

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, December 2006

R.I.P.

**William Alaric
COLLOFF**

1967 to 2006

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.

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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, Portugal.

Joseph (c.1814 – 1876). Hilary Colloff, Seattle, USA. Charlotte Hinde, West Sussex, Jack Colloff, Littleboro', 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.

FAMILY TRAGEDY

It is with the deepest regret that I have to record the death of my only son, William Alaric, who was killed at the age of 39, in a motorway accident on the evening of Monday 18th September 2006.

He was completing the move from his house in Walsden, Todmorden, to set up home with his fiancée of two years, Lisa Dootson, in Westhoughton, Bolton. Carrying the last load of furniture and personal belongings in his LDV van he was killed instantly when an articulated lorry travelling in the opposite direction on the M61 motorway jack-knifed and came over the central reservation. Although two other cars crashed into the truck, Will was the only fatality.



Will and Lisa.

Comment.

As the days have dragged by since that dreadful Tuesday morning when we learnt of Will's death we have been struggling to come to terms with this family tragedy, and we have cancelled many social events.

My initial reaction was to cancel this edition of '**Colloff Cousins**' partly because I find it very difficult to write about and also because I did not think it right that I should burden you all with our woes. However as we got involved with trying to wind up his affairs I realized that this was just as much a part of our family history as my recordings of other events.

If you feel that I have been too self indulgent in including details and facts about which you do not wish to know, I apologize in advance, and trust that you will just accept an appreciably smaller issue than usual. I hope also that you will excuse the fact that some of the information is odd and disjointed. I have done my best.

John Colloff.

Another ruined Life.

As I said on page 2 Will was on his way to the new house in Westhoughton that he was sharing with his fiancée of two years, Lisa Dootson. I think her story was best told in the **'Bolton News'** of Saturday 23rd September in the article I reproduce here.

Fiancee of tragic M-way victim tells of heartbreak

THE fiancée of a man killed in a horror motorway smash told today of the life they had been planning together.

William Colloff, aged 39, was killed when his car was in an accident with a lorry on the M61 earlier this week.

He had been preparing to move into a new home in Westhoughton with Lisa Dootson.

Mrs Dootson said today: "My life has been torn apart. He was my future and I loved him so much. He was such a warm and caring person.

"Our life together was only just beginning, and now it has been taken away."

Mr Colloff was originally from Todmorden in Yorkshire, but had bought a new home in Green Meadows, Westhoughton, four weeks ago and was in the process of decorating it.

He met Mrs Dootson, who is separated, two-and-a-half years ago in the Red Lion Hotel, Westhoughton, through a mutual friend. They got engaged less than a year later on Mrs Dootson's birthday.

Mr Colloff, a financial adviser, was on his way to see his fiancée on Monday when the accident happened. He had called her at 5.15pm to say he

by Amanda Smith

was on his way and should not be too long.

But when a few hours passed and he had not arrived she began to panic. She heard there was an accident on the M61 and phoned around hospitals to see if he had been admitted.

Mrs Dootson, aged 37, said: "He hadn't, but I still couldn't settle, so we went out to the motorway to look for him. A police officer told us to go home. About 30 minutes after we got in, the police were on the doorstep to break the news. I was devastated.

"He was really witty, often making jokes and taking the mick out of people.

"I'm going to miss him so much, even though we were not together very long.

"You don't realise how short life is until something awful like this happens.

"We were planning on going away to Los Angeles or Bangkok in January for his 40th birthday. But now all I have left are photographs and memories."

Mr Colloff was a devoted father to his son, Jack, aged 11. Mrs Dootson has three children, Warren, aged 20, Stephen, aged 16, and Nicola, aged 13.

HAPP
Collof

D...

MY LIFE TORN APART



An Appreciation

William Alaric Colloff,

1st January 196+-7 to 18th September 2006.

Will eschewed an academic career, leaving school at 16, and worked his way through various jobs including YTS schemes, supermarket shelf stacking, van driving for market traders and selling sports goods. Eventually he ended running his own mortgage brokering business having got there via selling insurance and mortgages with Allied Dunbar and then Wesleyan Insurance.

