

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, November 2002.

Comment

To my amazement here we are at the start of volume 2, with six issues of volume 1 behind us.

I must admit to feeling quite pleased with the penultimate page in this issue and its title; "Index to Volume 1." When I started I did not expect to be able to keep going this long, nor to have so many kind and interested readers.

Nor, to be honest, did I expect to have had so many developments to report. I am delighted to have had technical, research and social events and information to circulate among you all. It is this variety that has made preparing the index such a pleasure. I would like more information from other branches of the family for future issues, as I feel sure that there must be some more old family photos out there that we would be delighted to share..

John.

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.

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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, Tonbridge.

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.

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

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

My DNA Test Results

Thanks to an extremely generous birthday present from my son William, and his son Jack, I now have my DNA results and they are sitting in a publicly available page on the World-Wide Web for comparison with other results as they are generated.

John COLLOFF

b. 1933 Manchester, England.

LOCUS	DYS#	ALLELES
1	393	13
2	390	24
3	19*	14
4	391	10
5	385a	11
6	385b	14
7	426	12
8	388	12
9	439	12
10	389-1	13
11	392	13
12	389-2	30
13	458	18
14	459a	8
15	459b	10
16	455	12
17	454	11
18	447	24
19	437	15
20	448	19
21	449	31
22	464a	15
23	464b	15
24	464c	18
25	464d	18

*Also known as DYS 394

As described in the last issue I used the American laboratory recommended by my fellow GoON, Tony Pomeroy, and the whole procedure went very smoothly. In fact one very un-American business practice was that they sent out the swab sampling kit at the first request and before any money had been paid!

The instructions were very clear and explicit and I was soon sitting, mouth agape, rubbing the swab stick up and down the inside of my cheek the prescribed number of times to get a generous and healthy sample. Then into the sealed container with two samples and posted back to the States in the supplied envelope with the minimum of fuss.

The results came back six weeks later, and soon after the names and E-mail addresses of 12 other people with 12 matching haplotypes were forwarded to me. The literature explained that it would need 24 of the 25 markers that were tested to match for there to be the strong likelihood of a common ancestor within the last seven generations. On that basis I did not want to try to make contact until I had fully absorbed the other information that had been sent.

Whilst I was still reading a bit and taking it in before working through some more, One of the matches contacted me and we had a short exchange of E-mails. It turned out that he too had had 12 matches and had E-mailed them all. I was the only one not from the US of A, and the only one to respond, and be willing to offer to exchange information as I had done.

This confirmed me in my decision to wait until I was completely at home with all of the terminology and had a better grasp of the technology before I tried to make any further contacts my self.

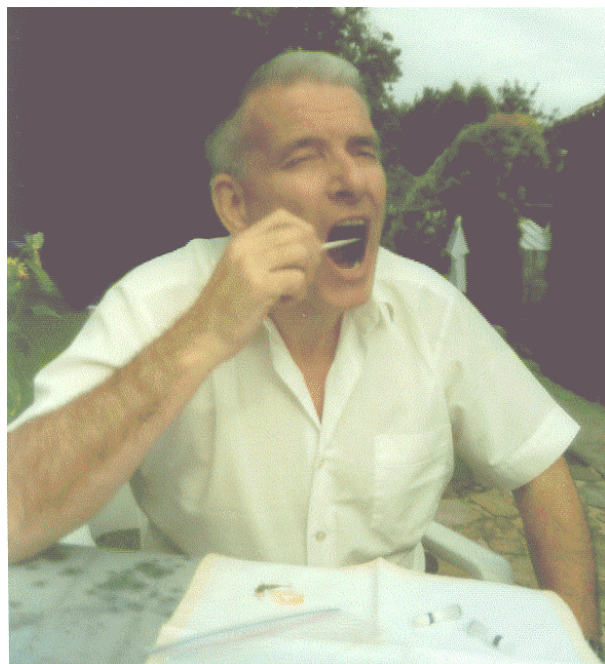
So you see here my table of 25 results, and over the page pictures of the kit and my sample taking. The results can be reproduced to all and sundry to check for any matches. I am delighted to express my very grateful thanks to Will and Jack for enabling me to participate in this very exciting technological development. I never dreamed of being able to harness discoveries and developments made only a handful of years ago to our genealogical studies.

