



GREEN TREES

THE JOURNAL OF THE
CENTRAL MIDDLESEX
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Beneath these greentrees rising to the skies
The planter of them Isaac Greentrees lies.
The day shall come when these greentrees shall fall
And Isaac Greentrees rise above them all.

1702

CENTRAL MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
(Founded 1978)

COMMITTEES 1980/81

Chairman	Miss Susan Cooper, 6 Athene Close, Byron Hill Road, Harrow, Middlesex.
Secretary	Mr. Tony Francis, 4 Addiscombe Chase, Kenton, Middlesex, HA3 8JS Telephone: 907-5508
Treasurer	Mr. Eric Whittleton, 10½ Bowlands Avenue, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 4AF
Other Members	Mr. Peter Basilemont Mr. Phillip Haig Mrs. Joan Marker Mrs. Sue Thomas Mrs. Evelyn Todd

Subscriptions for year to 31st August, 1981.

(a) Individual Membership	£4.00
Includes one copy per issue of the Journal	
(b) Family Membership	£5.00
For two or more related persons living together and includes one copy per issue of the Journal	
(c) Corporate Membership	£9.00

The two-fold objects of the Society are to promote, encourage and assist members in their efforts to trace the histories of their families and to help co-ordinate research and transcription of records of the Central Middlesex area.

General correspondence should be sent to the secretary, whose address is shown above, correspondence relating to membership should be sent to the membership secretary, Mrs. Marker at 25 Gladysdale Drive, Pinner, Middlesex whilst correspondence regarding the Journal should be sent to the Acting Editor, Mr. Basilemont at 25 Thomas A'Becket Close, Wembley, Middlesex.

The Society is affiliated to both the Harrow Arts Council and the Brent Arts Council.

CENTRAL MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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NOTES AND NOTICES

SOCIETY MEETINGS

The programme for the first half of 1981 is being distributed with this Journal. Meetings will continue to be held on the second Friday of each month at 8.00 p.m. at Heathfield School, College Road, Harrow - opposite Harrow on the Hill Station.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year 1980/81 are now due and should be sent to the Treasurer. Details of rates, and Treasurer's address inside front cover.

FROM THE ACTING EDITOR

During the summer Philip Haig informed the Committee that he was not able to continue as Editor of the Journal and I am sure all the members of the Society would wish to thank Philip for his efforts in producing our first four Journals. Having assembled this issue I now know how much work is involved!

As it is essential that we continue to produce a Journal I have agreed to act in a temporary capacity as an Acting Editor, but would stress the word Acting. We are still looking for a permanent replacement - volunteers should form an orderly queue!

In the next issue we hope to resume our series on Members' Profiles so it would help if you could write a few lines on your Family History and other interests for inclusion in a future Journal. All other contributions will also be welcome because, as Philip has said in previous Editorials, this is YOUR Journal and it can only flourish if members support it with their contributions.

Peter Eastmont.

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL DIRECTORY

Two editions of the National Genealogical Directory have now been published giving details of research being done on 43,500 different families. A further supplement is planned for 1981 and members who wish to have their interests included in the next supplement should complete one of the standard forms (available from the Acting Editor) and return it to the publishers no later than 30th June 1981. Please note that entries which have appeared in one of the first two issues should NOT be repeated.

CHAPMAN'S REMARKS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 1980

Tonight we are holding our second AGM and when we look back over the last two years it is clear that we have come a long way since we held our inaugural meeting at Brent Town Hall in July 1978.

MEETINGS

During the last year we have continued to hold monthly meetings at Heathfield School and have been pleased to welcome as speakers the Director of the Society of Genealogists, Mr. A.J. Camp, as well as three members of the Executive Committee of that Society. In addition we were visited by an Assistant Keeper from the Guildhall Library and the Chairman of the Middlesex Heraldry Society. The subjects covered included an insight into the records available for study at the Public Record Office, the Guildhall Library and in a well stocked Parish Chest. At other meetings we heard about the history of the Census and were enthused to tackle the task of transcribing Churchyard monuments.

In addition to welcoming visitors from outside the Society we held two meetings when our members provided the speakers. One was last November when Mrs. Morgan talked to us about writing up the results of our researches and the other was an interesting "Heirlooms Evening" in April when a number of members brought along some of their family heirlooms and talked about them. Finally, in December, we held a Christmas Social Evening. Reports on all these meetings have appeared in the Journal.

