daughter	2			
		Henry	Daughter	2			
498/20		Walter Kollif	Head	35	Robert Bruce	London	Widow
		Martha	Wife	28	Scholar	London	Widow
		Elizabeth	Daughter	5		London	Widow
499/23		John Tyle	Head	28	Robert Bruce	London	Widow
		Martha	Wife	28	Scholar	London	Widow
		James	Daughter	5		London	Widow
		John	Daughter	3			
		Robert	Daughter	2			
		Henry	Daughter	2			

Total of Persons and of Persons with less than Five Shillings ... 5

Total of Males and Females ... 12

NOTE—Draw the pen through such of the words of the headings as are inappropriate.

RG12/1322

The entry is from the 1891 census and Ken found;

At 19 Trinity Street, Canning town;

Henry Kolloff aged 72, and his wife 68, both born in Germany, and their son Martin, 27, born (and presumably inoculated) in London. The other occupants of the house and their neighbours all appear to be artisans, as opposed to the labourers seen elsewhere. Perhaps they will have left a paper trail that opens up research in another location.

Birmingham War Memorials

A site dedicated to the above as been set up by John Gordon who has been recording the names on war memorials around the area.

I visited his site at <http://www.billesley.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk> but could not find any Colloffs on it.

If anybody knows of a Colloff named of a war memorial in the Birmingham area please let me or John Gordon know so that it can be added to his database.

WELCOME TO BONA VACANTIA

Is Bona Vacantia worth a visit?

Well, sorry to tease you but it is not the latest exotic holiday destination.

'Bona Vacantia' literally means vacant goods and is the legal name for ownerless property that passes to the crown. It is also the name of the part of the Treasury Solicitor's Department handling these affairs that consist in the main of the estates of persons who die Intestate without known kin, and also the assets of dissolved companies and failed trusts.

Visitors to their web site <www.bonavacantia.gov.uk> can have the records searched for any given surname to see if there was anything waiting for them to claim.

I have checked for COLLOFF.

As you will have guessed by now there was nothing there for any of us under that name.

THE TREASURY SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT
BONA VACANTIA DIVISION

Are you an entitled relative?
If you think you are entitled to the estate of a deceased relative please [click here...](#)

Welcome to
BONA VACANTIA
One Kemble Street, London WC2B 4TS

"Bona Vacantia" literally means vacant goods and is the legal name for ownerless property that passes to the Crown. We administer the estates of persons who die intestate without known kin and collect the assets of dissolved companies and failed trusts.

<p><input type="checkbox"/> about BONA VACANTIA</p> <p>Click here if you want to know more about Bona Vacantia.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> help for COMPANIES</p> <p>Information about dissolved companies - the process, forms and guidelines.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> help for ESTATES</p> <p>Including deceased persons notification form, guidelines, advertisements for kin and how to submit a claim.</p>
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A NEW PHOTO CALL

What Do We All Look Like?

I have asked before for you to send me photos of your older family members for inclusion in *Colloff Cousins*, but I owe this suggestion to Annette and hope that you will co-operate with me, so that I can implement it fully.

Annette suggested that it would be nice to have photos of all the people to whom I send *Colloff Cousins* appearing all together in one issue, and I agree.

My hopes for my little publication are that, some tens of years in the future, one of our descendants will want to prepare a new Colloff Family History. Hopefully a search on the Internet, (or whatever has replaced it by then) or a query to the British Library, or even family folklore about the scribbles of a crazy old family fool in Warrington, will reveal the existence of *Colloff Cousins*, and our researcher will find a wealth of detail.

So there will be all the family trees, relationships, and some personal details of the Colloffs who were interested in their own family history at the beginning of the new millennium, hopefully enough to give a flying start to our new researcher. But having whetted our young researchers appetite what, in that position would you really like to see?

In my opinion a contemporary photo gallery would be studied long and hard.. These are a broad spectrum of our young researcher's forebears ! Think of the interest with which you examine a freshly found photo of grandparents, or even great grandparents.

So, please send to me, at least, a passport or driving licence photo of your self, or some other shot that comes easily and quickly to hand. I know that I already have some photos that have already appeared in *Colloff Cousins* and I will use those that I can find. I would much prefer a clear family shot from which our future researcher can try to recognise some distinctive family features, and be amused at our outdated clothes.

Like this?

1934



Or this?

1940



Family History and Memorabilia on the Internet

I am still being surprised at the ingenuity of people using the power of computer storage and searching on the Internet to help with their research into their family surname.

My interest was aroused by the following message on the Guild of One-Name Studies discussion list about using E-bay for more than just buying and selling;
*I haven't seen this mentioned before and wonder if others on the list are aware of the potential of using this 'Search' facility on E-bay?
One can enter one's name of interest in "Searches" and get an email informing you when something comes up.*

To which the first, unpromising response from the Doogood one name studier was;
*I've had my "name" up for about a year now, but all I've received so far have been three or four offers of colouring books for Dorothy Doogood, Chief of Police for some imaginary town...
Maybe something useful will turn up one day...
But it costs nothing, and if you have the right sort name irrelevant stuff won't swamp you!*

Then, more interestingly, from the lady who runs the Alabaster one-name study;
With a name like Alabaster, I do get swamped with irrelevant stuff.....but we have had one unique gem - a first edition book by William Alabaster 1607 which we managed to club together and buy..... albeit for a significant sum.

And then somebody who has greatly enriched her Cruwys one-name study;
*I've used E-bay for a few years now and have bought mostly postcards of places of interest and local history books. I've got a large number of saved Favourite Searches.
My biggest success to date was last December when the Boer War medals of Edwin CRUWYS of Chittlehampton came up for auction. They eventually sold for £500 that was way beyond my budget but I e-mailed Bloomsbury's, the auctioneers, and asked to be put in touch with the buyer and also asked if it might be possible to have a copy of Edwin's service record, which was included in the auction with the medals.
Sadly I heard nothing from the buyer but several weeks later I was over the moon when an envelope arrived from Bloomsbury's with a photocopy of Edwin's service record.*

I also bought an original 18th century vellum manuscript which I have since had transcribed.

I was very pleased to find a postcard of my grandfather's shop in Cheltenham with the name CRUWYS proudly displayed above the window. I also managed to buy a book that contained a loose photograph of one of my relatives dressed in her WAAF uniform. I've also bought numerous Gloucestershire postcards based on drawings by my great uncle Tom CRUWYS.

And finally;
There are many old deeds, which come up for sale on E-bay and elsewhere. If you haven't searched on E-bay before there is a very useful website which catalogues all the deeds which have come up for sale by county so that you can see what you've been missing.

Unfortunately nothing has ever appeared of interest to us Colloffs, and Mary Colloff kindly provided the picture of the Colloff shop front that I was delighted to include in issue 3 of volume 1 of 'Colloff Cousins'.

As ever I welcome anything else of a similar nature for inclusion in 'Colloff Cousins', which I am safely archiving at the British Library for posterity.

The Last Words.

Late yet again, and now I am being chased by the British Library for their copy of my valuable output (I wish).

No apology, I just could not face sitting pounding the keyboard when the sun was shining so brilliantly and the flowers in the garden are blooming so nicely.

We hope that the weather is being as kind to you all as it is for us, whether it is summer or winter with you.

John and Annette.

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