My DNA Test Results (continued)



The Test Kit

This is the kit that was sent to me from the laboratory in the US. The two swabs, shown, were detachable from the sticks. After use each head was put into one of the test tubes, sealed and returned to the laboratory. Below is the disclaimer that I had to sign.



I scrape away at my left cheek (it is quite painless really) ...



... and turn the other cheek for the second scraper and its sample.

My DNA Test Results (continued)**MATCHING RESULTS**

This is where it should get exciting, but unfortunately, being so new, they only found matches with 12 out of the 25 markers that were determined in my test. So although contact details are listed below, all that can be said is that we all have a common male ancestor, some way back.

Match Y-DNA results to other Family Tree DNA customers

If you match someone who has signed a Release Form their name(s) and email addresses are shown below. Since this page refers to you, your name and email will not show up here, just people you match. If the same email address appears multiple times then the people listed are members of a group study that has chosen to make the group administrator a single point of contact. **Only people who sent signed release forms are eligible to be listed here.**

No High Resolution Y-DNA Matches found**12 Marker Y-DNA exact Matches**

<u>Name</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Walter Chatfield	mcjar@mindspring.com
Nick Chatfield	sharonsawyer@alltel.net
Richard Redner	RRedner@triad.rr.com; srtx2@hotmail.com
Daniel Miller	danl2mil@attbi.com
Gordon MacDonald	gmacdonald@advnet.net
William Pettigrew II	sherrylp@texhoma.net
Lyle Gibby	not available
Charlie Clark	c_mclark@tycom.net
Ernest Walter Whiteside	wallyw@telus.net
Phillip D.Mitchell	aneitaa@hotmail.com
Joseph Mitchell	aneitaa@hotmail.com
David A.Mitchell	aneitaa@hotmail.com

Recent Ethnic Origins**MATCHING ETHNIC TRENDS.**

There is also a long list of likely ethnic associations [*Please note that that is my short-hand précis of a definition several paragraphs long*] with the number of matches in each location or ethnic group, shown. I give below the major results. Exact matches show people who are the closest genetically. The Ethnic origin shows where they have been reported to have lived. Since many persons migrated since the beginning of time, you will typically see matches in more than one country. For information purposes, the Recent Ethnic Origin search also displays results for those who are not an exact matches, but are 'near matches'. A near match is either one step or two steps from your result. An exact match is 12/12. A one step match is 11/12. A two step match is 10/12 The value of the near matches is to see where those who may be related migrated over time.

12 Marker Y-DNA Test Results

<u>Exact Matches</u>		<u>One Step Mutations</u>	
<u>Country</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Count</u>
England	5	Austria	1
Iceland	1	Denmark	1
Scotland	4	England	22
Shetland	3	France	2
Spain	1	Germany	2
Unknown Origin-11		Holland	1
		Iceland	3
		Ireland	13
		Italy	1
		Norway	1
		Poland Ashkenazi	1
		Russia Ashkenazi	1
		Russia	
		Native Siberian	2
		Scotland	12
		Shetland	1
		Sweden	1
		Switzerland	2
		Wales	2
		Unknown Origin	39

Two Step Mutations

This list covered 32 countries, all European except for;- Australia Aboriginal, Australia British, Mexico, Native American, and United States, none of which had more than 3 counts.

The highest scores were; England 78, France 8, Germany 20, Holland 7, Iceland 7, Ireland 14, Scotland 29.

A neither convincing nor conclusive result due to the low number of other results for comparison at this time.

The Frequently Asked Question, or the story so far, (with a couple of small mis-understandings). Just to refresh your memories, I give below the gist of a recent E-mail exchange that will be familiar to every Colloff.