MI

I have already referred to John Baynt's visit in May when he gave us helpful advice about MI transcriptions. In the following weeks we tried it out in practice at St. Mary's. We were helped by Jim Collard and some of the boys from Harrow School who tackled the monuments in the lower churchyards.

to all who helped we extend our thanks. (A report on the project appeared in the Summer 1980 Journal).

JOURNAL

During the year we produced two issues of our journal, Greentrees, and I would like to thank the editor, Philip Raig, for the effort he has put into producing those issues. He has had many problems with the actual production and has also been hampered by lack of material from you, the members of the Society. If the Journal is to continue it is essential that members produce contributions for the Journal.

LONDON GENEALOGICAL DIRECTORY

We had hoped to produce three issues of the Journal during the year but this was not possible. Instead members will receive a copy of the London and Middlesex Genealogical Directory as part of their 1979/80 subscription - the cost of the Directories appears in the accounts for the year and it is hoped the Directory will be available at the October meeting. The Directory will contain details of the interests of members of the three Middlesex Family History Societies (North, West and Central) and of the East of London FHS so covers the interests of Family Historians mostly living in the GMC area north of the Thames although the recorded interests cover all parts of the Country.

As a result of representatives of the four societies coming together to compile the Directory it has been agreed that representatives of the four societies should continue to meet occasionally to discuss matters which affect all four societies.

MEMBERSHIP

There has been a slow but steady growth in membership during the year and our membership secretary has just enrolled our 100th member.

RESEARCH

I have already referred to the work which members of the Society have carried on in St. Mary's Churchyard. We hope to do similar recording in other Churchyards but there are many other jobs which can be tackled. One would be to carry on the work done by members of the Pinner Local History Society on census records. They have transferred to a computer details of the four censuses (1841, 1851, 1861 and 1871) for the Pinner area but if the rest of the Harrow Parish could be similarly recorded much information would be available to both local and family historians. This is a project which could be done in conjunction with the local history societies in the area.

MICROFILMS

No doubt many members will have used the Mormon's CFU at the Society or Genealogists or elsewhere. The Committee have looked into the possibility of obtaining a copy of this index which could be used by members at a local library. The complete set would cost about £170 but it can be bought county by county - London and Middlesex, for example, costing £25.

COMMITTEE

During the last year all the members of the Committee have worked hard to keep the Society running smoothly. Dan Williams, who has been our secretary since the Society started and who has had to deal with an enormous number of enquiries in that period, wishes to retire as Secretary and I wish to retire as Chairman as we both feel that it is time that both the Society and we ourselves had a change in those offices.

Finally the whole Committee wish to thank the members for the way they have supported the Society in the last year.

Peter Emslement.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the Annual General Meeting on 12th September I had the honour to be elected as your Secretary. Having served on the Committee during the past year in a minor capacity I was happy to accept, but why should someone who cannot spell and only types with two fingers get this job? Perhaps it was because I volunteered thinking I only had to take minutes of meetings and answer a few letters.

Now I find I have to write reports for the Journal and a dozen other odd jobs including keeping in correspondence with other organisations and people associated with Family History adding a depth and variety to the job that I am sure I will enjoy during the next year.

So on to the first report.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on the 12th September 1980 at Heathfield School, College Road, Harrow.

The Chairman's report gives details of the Member's meetings held during the past year which covered a wide range of topics in the field of Family History studies.

During the summer (remember the two or three fine days ?) a start was made on recording the monumental inscriptions in St. Mary's churchyard, Harrow on the Hill. The notes are now being typed up and other projects planned for the future.

The possibility of purchasing copies of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) computer file index was discussed and it was agreed to set-up a fund to buy copies of the C.P.I. micro-fiche and to approach the Harrow Civic Centre Library regarding storage and use of a micro-fiche reader.

A progress report on the London and Middlesex Directory of member's interests was given. The directory has since been published and issued to members. Extra copies available on the bookstall at 75p each. If your interests have altered or not included make sure you pass them to JOAN MAPLE who is looking after members interests and will hold the information for future copies of the directory.

The Treasurer reported on the Society's finances and whilst there is a credit balance with rising costs it was proposed and agreed that subscriptions should be increased to £4.00 Individual or Corporate membership and £5.00 for Family membership. A summary of the accounts is included in this issue of the Journal.