Many of his early days with the last two companies were spent out on the road, driving small leased under-powered 'reps' cars and this left him with a great dislike of such vehicles. He also disliked the futility of turning out early on Monday mornings, when nobody wanted to see business representatives, although this was something on which such employers insisted.

Accordingly, when he and a colleague Peter Lucas, set up their Company '**Finance Assured**' one of their aims was to avoid both. So to start with their cars were bigger and as the company flourished they became more luxurious, and despite working evenings and weekends, they did not start until mid-day on Mondays and finished at mid-day on Fridays.

The business flourished and by 2001 it was able to provide them each with a new Mercedes sports car.

Will made a great success of the business and in 2004 he bought Peter Lucas out of the business and became Managing Director. At the time of his death there were at least five other people working for '**Finance Assured**'. Their efforts left him making an excellent living and free to work on property developing for himself and to buy a half share on a holiday apartment in Spain for the school holidays with his son, Jack Alaric.

All this came to an abrupt end with the crash in the van Will used for his property development and taking furniture to Spain. He had not quite managed to drive 500 miles in his latest £65,000 three-weeks old Mercedes 300 SL, seen in one of the last pictures taken of him below.



Sights of Colloff Sites in London

By Ken Colloff.

I am very grateful to Ken for sending me this material that I am delighted to include in this issue of '***Colloff Cousins***'. Whilst they may not be the exact houses where Colloffs lived, due to subsequent renumbering, they are

certainly identical, and give a clear glimpse of where some of our forebears lived, worked, and were married.



The church of St. George, Hanover Square; where **Thomas Colloff** ^{b1841} married **Mary Ann Wicks** in 1864.



In a house identical to these in Packington Street, Islington, a Colloff kept a coffee shop.



This is 19 Harrington Square, Marylebone, where **Eliza Colloff\Chalkley** was working as a House Maid at the time of the 1851 census.

Sights of Colloff Sites in London (continued).

These two properties, are numbers 91 and 93 Charlotte Street which runs near and parallel with Tottenham Court Road, London.

It is an area that was known as "Little Germany".

According to their 1913 marriage certificate; 91 on the left, is where **Otto Colloff** (1888-1977) lived, and 93 is where **Anna Luthi** (1885-1978) lived, before they were married.

In Volume I, Issue 1 there was a photo of their memorial stone in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, that Roy's sister literally tripped over when visiting her father-in-law's grave.

The Swiss authorities told me that Otto was German and Anna Swiss and they lived for many years in Schaffhausen, where they both died.

Latest News of Colloffs.

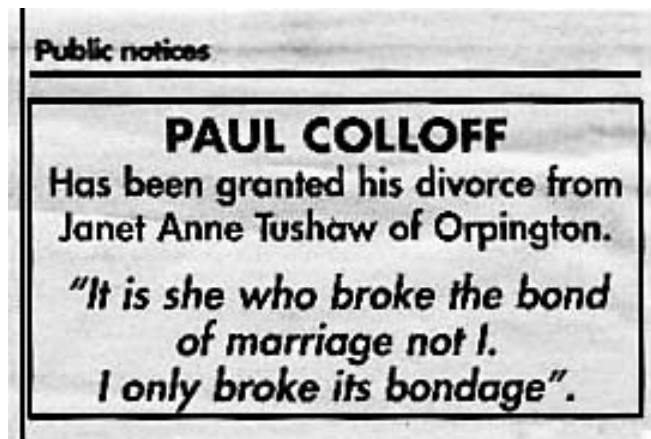
Roy's 80th.

Congratulations to our other Colloff researcher, Roy, who enjoyed a family party to celebrate his 80th. birthday in September. We hope that all goes well with the operations to his hand and arm in the New Year.

A Happy Release?

I have to apologize for the delay in my publishing this newspaper cutting that was sent to me and should have been in the last issue.

It speaks for itself.



A FAILED PHOTO CALL

In the last issue I asked the question;

What Do We All Look Like?

and suggested that you might like to send in photos of yourselves for me to put in a special 'Look at all these Colloffs' edition. Unfortunately only two of you responded so that is not something that I am going to be able to do. Sorry and thank you to those that responded.

The Last Words.

We wish you all a peaceful and jolly Christmas, and hope for a Happier and Successful New Year.

John and Annette.

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