Question

**> I don't think I've asked you before, but I've often intended to. Do you know
> the origin of the COLLOFF name? I am interested in -OFF endings, which are
> quite unusual for English surnames, aren't they?**

Answer

Yes, they are unusual and commonly have a Russian\East European background.
Unfortunately my solution will not be a lot of help to you.

I first tackled this when I was on holiday in Bulgaria and had made the effort to begin to understand the Cyrillic script.

For a while (having found many entries in the Belgrade phone book) I thought that the name came from Bulgaria and had been spelt

ΚΩΛΩΦ

That is; Kappa, Omega, Lambda, Omega, Phi.

However when, through work, I had to visit Russia and have since made some Russian friends, they are quite positive that there is no Russian background. Understanding Cyrillic was a great help when travelling around Moscow and St Petersburg and essential if you were not to end up in the wrong place or asking for the wrong thing. For example, because of the apparent spelling my wife thought that were very many antique emporiums. These were in fact all chemists' shops, which had the Russian word derived from our 'Apothecary' prominently displayed as **АПOTEKA**

Also every restaurant had the same sounding name as in English but the Cyrillic spelling made it look very different as **PECTOPAI**.

I had to use the childish mnemonic of 'Pots and Pans' to remind me of what they really were. At least it meant that we did not go hungry!

Which all goes to show just how wrong we both could be. Shortly after, through the Anglo-German Family History Society, I was given a lead which found the name of a lady in Australia who

had done a lot of research on her background and family name.

From her I now have photo copies of old German church entries that she had researched.

When they were being done in Latin the name was spelt my way, when it was German it is spelt her way; Kohlhoff. From Elizabeth Kohlhoff I learnt that she believed that the name arose in Pomerania, a former Dukedom on the Baltic, between Poland and Russia, that was part of the Swedish Empire at one time.

Since then I have found an Augustus Kohlhoff who changed to Colloff when travelling into mid America. Once settled in what became North Dakota and living among a lot of others of German background he reverted to Kohlhoff.

So far we have not been able to establish a link between the families, but I now have my 25 point DNA record and am hoping that a Kohlhoff somewhere will have his done and we may find a match.

There are eleven COLLOFFs in the German telephone directory, but they have not responded to written appeals to discuss the origin of the name.

As you will see elsewhere in this issue we are in live contact with KOHLHOFFs in Germany, Australia, and America.

My Census Searches

By
Ken Colloff

The census returns are a wonderful tool in finding families, where they lived, their ages, the work they were doing, and where they were born. All the census records that we are using to date were taken by an enumerator knocking on the door and asking questions. Can you imagine that happening today? He would probably get short shrift. With a lot of people unable to read and write, names were written as pronounced, causing many variants. Throw in a couple of different accents, and you can visualise what I mean. If people could not read and write, they probably could not add up, unless it involved money! This is proven in the variations we find in the ages if followed through every ten years of the census.

One family I have followed through the years is William 1838, and his wife Mary Ann Johnson, my Great Grand Parents. The 1861, 1881, 1891 and 1901 census give Mary Ann's birth place as Poplar and Limehouse. Because they are next door to one another I can accept that, but according to the 1871 census, she was born in Gravesend. That one led me a merry dance. Mildred (another Colloff researcher, wife of Reginald) suggested the enumerator may have mistook the name Grays Inn, which is a stones throw from Holborn, where the descendants of Charles 1823 lived. With so many Mary Ann Johnson's about with a father named William, the task of being certain that this is the right person is almost impossible.

Searching through the 1881 census looking for John 1840 Fitzroy Sq., I found him under COLLIFF with wife Esther. I had a surprise when I clicked on neighbours and found a Joseph COLLIFF Rose, living next door. I started to wonder how he got that middle name. On my way home from Kew one day I dropped in at the Family Record Centre to check the microfilm of the original transcript. There was no mention of COLLIFF as a middle name. The entry read, Joseph de Rose. When the Mormon Church of Latter Day Saints transcribed the census onto compact disc they must have interpreted the de as a do, as in ditto, and because it was under COLLIFF it looks like they just continued the name down the list.