After the various reports the election of officers took place and the following were elected:-

Chairman	-	Miss S.M. Cooper	(Vice P.D. Esselmont)
Treasurer	-	E.H. Whittleton	
Secretary	-	A.J. Francis	(Vice D.E. Williams)
Committee	-	P.D. Esselmont	
		P.B. Haig	
		Mrs. I.J. Marker	
		Mrs. S.J. Thomas	
		Mrs. E. Todd	

P. Esselmont and D. Williams were thanked for their work for the Society as Chairman and Secretary since it was founded in 1978.

Following the A.G.M. a panel of Miss Morley, Mrs. Monger, J. Collard and S. Whittleton answered questions sent in by members.

The question and answer discussions are briefly summarised on Page 10 for other members information.

Tony Francis.

CENTRAL MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31ST 1980

	£	£
Balance brought forward	18.62	
Income from Subscriptions	227.00	
Other receipts	16.64	
Sales	42.69	
Deposits	3.39	
	<hr/>	
	308.34	

LESS EXPENDITURE

Subscriptions	17.00	
Hire of rooms	55.00	
Meeting expenses	12.50	
Postage/Stationery	28.60	
Book stocks	45.35	
Society Journal 'Greentrees'	61.29	
Publicity	1.20	
Middlesex Directory (Contr.)	50.00	
	<hr/>	
	270.94	
Less Unpresented cheques	59.00	
	<hr/>	
	211.94	211.94
	<hr/>	
Surplus	56.40	

Represented by

Balance with Bank	31st August 1980 £	296.07
Cash in hand	31st August 1980 £	.33
	<hr/>	
	296.40	

This is an abridged version of the Audited Accounts presented at the Annual General Meeting.

E.H. Whittleston,
Hon. Treasurer.

REPORTS ON MEMBERS MEETINGS

JULY MEETING

CENSUS RECORDS - Alan Reed

The most important census records to the family historian are the population censuses. The first National census in England and Wales was in 1801 and there has been one every ten years, except 1941. The censuses of 1801, 1811 and 1831 were basically numerical counts and of no real value for research to family historians. However some districts listed names and these lists may be found in local record offices. A register is available at the Cambridge Group for Population Studies.

The censuses for 1841, 1851, 1861 and 1871 for England and Wales are available for public research in the Public Record Office in London and they provide a wealth of information. In order to locate the family being researched it is necessary to know where they were living at the time of the census, but in some cases it does mean searching whole districts to find the ancestors you seek. Once located the records give names, ages, relationships and place of birth. Copies of the Census Records for Scotland are kept in Edinburgh at the New Register House.

These census records are on micro film and some local libraries also have copies. National censuses are not made public until after 100 years and 1981 when the next census will be available is eagerly awaited.

Other censuses, or lists of names that can be of use to family history researchers are Muster Rolls (from 1522), Records of owners of land (1873/1876), and some religious censuses may be found in record offices listing names of parishioners. Trade directories, especially Kellys, are also available in many libraries.

Alan Reed's talk and the question and answer session that followed provided members with an insight to the valuable information that can be found in the census records.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS, answered by a panel.

- Q. How can the cost of research be kept to a minimum?
A. Do your homework with older relatives, libraries (local collections and newspaper library at Colindale) in fact every free source before paying for certificates at St. Catherine's House. Your homework helps to save the cost of wrong or unnecessary certificates.
- Q. How much does it cost to employ a professional researcher?
A. Impossible to predict but averages at least £3.00 per hour. With a professional it is best to work in stages, with a cost limit, which is easy if you know specifically what you want researched, and continuity can be kept up if you have a researcher who knows his subject well.
- Q. Can you comment on the advertisements that offer an authentic coat of arms for £12.95?
A. Most of these firms can only produce a coat of arms attributed to a surname and it may not belong to one's own family. A Coat of Arms is the property of a particular family and to be entitled to bear it is necessary to establish a legitimate male line descent from an ancestor registered in a pedigree of his family in the Official Records of the College of Arms.
- Q. On an estate map of 1818 all the fields and buildings are numbered but there is no identification of the numbers. How can I trace an ancestor living on this estate?
A. The enclosure maps of 1818, Tithe maps of 1841 and Manorial records should all have a schedule attached. This schedule identifies owners and in some cases occupiers of the numbered sections of the map. Look