[Again the quality of the 1901 transcription has fallen down over this as well. Researchers were finding puzzling pockets of families named DITTO, until they realised that a similar mistake had been made where the enumerator had spelt the word out and the transcribers had stupidly assumed this was a valid surname ! No British born transcriber would have entered a family of **Mum, Dad and baby Ditto.**]

Staying with the 1881 census and name variants. I typed in CALLOFF and come up with three step children, namely, Thomas age 15, Emma age 14, and *William age 10; living with a William Cook and his wife Jane. It took a full 20 seconds before I realised I was looking at Jane Jermy/Colloff with her second husband and three of her children. Surprise! Surprise!

[*Yet again, Ken has turned up a hard to find record. This is my grandfather William, thanks Ken, J.]

Variant names are not just restricted to surnames, people often changed their Christian names as well. Looking for a Maria Ann 1860 in the 1901 census, I found her under Mary. That entry also had a surprise, Her relationship to head of house was Aunt, the head being a Robert Nicholson and wife Eliza. Eliza was in fact Elizabeth Mary nee COLLOFF 1869, Maria Ann's niece. A nice little bonus when you find someone you are not looking for.

Another bonus is when you find children, who are not on the tree, because you don't know where they fit. I had six females in my birth index, all born in Holborn, which I felt sure were descendants of Charles 1823. Without the information from birth certificates, there's no way of placing them on the tree.

My Census Searches by Ken Colloff (continued)

The 1901 census solved the problem for four of them. Two of them, Edith 1891 and Alice 1893, belong to Benjamin 1856, the son of Charles 1823, and the other two, Flora Lucy 1898, and Lydia Alice 1901, belonged to Benjamin's son Charles 1879.

With the crash of the 1901 census online, it meant we had no index as a finding aid. The only place to check the census was the Public Records Office at Kew, and then only by addresses. So armed with last known addresses, taken from birth certificates and previous census, I made the two hour trip across London. My journey was not in vain, as I found five families, two from the Midland tree, and three from the London tree. Everything was pretty much as expected, until I looked at one of the Midland Families. That of Joseph Benjamin 1852 living at Talford Cottages, Talford St., with his wife Jane and eight children. Three of the children were not on the Midland tree, they were Sidney 1893, Flora 1895 and Charles 1898. Again, I had them in my birth index, but never knew who they belonged to. Charles has to be Charles Harold, who married Catherine Harris in 1921, and had one daughter by the name of Minnie W D 1922. Minnie has to be Roy's "Lady" who lives in Fordingbridge. He did tell me she was the daughter of Charles Harold and I have been trying to place them for a long time.

The 1901 census has now returned on line and I have made full use of it to complete my searches. Typing in Colloff it came up with 53 members. Click on a name, pay 50p, and you get the full transcript for that person, that includes address and the R.G. reference number. Collecting all the numbers for the appropriate family members, (i.e. head of families), I then made the trip to Kew and copied the original census forms from microfiche for 20p each. Just to look at it online will cost 75p. Therefore, I think I made a considerable saving. Never did like giving my money to the government!

[Plus, by getting a copy of the original entry you avoided struggling with some of the appalling transcription errors that are being found aplenty. By questioning in parliament keen genealogists have made the government admit that over 70% of the transcription of the 1901 census was done overseas. Most of it in India, where there are people answering UK telephone system directory enquiries as well. Perhaps that explains why they appear to have no local knowledge nowadays. John]

Like many things today, the 1901 census transcription is not perfect. For a start, it has one complete family, from the London tree, namely, William 1869, which I found from their last address, missing from the index. That happens to be Roy's Grand Parents and children, including his father William George 1898. I have not tried any variations of the name yet. I will report on them in the next issue.

COMMENT

I am very grateful to Ken for this very interesting article describing how he is verifying and polishing the details of the family trees that he has so painstakingly constructed. In addition he has kindly sent me photocopies of the actual entries that he has found for various Colloffs. These are a tremendous help as they bring to life our ancestors as they are listed in their family groupings as they existed on the day of the census.

As an example the following copy of a typical entry shows a 30 year old William Colloff, living with his wife, son and three daughters at 36 Hind Road in Tower Hamlets, Poplar, on census day 1901.

<u>NAME & SURNAME</u>	<u>Relation to head</u>	<u>Condition as to marriage</u>	<u>Age M F</u>	<u>Profession or Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>
William Colloff	Head	m	30	Timber Porter	London, Stepney.

John Colloff

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21/09/2006

<i>Emily</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>m</i>	29
<i>Emily</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Daur.</i>		9
<i>Edith</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Daur.</i>		7
<i>Mabel</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Daur.</i>		5
<i>William</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Son.</i>		3

<i>do.</i>	<i>Mile End</i>
<i>do.</i>	<i>Limehouse</i>
<i>do.</i>	<i>do.</i>
<i>do.</i>	<i>do.</i>
<i>do.</i>	<i>do.</i>

Following the August Kohlhoff\Colloff Trail.

As I have explained in previous issues I consider that it is significant that an August Kohlhoff switched the spelling of his name to Colloff when helping to open up the American plains in South Dakota in the 1870s.

To this end I left messages on genealogical message boards asking for any contacts from likely family members, and got information from Fred Kohlhoff about his family and two August Kohlhoffs in it.

Fred had kindly sent me his latest family tree with the following message

Greetings: KOHLHOFF Genealogy 11-7-02

Attached is the latest update to my branch of the Kohlhoff family. If anything is incorrect, please let me know. AS you see there are a lot of empty slots. Any information to fill the slots would be appreciated. I am puzzled as to the relationship between my grandfather August Frederick William Kohlhoff who moved from WI to MN to CA and August Kohlhoff of Aberdeen, SD. Because of birth dates could it be Uncle and Nephew? I do not know why there is a connection between the first name of August and Kohlhoff. I have found another August Kohlhoff who was married to a Wilhelmine (not my grandmother) WOCKENFUSS. They had a son Bernard born Feb 12, 1871 and died Aug 23, 1921. Hope the attached helps you.

Regards:
Fred

When I asked his permission to use it here he kindly agreed and supplied the following information about the man who used the name Colloff. Fred's tree is shown on the next page.

Dear John:

Regarding the August Kohlhoff in South Dakota. I have a copy of the Death Certificate of August Kohlhoff who lived at 119 6th Ave, S.W. Aberdeen, Brown County, SD. The certificate was issued by the state of South Dakota, State Board of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, Registration No. 6520, Oct 15, 1925. The certificate indicates he was married to Abertina Kohlhoff; that he was born Apr 4, 1844 in Germany, died Sep 13, 1925; his father was Karl Kohlhoff and mother was Loti Knippel (the mother's name is not clear). At time of death he had lived in the U.S. for 60 years. He definitely knew my grandfather August Wilhelm Friedrich Kohlhoff who ended up in Chico, California, USA, as I have copies of Christmas cards from him to my grandfather dated in 1916 and 1922 with Aberdeen, SD as return address. I do not know the relationship between the two August Kohlhoffs. I have my suspicion that August of Aberdeen, SD was the brother of Friedrich Kohlhoff and the uncle to my grandfather August Wilhelm. I hope this helps clarify the status of the August Kohlhoff in South Dakota.

Regards:

Following the August Kohlhoff\Colloff Trail (continued)**Fred's KOHLHOFF Family Tree**

KOHLHOFF, Michael Friedrich Martin Born: 1816?

Married: Frederika Born: 1824?