- for schedules in the Public Record Office and Local Record Offices, also check adjoining Parishes in case the schedules overlap.
- Q. I have traced my family back to the 1840s but can find no trace of them in the Parish Registers where they were born according to the Census Returns. Where should I look, are there any other sources available.
A. Consider the possibility of recording errors in the Census Returns and try adjacent parishes or places with similar sounding names. Other possible sources are the "Mortons" computer file index, local papers, local library collections and Non-conformist records (at P.R.O.). Also remember that baptisms may be some years after the birth!
- Q. An old deed refers to 11 October 25 Charles II, I assume this is a date, when?
A. This is a Regnal year reference, i.e. 11th October in the 25th year of the reign of Charles II, refer to Cheney's Handbook of dates. (Charles II - 1660 to 1685 thus date is 11 October 1685).
- Q. I believe one of my ancestors was Jewish, can I verify this?
A. Jewish pedigrees cause some problems with changes of surnames. Some records are available (Kiss Moody offered to investigate further for the questioner).
- At the end of the question session the panel was thanked and it is hoped to arrange further workshop meetings to help members with general problems in researching their family history.

OCTOBER MEETING

THE HISTORY OF SURNAMEs - Talk by Leslie Dunkling of the Name Society.

In researching the history of a surname Mr. Dunkling's first recommendation was to delve into the many books and directories published on this subject, and in all cases read up the preface or introduction as this usually contains valuable help on the subject.

Most English surnames were 'fixed' about 1400 and are based on many aspects of Mediaeval life. Over a third of all surnames are based on place names but time and clerical errors have changed these names. It is thus necessary to consider the "phonetic shape" of the sound and language in researching the history.

Apart from place names the other two main sources of surnames are occupations and patronymic names. Occupations were those in being in Mediaeval times and many are no longer recognised as such. It is suggested that the Oxford dictionary of occupations is consulted.

Patronymic names are related to a first name (Christian name) taken from the father but may not be easily recognised where they have been contracted or based on a "pet" name particular to the period of time when the name was adopted.

Leslie Dunkling illustrated his talk with many examples of surnames, too many to give in this short report, and many members will now be delving into the books recommended to follow up his suggestions on this interesting aspect of family history.

Notes on meetings
prepared by Tony Francis.

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FRENCH ANCESTORS

A book entitled *Barking up that French Tree* has recently been published in the States. It is described as a practical book in English for researching ancestry in France. Available from Cock-McDowell Publications Inc, 719 East Sixth Street, Owensboro, Kentucky USA 42301. The price for sea-mail is \$6.75 up to 31st December 1980 and \$8.75 thereafter. Air mail postage is an extra \$2.

HELP WANTED

To locate information about EBENEZER BOURNE, born around 1750 - 1760, Cripplegate, Middlesex, married to MARGARETTA and father of Corty, Thomas Alexander and Ebenezer. Also CLARA CATER (Oster) 1807 - 1912, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, wife of CORBY ABRAHAM BOURNE and daughter of WILLIAM BENJAMIN CATER. Also does anyone know if the Abney Park and St. Pancras cemeteries have been recorded?

Reply to: Mrs. G. Tordiff, 1380 Lola Street, London, Ontario, N6K 2G3 Canada.

... * * * *

COASTGUARDS While researching my husband's great-grandfather JAMES STAGE who was first in the Royal Navy and then transferred to the Coastguard, I found that Coastguards tended to move around the coast quite a bit - this can be noticed especially from Census Returns when often each child is born in a different place.

This has led me to start an index on Coastguards and ask for any information on Coastguards found in Census Returns, baptisms, marriages, deaths, directories or any other source.

Any details which members can provide will be gladly received by Mrs. Stage who will also search the index for your interests provided SAE is sent for reply.

Correspondence to Mrs. Eileen Stage, 150 Polwell Park Avenue, Twickenham, Middlesex.

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SWINBANK(S); SHEATS (SHEAT, SHEST(S)); MORHAM (MOXLAN, MOXOM, MORLY)

I am interested in all these names and willing to store and exchange references to them, any place, any time. S.a.e. please with enquiries. I will also record your interests, against future information received for an extra 10p stamp. Mrs. L. Drawther, 32 Jubilee Drive, Thursobury, Avon BS12 2YQ

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Items for inclusion on this page in future issues should be sent to the Acting Editor (name and address on inside of front cover). Price 50p per item included; members are allowed one free entry per issue.

ON THE BOOKSHELF

From time to time the Society receives printed family histories and other publications often submitted with a view to publication in our Journal. This is not usually feasible owing to limitation of space and our restricted number of pages. However we are always pleased to acknowledge such items, and where possible to print some record of their contents. It is hoped that this will assist our active members in their own research and encourage others to present their work in a permanent form.