Children:

1. Herman Born: 1849?

2. Bertha Born: 1847

Died: Jan 9, 1896, Shackleton Twp, North MN

Married Eduard Benz, Door County, WI, June 12, 1874

Children:

i. Anna

ii. Minna

iii. Hulda

iv. Maria

v. Hedwig

vi. Arthur

vii. Emil

3. Wilhelmine Born: 1851

4. **August Frederick Wilhelm** **Born: May 27, 1852, Ruetznaw, Greiffenburg Kreis, Pommerania, Prussia.**
Died: Dec 4, 1940 (88) Chico, Butte County, CA

Married Wilhelmina HOFFMAN

Born: Sep 28 1862

Died: May 20, 1930 (67), Chico, Butte County, CA

Children:

i. Emil Heinrich Friedrich Born: Christened: Jul 19, 1880, Liberty Grove Twp, Door, WI

Died: , 1936(?), Oakland, Alameda County, CA

ii. Paul Frederick

Born: May 14, 1882

Died: Jan 7, 1958 (76) Chico, Butte County, CA

Married: Ollie

Born: Mar 27, 1886

(557-22-8347) Died: Apr , 1981, Chico, Butte County, CA

iii Arthur Albert Frederick Born: Oct 27, 1885, Liberty Grove Twp, Door, WI

(561-52-2466) Died: Nov 1, 1969 (84), Chico, Butte County, CA

Married: Lottie

Born: Sep 4, 1890

(224-92-8191) Died: Jan , 1978, Miranda, Humboldt County, CA

iv Herman Frederick Born: Aug 4, 1888, WI

Died: Dec 31, 1948 (60), Berkeley, Alameda County, CA

Married: Mary

Born: , 1892

(552-30-5081) Died: Aug 1985, Berkeley, Alameda County, CA

v. Anna A. Born: Jan 15, 1891, WI

Died: Feb 26, 1977 (85), Chico, Butte County, CA

Married: Charles (Charlie) PROBST

vi Bertha

Born: May 10, 1894

Died: Feb 18, 1969 (74), Klamath Falls, OR

Married: Alex MacDonald

vii Frederick William Born: Oct 18, 1896, Hendricks, Lincoln County, MN

Died: Apr 8, 1949 (53), Berkeley, Alameda County, CA

Married: Viola Anna BATCHELDER, 1926, Oakland, Alameda County, CA

Born: Sep 7, 1909, Enid, OK

Died: Feb 9, 1972 (63) Oakland, Alameda County, CA

Children:

a. Frederick Herman Kohlhoff Born: Apr 11, 1927, Oakland, Alameda County, CA

b. **Arthur August Kohlhoff** Born: Mar 15, 1929, Oakland, Alameda County, CA

c. Patricia Anna Kohlhoff: Born: Jan 9, 1933, Oakland, Alameda County, CA

Died: Jan , 1957, Las Vegas, NV

viii Rueben H Born: Jul 18, 1900, Hendricks, Lincoln County, MN

Died: Jan 27, 1998 (97), Cottonwood, Shasta County, CA

Married: Cora

Born: Aug 5, 1906

(573-58-8507) Died: Mar 17, 1993, Chico, Butte County, CA

Children:

a. Eloise

b. Joanne

c. Lois

d. Carol

Colloffs Meet Kohlhoffs, at home, in Germany

Trevor Rogers, whose mother was a Colloff, sent me this E-mail whilst on holiday this summer in Germany.

He had started the trip by visiting Katy and Gunter Kohlhof (see later note re spelling) and I have since received from Trevor some photos of that part of his trip, which are shown after Trevor's E-mail.

I unashamedly quote the E-mail as it gives a terrific sense of the enthusiasm and energy that Trevor gives to tracing the Colloff roots. In addition I am grateful to him for building up these contacts, and using his German expertise, contacts and linguistic abilities to open up this area of investigation.

Trevor wrote;

“Have a spare hour now. We are off to Prague in a few hours time and have found myself with a little time on my hands.

Well, I must say they are a really lovely family, we had a lovely 4 days there with them. We all really enjoyed ourselves very much.

Whilst there we visited the Island of Rugen and also another island called 'Hiddensee'. Time was limited but I did try to look at records in a couple of the Parish churches, unfortunately for me there was quite a queue. It's becoming quite a popular pastime in Germany too. Not to be beaten we went looking around a couple of graveyards on both islands. Did not find one Kohlhoff!! Not one or any reference to them at all.

As I said I did not have a great deal of time. The only Kohlhoff in the telephone directories was Gunter. During our conversations, both he and Katy were very positive that there were no other Kohlhoffs in that area of Germany at all. They are the only ones. They also say that they are of the opinion that most of the Kohlhoffs are concentrated around Neu Brandenburg and surrounding villages, Neu Brandenburg is quite some distance away from Stralsund approximately 150 miles or more. Gunter comes from that area himself, he does not come from Stralsund.

I don't know what Elizabeth's research unearthed there but I would be very interested. Both Gunter and Katy are of the opinion again that it might be worth researching more around that area. Also into what is now Poland, bearing in mind that a large chunk of what was Prussia was ceded to Poland after the 2nd World War. On that point, I am inclined to agree for the following reason. I have some friends (Berliners) who were telling me that they also were born in that area of Prussia (now Poland) and were forced by the German government (Nazis) to move nearer to Berlin and surrounding areas during 1940-42. For what reason I have no idea. This is just me surmising but I think there could be something in that. Inga, Trudi and Roy will be visiting us here next month for a few days and I will try to get a little deeper into that one. OK?

Gunter and Katy also say that the Kohlhoff name is quite an unusual one even in Germany, and that those living in what was West Germany before unification are relatives of their clan.

In Berlin I did manage to trawl through the telephone directories there. I found 50 Kohlhoff/Kohlhof's. (nearly forgot this bit) Gunter's family name is spelt Kohlhof with one 'f' that was due to a clerical error on a marriage certificate in 1924, their name was originally Kohlhoff prior to that.

Of the 50 Kohlhoffs listed, many had different phone numbers but the same addresses, this follows German tradition of the 'Family House'. The entire family pull together to purchase a large house, which is then split into separate apartments for each member of that family. On a quick count up there, there are approximately 20 Kohlhoff families in and around Berlin and Greater Berlin. Bearing in mind what a huge area that is, that does not leave many of 'em!!

Interestingly (for me that is) :-). Most of them are Civil Engineers, Doctors, Electronic Engineers (like yourself) and Architects, the most prominent of those being a Professor Joseph Kohlhoff. He is the head of Kohlhoff and Zimmermann architects, with a very classy suite of offices on the Kurfurstendamme in Berlin. Again interestingly, they are the architects for one of the most prestigious office blocks in Berlin, that is the very new one in the Potsdamer Platz. It is very unusual as it is built in the fashion of the Prussian style 'Clinker' style. Photo and confirmation of that will be with you later ok?

Out of this entire visit the one thing that really astonished me and Sharon, was the similarities between the German Kohlhoffs and the English Colloffs. It was absolutely amazing. When we first saw Gunter and Katy, particularly Gunter I was looking at Don and Brian Colloff from Solihull.

Trevor's E-mail (continued)

The similarities did not end there. Most of Gunter's male relatives are either builders, bricklayers or market gardeners. Looking at some of their old family photo's (I do have some) which I will send to you for copying. The similarities go further than that. You mentioned in a previous Colloff Cousin an article about the Colloff's and 'Booze'. The same applies with Gunter and Katy's family. There is a long line of alcoholic Kohlhoffs too.

Gunter's father was alcoholic so is his brother Peter. We all compared our family photo's and we all came to the same conclusion. There is an amazing likeness between us and various members of our respective families, for instance Gunter's father and my grandfather, his brother Peter and my brother Steve. (Both alcoholics) Don't know if my grandfather was but I do know he consumed vast amounts of the stuff.

Have to go time is running out and need to do a few more things before we leave. Will give you more information on my return.