It is intended to continue in future issues of the Journal a report on books and papers brought to our notice.

Mr. C.G. Lewis has very kindly sent us a copy of his original research based on the discovery of an old hand-written cooking recipe book. A considerable amount of work led Mr. Lewis to trace the first owner: Daniel Thomas, a mercer, who lived in the City of London in the second half of the 17th century. Investigation into some of the names mentioned in the book then followed.

"Daniel's grandfather came from Kent. He was Richard Thomas, a gentleman of Sevenoaks, who married Mary Clarke of nearby Clavering. Their younger son, Jeffery, was to be Daniel's father."

Jeffery Thomas was a member of the Merchant Taylor's Company. He had been apprenticed in 1622 to John Bowes of Paternoster Row."

Jeffery Thomas rose to high office in the City and Mr. Lewis has traced him in City records. A commendable feature of his research is the provision of comprehensive references to the many records he examined. For example to his reference to "The Visitation of Middlesex began in the year 1660" - by Joseph Foster (1867) - is added "British Library 930.E. g. 26."

How rarely are we so guided, and how useful such a shelf mark can be for anyone following a similar line of research. Unfortunately many record searches omit such details only to the confusion of themselves and others when further examination is called for. Mr. Lewis is certainly not confused and he carefully pilots us through this interesting family. He brings that to life and can even report on the weather they experienced on May the 18th 1680: "Then fell such a sudden storm of rain that the oldest man alive did never see the like."

The Great Fire of 1666 which must have hit the Thomas family hard is vividly described. Details of Paternoster Row where Jeffery Thomas traded are an example to those who wish to comment on a family property. But the real background to this story is not forgotten - the recipe book. Not for our kitchen is the recipe for cheesecake which begins "Take 14 eggs" and then add a pint of cream and a pound of fresh butter. There are other recipes, some given by relatives and by friends of the family. This has allowed Mr. Lewis to identify them and place some on the family tree. This is neatly set out on the last page of his well constructed story. It is perhaps of greater interest to a social historian and this would seem to be Mr. Lewis's intention, but it can be considered a good example of how social history and family history is so often interwoven.

DANIEL THOMAS: A 17th Century Mercer. by C.G. Lewis. 1979.

Privately printed by the author at 'Quintacres', Elm Road, Hock, near Basingstoke, Hants.

* * * * *

WILLS

It is often difficult to track down the whereabouts of a particular Will and many family historians and genealogists will be grateful to Jeremy Gibson for bringing his 1974 book up to date. His new book, a paperback, A Simplified Guide to Probate Jurisdictions - Where to Look for Wills, is available on the Society's bookstall, price £2.00.

FROM OUR MEMBERS:

"My Family came over with William the Conqueror"

How often I have heard that remark when I tell people that my hobby is Genealogy. I cannot claim that distinction, but I do have proof that a certain JOHN BUTCHER was born in the reign of Queen Anne. How do I know this? Well some twenty years ago I happened to be visiting an Aunt who was turning out some family papers. She was actually going to burn them! Instead of which she gave them to me. They consisted of my great grandfather's apprenticeship indenture of 1805, marriage certificate and Will. My grandfather's indenture and marriage certificate and a note-book containing a lot of names and dates. One entry reads, JOHN BUTCHER of Star Corner, Bermondsey, had property at Shorne near Gravesend, Kent. Born 20th April 17—, died 1st May 1844, married about 1800. I went to the Record Office at London County Hall and found that JOHN BUTCHER married ELIZABETH HAWKES at Saint Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey 1st March 1802.

I joined the Society of Genealogists in 1969 and was pleased to see that they had a good collection of copies of registers for Kent. I looked in the one for Shorne, but drew a blank. However the next village of Chalk revealed that JOHN was born in 1776. His father also JOHN was married there to ELIZABETH ALLSOP 1766. His father JOHN and wife ELIZABETH were both buried at Chalk. I went to the church-yard and found their graves (described as a double headstone with cherubs heads). The inscriptions read, In memory of ELIZABETH wife of JOHN BUTCHER of this Parish yeoman who died October ye 2 1757 aged 52 years left issue two sons and four daughters. In memory of JOHN BUTCHER yeoman who died September ye 13 1762 aged 56 years. I have a copy of JOHN's Will. The Chalk registers were stolen many years ago and when found had some of the pages missing.

My Mother's maiden name was QUAIFF. The name goes back to the 13th century when the spelling was COIF meaning 'a close fitting cap'. I have traced them to about 1790. They lived in the Parish of Camberwell.

My paternal grandmother was born in Glasgow. Her maiden name was MCKEAND. I take my third Christian name from her. Her grandfather PETER was born in 1803 at Kirkeowan, Wigtownshire. By 1829 he was married to JANET BOSSACK and living in Southwark. He joined the Metropolitan Police in 1830, served twenty-five years, then became a prison warden. He died in 1867. His father also PETER married a JANET McCORMACK. I have a copy of his Will.

After JOHN BUTCHER the yeoman comes JOHN a farmer, JOHN a woolstapler, GEORGE a carpenter, GEORGE a compositor, my father GEORGE PETER a master printer. Then myself RONALD GEORGE MCKEAND BUTCHER a postman (retired). I was born in Peckham 1912 moved to Beckenham then to East Dulwich 1916. Came to Priory Way, North Harrow 1926. From 1929 to 1940 worked in an office, then called up into the Royal Army Pay Corps until 1942. I was transferred to the Royal Regiment of Artillery as a wireless operator and went overseas January 1943. I was demobbed on the last day of December 1945. I kept a diary of my travels and have recently typed it all out. But that's another story!

R.G.McK.Butcher.

CUMBRIA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY SEMINAR AND HALF YEARLY MEETING
OF THE FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES HELD AT CARMEL COLLEGE,
UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER 26 - 28 SEPTEMBER 1980

The University of Lancaster is one of Britain's newest Universities and was granted its Royal Charter in 1964, it lies 3 miles south of the City of Lancaster situated on the River Lune being built on a ridge overlooking the sea backed by views of the Pennine foothills and stands among meadows and woodland. It is, in fact, a self contained unit with all amenities. This was to be our venue for the Seminar arranged by the Cumbria Family History Society and the half yearly meeting of the Federation of Family History Societies.

Delegates began to arrive from mid Friday afternoon and quite a number of us sat down to the evening meal at 6.30 p.m. after which we proceeded to the lecture hall for a welcome by the President of Cumbria FHS, Mr. Roy Huddleston MA FSA followed by an illustrated lecture "Places Names and People of Cumbria" by Mr. Fred Hughes FSA, Chairman of the Cumbria FHS. This was a most interesting introduction to the week-end.

Mr. Hughes showed some colour slides at the conclusion which were of very high standard.

On Saturday morning we had a talk by Mr. Huddleston on Genealogy from Chancery Proceedings. Chancery records date from 1199 and deal with a range of subjects of interest to family and local historians. Evidence appears at length which shows much light on family affairs. Unfortunately the records are largely unpublished and unindexed and although sometimes a good deal of information may be contained in them it is very time consuming to find it all. However, the records of the Chancery Court have, in one way or another been calendared but, they in turn have been filed in whatever way the Court of the time decided. Some set out the

names of principal plaintiffs and defendants and this is where one can glean useful facts. Handwriting and Latin language are a setback unless one has had experience of these two. Records are kept at the PRO.

After coffee break we listened to Mr. John Burgess from Carlisle who gave a most informative talk on Methodist records in Cumbria but a good deal of his information was applicable to Methodist records elsewhere as he explained how the Methodist system is divided into Districts and these again are divided into Circuits. The Circuit Minister is the person to contact for records although some of them are now at the John Rylands Library, Manchester. The Methodist Magazine began in Wesley's time and this has a good index where obituaries, news items and biographies can be found. Mr. Burgess also gave useful information on the Primitive Methodists. He has just completed a book on Methodist Records and this was available for purchase at the close of the lecture.

Mr. Bruce Jones, the Cumbria County Archivist spoke on the Pitfalls of Parish Registers in the first part of the afternoon mentioning the varied spellings etc. one comes across when researching due to priests writing down what they "thought" they heard.

The Annual General Meeting of the Cumbria FHS completed the afternoon's programme although Mr. Colin Chapman, General Secretary of the Federation gave an impromptu chat on his recent visit to Salt Lake City for the World Conference on Records. With a little free time left some visitors took a very brief look at Lancaster as it was no surprise to see familiar faces in the vicinity of the impressive Norman Castle, much rebuilt. It is now classed as an Ancient Monument.