P.S.....We are going back to Berlin and Prussia next October :-)

Will be back soon Best wishes

Trevor



Patrick, Henni, Anne, Katy, Micha, Gunter, Angela, Trevor & Sharon, and Ken (a family friend).



Katy's twin girls Henni & Anne with Patrick in their garden



Michael (Katy's partner), Katy, Trevor (who says he looks awful, but NOT drunk), Gunter, Angela (Katy's Mom) and Trevor's wife Sharon.

Web Page Responses

Lyn James (nee Colloff) got these responses on her web page and she has kindly sent them on to me. I show them here to illustrate the kind of response that you can get from a well designed, *inviting*, web page. Needless to say still I do not have an up-to date web page up on the Internet. However, read for yourself and see what a friendly place the web can be;

From: <stiff33@juno.com>

To: <lyn.james@virgin.net>

Sent: Sunday, July 07, 2002 2:34 AM

Subject: Kohlhoff

> Hi!
 > My name is Tiffany Totzke. I visited your website (I'm visitor #1!).
 > My gr gr grandmother was Bertha Kohlhoff. I traced the Kohlhoff tree
 > back to Jacob Kohlhoff and Marie Kroos. Also on my tree is David
 > Kohlhoff, Daniel Kohlhoff, Johann Kohlhoff, and Karl Kohlhoff.
 > You said that some people you talked to thought Colloff might be have
 > Russian roots. There is a legend in my family that some ancestor was the
 > son of a wealthy Russian landowner who ran away with a French nanny to
 > Germany. I'd like to find out if that is true.
 > If you have any information that could help me, or would like my family
 > tree in more detail, write back.
 > Thank you!
 > Tiffany Totzke

> FullName: Penny AKA Pernile Ann Stockdale
 > MaidenName: Kohlhioff
 > DateOfBirth_Day: 30
 > DateOfBirth_Month: January
 > DateOfBirth_Year: 1955
 > Sex: Female
 > related_by_birth: Yes
 > My_Spouse_is: Gary Stockdale
 > related_by_marriage:
 > Nearest_Colloff_Relative: Kenneth Ashley Kohlhoff
 > Nearest_Colloff_is_my: N/A
 > Father_or_Mothers_spouse: Collette Ann Robson
 > Can_hold_info_on_computer: Yes
 > Can_contact_for_further_info: Yes
 > email_address: pstockdale@prodigy.net

>
 > Other_comments:
 >

> Hello,

> I was born Pernile Ann Kohlhoff on Jan 30 1955 to John Baltasar Kohlhoff in Madras, India. My brother Kenneth Ashley Kohlhoff and I were adopted by Casper and Alma Kohlhoff in 1971 to attend School and here we are. All of our elders have passed away. Can you help me with some background info? Thanks. Penny

As far as I know;

- a) There is no Russian connection, and never has been.
- b) There is no history of a runaway French nannie.
- c) Penny's father's name was John **Balthasar** Kohlhoff, as that is the name in Elizabeth Kohlhoff's book about the Kohlhoffs.

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The Last Word

Writing this for the seventh time, I realise just how much pleasure it gives me. Firstly because I have managed to complete what I think is a reasonably full and interesting issue and still have some material left over for next time! Then I am nearing completion of what always turns out to be quite an arduous task, no matter how much I have put aside in the previous six months, ready for the next issue. Then I like to think that my contributors will be pleased to see the fruits of their efforts put into this more permanent form. Remember, that with the ISSN number a copy goes into the archives of the British Library, ready to be unearthed by some future researcher. And lastly because some of you are kind enough to reply and say that you actually enjoy it! What more could I ask?

Well I do have a request. Please have you any family memories, photos or keepsakes that you would like to share with us all? I promise to return any photos and will tidy up any damage on old prints for you. Just look them out, add a few titles, and I will be grateful.

And of course the very last word is to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

Until the next issue, with ***your*** contribution in it;

John and Annette.

John Colloff, The Haven, 3 Milford Gardens, Appleton, Warrington WA4 5EF, England.

colloff@one-name.org