The Guest Speaker at the Dinner was Brigadier G E Tryon Wilson OBE DSO, Vice Lieutenant of Cumbria who gave a brief but very enjoyable speech when he touched on his own family history and at 9.30 p.m. delegates dispersed after a very good evening meal; there were about 150 people present.

It was indeed most unfortunate that a virus struck the Lancaster area last evening and overnight there were many casualties as a result. A local Doctor had to be called in during the early hours of the morning and he was followed shortly thereafter by the Public Health Authority. Inevitably the start of the Council Meeting of the Federation was delayed and a number of delegates were unable to attend.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council were issued but could not be approved until the next Annual General Meeting in Birmingham next April.

The Secretary mentioned there had been four more applications to join the Federation which was most encouraging. The subject of Public Liability Policy had again been raised by a number of societies and Secretaries were advised to write to the Federation for more detailed information.

The Secretary spoke of his visit to the World Conference on Records at Salt Lake City and referred to the tremendous welcome he had received from Family History Societies where he had gone, including Santa Barbara, California and Houston. Mrs. Elizabeth Simpson and Miss Joy Clayton had also gone to the Conference. Between 11,000 and 12,000 people had been present and the Secretary mentioned he had spoken to an audience of approximately 3,300 people about the Federation of Family History Societies in this country. A significant point was made that the National Genealogical Society with Headquarters in Washington had decided they should "go in" with the local Family History Societies on a countrywide basis rather than just remain within the Washington area. They too will be very active at the 1981 National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Treasurer reported there was a good balance in hand and the Publications Report indicated sales were going well. Work on M.I.'s was well in hand but much more had still to be done under the five year plan. The Educational Liaison Officer reported more classes had begun in Family History despite

outbreaks by local authorities. Correspondence is still taking place regarding Registered Charity status but the Constitution of the Federation would have to be changed before application could be made. Future dates and venues were mentioned for Conference and Federation Meetings:

10 - 12 April 1981	At Vale Conference Centre, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, hosted by Birmingham SFS
4 - 6 Sept. 1981	At College of St. Mary & St. Paul, Selsley Road, Cheltenham Spa, Gloucestershire, hosted by Gloucestershire FHS
2/4 April 1982	Lincoln, hosted by Lincolnshire FHS
17/21 Sept. 1982	British Family History Conference at Guildford hosted by West Surrey FHS.

These conferences are open to all members of Family History Societies and full details are usually available 6/9 months before the meetings. The secretary now has leaflets about the Birmingham Conference in April 1981. At the close of the Meeting a vote of thanks was given to the Umbria FHS for their hospitality and in view of all the circumstances a special thank you should go on record for the untiring efforts of Mrs. Margaret Russell and her band of workers who against almost impossible odds did so much to help in every way possible.

Jean Marker

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined the Society since the last Journal was issued:

- No.
- 95 Mr. D.R. Hall, 101 Kenmore Avenue, Kenton, Harrow
 - 96 Mrs. M. Powell, 215 The Mall, Kenton, Middlesex HA3 9TX
 - 97 Mr. J.C. Thomson, 42 Cranleigh Gardens, Kenton, Harrow
 - 98 Mrs. Thomson as above
 - 99 Mr. J.W. Wyatt, 26 Hartopp Point, Pallant Road, Fulham, London S.W.6
 - 100 Mr. G.E. Capp, 98 Mallard Way, Northwood, Middlesex
 - 101 Mr. J.A. Chamberlayne, 43 George V Avenue, Pinner, Middlesex
 - 102 Mrs. G. Chamberlayne, as above
 - 103 Mr. W.H. De Viell, 7 Falcon Way, Kenton Harrow
 - 104 Mr. C. Covell, 41 Pinner Park Avenue, North Harrow, Middlesex
 - 105 Mr. A.G. Watkins, 27 Church Avenue, Pinner, Middlesex
 - 106 Mr. J.N. Watkins, as above
 - 107 Mrs. E. Jacobs, 15 Marford Way, Ruislip, Middlesex

Correction: Mr. R.G. McK Butcher, 47 Priory Way, North Harrow, Middlesex

Change of Address: Mr. J.C.E. Wren, 5 Southlands, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire CW4 7EU

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Additional copies of the Society's Journal are available at meetings, price 50p, or by post from the Acting Editor price 75p (including postage).

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The quotation on the front cover is taken from an inscription in the churchyard of St. Mary's Church, Harrow-on-the-Hill.